

SUPPORTING PEOPLE COMMISSIONING BODY

MINUTES of the meeting held on Friday, 25 March 2011 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 11.40 am

Present:

Voting Members of Commissioning Body:

Councillor Dorothy Brown	South Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor Arash Fatemian	Oxfordshire County Council
Councillor Angela Lawrence	Vale of White Horse District Council
Councillor Michael Gibbard (in the Chair)	Cherwell District Council
Graham McCartney	Thames Valley Probation Service
Graham Stratford	Oxford City Council
Fenella Trevillion)	representative for Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust

Supporting Officers and Members:

Oxfordshire County Council	
Legal & Democratic Services	– Sue Whitehead
Social & Community Services	– Simon Kearey Natalia Lachkou
Cherwell District Council	– Gillian Greaves
South and Vale of White Horse District Councils	Paul Staines
West Oxfordshire District Council	– Lesley Sherratt

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting, and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda, reports and schedule, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

8/11 COUNCILLOR VERENA HUNT

The Chairman advised that Councillor Verena Hunt had replaced Councillor Hibbert-Biles as the West Oxfordshire representative on the Commissioning Body.

9/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

(Agenda No. 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Verena Hunt – West Oxfordshire District Council.

10/11 MINUTES

(Agenda No. 4)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2011 were approved and signed.

In relation to minute 4/11 following assurances that the timescale for the review of services for people with physical disability was achievable it was **AGREED** that the timetable considered by the Core Strategy Group, together with more detailed information where available, be circulated to Commissioning Body members.

11/11 SUPPORTING PEOPLE STRATEGY 2011-16 AND ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011-12

(Agenda No. 5)

During discussion of the Strategy members expressed the view that the document was rather long and could focus more on positioning for the future.

It was suggested that there needed to be some statement in the Strategy of the relationship of the Supporting People Programme to the Health & Wellbeing Board. Some concern was expressed at future arrangements for supporting people and the fear that the role of District Councils could be reduced or phased out. It was noted that any statement on governance would also need to take account of the changes to the NHS and the introduction of GP Commissioning and need to engage with GP Consortia.

In revising the Strategy in the light of comments it was suggested that it would be useful to keep firmly in mind the role and purpose of the Strategy. It needed to focus on the delivery of vital services at a time of very reduced funding. It needed to set out priorities and the delivery of those priorities by the resources available. It was therefore suggested that a shorter tighter document focussing on the battleplan and direction of travel was needed. Celebration of achievements should be dealt with separately. There should be a section on future governance.

The Commissioning Body considered the implications of delaying approval of the Strategy and agreed that the current Strategy be used as an indication of direction of travel until the new Strategy was agreed.

During discussion of the Annual Plan various views were expressed over the way in which the changes necessary to the programme budgets should be set. The Options set out were considered and following lengthy debate support was given to the principle of a 2% reduction from each service but amended taking into account the ability of individual services to achieve the saving. Negotiation of the figures should be based on 3 principles – transparency, efficiencies (not translating into reduction of services) and support for the strategic direction of travel. There was an understanding that where more can be gained that this be reinvested in the priorities (identified as mental health, generic and floating services.) Offender services were also mentioned.

It was **RESOLVED**:- that

(a) the Supporting People Strategy 2011-16 be redrafted taking account of the comments today and that there be further informal discussion with a view to the Strategy being submitted to the meeting on 17 June for formal approval; (b) in the meantime the existing Strategy continue to be applied as the direction of travel for the Supporting People Programme;

(c) consideration be given to the appropriate method of celebrating the achievements of the existing Strategy,

(d) approval be given to the budget for the Annual Plan 2011-12 as set out in Annex 2 on the understanding that the individual budget headings were indicative and that movement was expected based on continuing work by officers based on the principles and priorities identified by the Supporting People Commissioning Body;

(e) that a position update be submitted to the next meeting.

12/11 SUPPORTING PEOPLE BUDGET REPORT 2010-11

(Agenda No. 6)

The Commissioning Body considered the detailed budget monitoring reports and noted that the underspend was projected to be just £7,000.

It was suggested that consideration be given to adding a comments column to the tables in future reports to explain the true position in terms of areas shown as receiving no funding for particular programme areas.

13/11 ANNUAL PLAN 2010-11 - PROGRESS REPORT

(Agenda No. 7)

The Commissioning Body noted the progress report.

14/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

(Agenda No. 8)

The Commissioning Body confirmed that the next meeting be held in Meeting Room 1, County Hall on 17 June 2011 at 10.00 am.

It was **AGREED** that future meetings start at 10.00 am.

15/11 MINUTES OF CORE STRATEGY GROUP

It was **AGREED** that in future Commissioning Board members receive a copy of the minutes of the Core Strategy Group.

16/11 GRAHAM MCCARTNEY

The Chairman noted that it was Graham McCartney's last meeting and expressed the Commissioning Body's congratulations on his new role and their regret that he was leaving together with their thanks for his input during his time as a member on the Commissioning Body.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing 2011

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