

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT CARE** held on 26 November 2020

PRESENT

Councillor J Wharmby (in the Chair)

Also in attendance were Councillors C Dale and S Swann.

No apologies had been received.

56/20 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November be confirmed as a correct record.

57/20 **REVIEW OF URGENT OFFICER DECISIONS TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE** The Cabinet Member received an update in relation to Officer's Decisions utilising emergency decision making powers and assurance in relation to the reviews which had been made.

The decisions related to short-term temporary arrangements which were subject to regular review. It had been intended that as Cabinet was now able to function by meetings being held 'remotely' the need for officers to make urgent decisions would diminish, however, they would be kept under regular review by elected members and officers. On 4 June 2020, it had been agreed that Cabinet would formally delegate review decisions to the relevant Cabinet Member, with a summary of review decisions made be reported to Cabinet every two months.

The report detailed summary updates on the reviews taken place since the last Cabinet Member meeting on 12 November 2020. All review decisions had been discussed with the Executive Director and Cabinet Member following review by Senior Management Team. A copy of the most up to date version of the Officer Decision Records was attached at Appendix 1.

The Principal Social Worker had been engaged and consulted with over the initial decisions and had reviewed the latest updates. They were satisfied that the original decisions had been made with due regard for the Department of Health and Social Care Ethical Framework, the Care Act easement guidance and were aware of the review processes in place.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member note (1) the review of decisions made under urgent delegated powers arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic; and (2) that future review decisions would be made on a fortnightly basis by the Cabinet Member for Adult Care.

58/20 DERBYSHIRE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH: OUR COVID-19 WINTER PLAN 2020 TO 2021

The Adult Social Care Winter Plan 2020-21 had been published by the Department for Health and Social Care on 18 September 2020. It was accompanied by a letter from Helen Whately MP, Minister of State for Care, sent to Local Authority Chief Executives, Directors of Adult Social Care, Directors of Public Health, Care Home Providers and CCG Accountable Officers.

The Winter Plan had been informed by and built upon work undertaken during the summer by the Social Care Sector Covid-19 Taskforce. The Taskforce had been established to support the delivery of two support packages to the care sector: The Social Care Action Plan and the Care Home Support Plan.

The Winter Plan set out several key requirements and support to be delivered and provided at both a national and local level. A summary of these requirements had been provided within the report. The main requirement from the Council's perspective was to have confirmed, in writing by 31 October 2020, that a winter plan was in place.

The Winter Plan outlined national support; some of which had been announced prior to the plan's publication.

The Winter Plan covered four main themes which detailed the work being undertaken at a national level, and the expectations of local areas (local authorities, NHS organisations, and other providers of care services). In total there were 76 actions which needed to be addressed in a local authority's own winter plan.

i. Preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings. This included guidance and actions on areas such as infection and prevention control; managing staff movement; use of PPE; Covid-19 testing; seasonal flu vaccinations.

ii. Collaboration across health and social care services. This included guidance and actions on ensuring safe discharges from NHS settings and the avoidance of hospital admissions; introduction of the Enhanced health in care homes; use of technology and digital support to support/provide services.

iii. Supporting people who had received social care, the workforce, and carers. This included guidance and actions across two sub-headings. The first concerned support to those who received and/or provided unpaid care: visiting arrangements; direct payments; support for unpaid carers; appropriate end-of-life care; and use of care Act easements.

iv. The second set of actions related to the workforce and cover: staff training; workforce capacity; shielding of people who were clinically extremely vulnerable;

v. Supporting the system. This included guidance and actions on funding for local authorities (use of infection control funding); market and provider sustainability (included supporting an Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and Local Government Association Service Continuity and Care Market review); continued working with CQC.

A copy of the Adult Social Care Winter Plan had been attached at Appendix 1.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member note (1) the content of the report and the plans in place across Adult Social Care and Health in Derbyshire to ensure services were delivered during a Covid-19 winter; and (2) that formal confirmation had been provided to the Department of Health and Social care prior to 31 October 2020 that a local plan had been established.

59/20 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2020.

60/20 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record (contains exempt information).