



AGENDA ITEM

4

Minute

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Minute of meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (EXTERNAL) held in the Municipal Buildings, Falkirk on Thursday 12 January 2017 at 9.30 a.m.

COUNCILLORS: David Balfour
Gordon Hughes
Steven Jackson
Charles MacDonald
Brian McCabe
John McLuckie
Rosie Murray

OFFICERS: Fiona Campbell, Head of Policy, Technology and Improvement
Jack Frawley, Committee Services Officer
Iain Henderson, Legal Services Manager
Philip Morgan-Klein, Service Manager
Joe McElholm, Head of Social Work Adult Services

ALSO ATTENDING: Constable Mervyn Almedia, Police Scotland
Chief Inspector Damian Armstrong, Police Scotland
Patricia Cassidy, Chief Officer, Falkirk Integration Joint Board
Chief Superintendent Steven McAllister, Police Scotland

SE24. Apologies

An apology was intimated on behalf of Depute Provost Patrick.

SE25. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

SE26. Minute

Decision

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny Committee (External) held on 1 December 2016 was approved.

SE27. Performance Overview of Delivery of Services by the Health and Social Care Partnership

The committee considered a report by the Chief Officer, Falkirk Integration Joint Board which provided performance information in respect of services delivered by the Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership. Patricia Cassidy provided an overview of the report.

The committee asked about the impact of the closure of care home facilities. Joe McElholm highlighted that in relation to Oakbank and Summerford there had been a move from the traditional model to intermediate care. This model supported people back into communities where possible. In the traditional mode there was relatively little turnover and the average length of stay was long. This had an impact on delayed discharge levels as fewer vacancies were created. Patricia Cassidy advised that the Integration Joint Board (IJB) had agreed to change the beds at Summerford into intermediate care beds. This allowed 'step up/step down' provision which sought to minimise hospital admissions. Work was ongoing to embed the reablement approach in services.

Members asked if any people in the intermediate care facility were then assessed as requiring nursing home provision. Joe McElholm stated that some people did move from intermediate placements to nursing home placements. He highlighted that this was a better model of assessment than one where people were assessed in hospital as the environment was unlike that of a home. It was desired that resources should be targeted to those who were most likely to benefit from intermediate placements. Patricia Cassidy emphasised that a cultural shift was required from acute to community based provision.

The committee asked how many people had been part of the discharge to assess pilot. Patricia Cassidy stated that 51 people had received the service. There had been improvements in minimising admissions and getting care packages in place quickly.

Members discussed that in terms of the information provided in the report they committee needed to be provided with benchmark information and the performance of other authorities in order to make comparisons.

The committee asked about what was being done to support the implementation of Self Directed Support (SDS). Joe McElholm stated that there was a team who promoted SDS and that it was desired that this approach should be embedded within the whole workforce. Service users and carers were supported to understand the potential of SDS.

Members asked why the performance on hospital readmissions was significantly below target. Patricia Cassidy stated that there were a number of actions in place to address this performance including: the discharge to assess pilot; Advice Line for You pilot in Bo'ness; Closer to Home team, and the GP fellows project.

The committee asked about delayed discharge and sought clarity on the position relating to Code 9s. Joe McElholm stated that there was a national focus on delayed discharge. A code 9 was a situation with a mental health component where there was no guardianship in place. This started a process of establishing legal powers. This process could be lengthy.

Decision

The committee noted:-

- (1) The overview performance information in respect of service delivery by the Health and Social Care Partnership as appended to the report, and**
- (2) The national and local development to finalise a set of performance and outcomes measures for Health and Social Care Integration as detailed in section 4 of the report.**

Councillors Hughes and McLuckie entered the meeting during consideration of the previous item of business.

SE28. Police Scotland – Falkirk Area Performance

The committee considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which provided, as an appendix to the report, a briefing from the Chief Superintendent. Fiona Campbell provided an overview of the report. The committee then heard from Steven McAllister who provided an overview of his submission.

The committee discussed the situation regarding the Banded dog shelter. Steven McAllister advised that Police Scotland was no longer part of the general partnership. A new local service provider had been operating since 1 January 2017 and a press release would be released shortly with information already available online. He stated that a first class service was being provided at a lower cost.

Members sought an update on the situation regarding parking enforcement. Damian Armstrong stated that Police Scotland's position had not changed and that parking had not been decriminalised in Falkirk. Responsibility therefore sat with Police Scotland but there was no traffic warden provision. However, dangerous parking and misuse of disabled bays were a priority for the service.

The committee noted and welcomed the increased levels of Police Officer attendance at Community Councils.

Members asked if Police Scotland had involvement in road safety, particularly in relation to road planning and design. Damian Armstrong stated

that the service engaged with the roads department in relation to speeding or parking. The Road Policing Department, a national team, with expertise in roads also worked closely with the Council. The Road Safety and Road Crime Group discussed crime and harm reduction including the targeting of travelling criminals.

Decision

The committee approved the report and acknowledged progress by Police Scotland in meeting their priorities.