

PUBLIC

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT CARE** held on 24 June 2021

**PRESENT**

Councillor N Hoy (in the Chair)

Also in attendance was Councillor D Muller.

No apologies for absence had been received.

**24/21** **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

**25/21** **REVIEW OF URGENT OFFICER DECISIONS TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE** The challenges relating to the COVID-19 pandemic had necessitated urgent decision-making processes by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health to be implemented to ensure the welfare of service users and the public and to safeguard the interests of the Council. The decisions had been made under the urgent delegated powers to Executive Directors as set out in the Constitution.

The report detailed summary updates on the reviews taken place since the last Cabinet Member meeting on 11 June 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.

**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 continue to be made on a fortnightly basis by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health. A summary of which would be contained within this report monthly from 24 June 2021 onwards.

**26/21** **FUTURE PROCUREMENT OF APPROVED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TRAINING ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH**

Since 2019, work had been undertaken to formalise and strengthen Derbyshire County Council's AMHP service to ensure provision of a clear and sustainable AMHP workforce across the whole department through the development of a career pathway. The current service level agreement with Sheffield Hallam University to provide AMHP training for Derbyshire was due to expire in June 2021. Therefore, Derbyshire were currently unable to send any further social workers to undertake AMHP training and must enter into the full re-procurement of this training course.

Derbyshire had 56 AMHPs (equating to 43 FTEs). Without arrangements in place to train 10 new AMHPs over a 3-4 year period there was a risk that the workforce would be unable to meet the increased service demand.

The duration of the contract with the successful provider would initially be three years with the opportunity to extend for a further year. Some soft market research had been undertaken and based on an average figure taken from 8 universities an estimated total cost to procure AMHP training per year was £46,740.

The Council did not have the suggested minimum number of FTE AMHPs required within Derbyshire and 48% of the current AMHP workforce was over 50 years of age. The Council also acknowledged that its AMHP workforce was at risk of becoming 'burnt out'. Derbyshire's population was set to rise in the coming years and referral rates had increased over successive years. The proposed additional duties placed on AMHPs under the reform of the MHA would place an additional strain on the AMHP workforce.

The Council was seeking approval therefore to enter into the full re-procurement process to enable future AMHP training to be provided within Derbyshire to ensure that it continued to maintain a safe, sustainable and legally compliant service.

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Member approve the re-procurement of the AMHP training course for the next three years with the option of extending this by one year.