

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT CARE** held on 03 March 2021

PRESENT

Councillor J Wharmby (in the Chair)

Also in attendance was Councillors C Dale and S Swann.

No apologies had been received

10/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

11/21 **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 18 February 2021. 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.

12/11 ADULT SOCIAL CARE RAPID TESTING FUND AND WORKFORCE CAPACITY GRANT FOR SOCIAL CARE The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) had transferred the following two funds to the Council and requested that the funds were distributed to eligible care providers:

Adult Social Care Rapid Testing Fund

The main purpose of this funding was to support additional rapid testing of staff in care homes, and to support visiting professionals and to assist with close contact visiting, for instance supporting families to be able to undertake end of life visiting. The grant funding allocated by the Government was to be shared and spent by the Care Homes by 31 March 2021.

Workforce Capacity Grant for Adult Social Care

The purpose of this funding was to enable local authorities to deliver measures to supplement and strengthen adult social care staff capacity to ensure that safe and continuous care was achieved. This grant funding could be used by Care Providers to increase activities which delivered additional workforce capacity. This funding had to be allocated and spent by 31 March 2021.

A further spending update would be given at the Adult Care Cabinet Member meeting on Thursday 18 March 2021.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member support (1) the distribution of the Adult Social Care Testing Fund to Care Home Providers to assist with introduction of increased testing regime; and (2) the distribution of the workforce capacity grant for social care to be shared between eligible care homes and home care providers to further assist with meeting the costs associated with provision of infection prevention and control procedures.

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