

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT CARE** held on 25 August 2021

PRESENT

Councillor N Hoy (in the Chair)

Also in attendance was Councillor D Muller.

No apologies for absence had been received.

31/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

32/21 **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 22 July 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 (1) note the latest position following the review of decisions made under urgent delegated powers arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic; and (2) confirm the arrangement to allow for future review decisions 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 the report monthly from 24 June 2021 onwards.

33/21 **DISTRIBUTION OF THE INFECTION CONTROL FUND AND RAPID TESTING FUND GRANTS 2021/22** The Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund was first introduced in May 2020 to support adult social care providers in England with infection prevention and control. The Rapid Testing Fund was introduced in January 2021 to support additional rapid lateral flow testing of staff in care homes, and enable indoors, close contact visiting where possible.

Due to the success of the Infection Control Fund and the Rapid Testing Fund in supporting care providers to reduce transmission and re-enable close

contact visiting, these funding streams had been consolidated and extended until June 2021.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) had provided the ICTF grant, and more recently the EICTF grant to the Council to support adult social care providers, including those with whom the local authority did not have a contract:

- i. to reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission within and between care settings through effective infection prevention and control practices and increase uptake of staff vaccination; and
- ii. to conduct additional rapid testing of staff and visitors in care homes, high-risk supported living and extra care settings, to enable close contact visiting where possible.

The DHSC requested that local authorities distributed the grants to eligible care providers who satisfied the conditions of the respective grants.

This funding was initially for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, but had since been extended via the EICTF for a further three months to cover the period 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021.

The grant conditions included a clause that all unspent monies at the end of each relevant period (ICTF: 30 June 2021 and extended ICTF: 30 September 2021) were to be returned to the DHSC.

The report outlined how grant monies had been spent during the first allocation of funding between the period of April to June 2021 as well as how the second allocation of funding within the period July to September would be spent.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member (1) note the distribution of the infection prevention and control and rapid testing allocation for April to June 2021 from the Adult Social Care Infection Control and Testing Fund; and (2) approve the distribution of the infection prevention and control and testing funding allocation from the Adult Social Care Extension to Infection Control and Testing Fund for July to September 2021.

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

1. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021.

34/21 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record (contains exempt information).