

SUPPORTING PEOPLE COMMISSIONING BODY

MINUTES of the meeting held on Friday, 11 December 2009 commencing at 10.30 am and finishing at 11.45 am

Present:

Voting Members of Commissioning Body:

Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles (in the Chair)	West Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor Dorothy Brown	South Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor Jim Couchman	Oxfordshire County Council
Councillor Michael Gibbard	Cherwell District Council
Councillor Angela Lawrence	Vale of White Horse 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	–	Nick Welch Natalia Lachkou
West Oxfordshire District Council	–	Lesley Sherratt
South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council	–	Kate Rees
Cherwell District Council	–	Gillian Greaves

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for 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.

19/09 MINUTES

(Agenda No. 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2009 were approved and signed subject to the correction of 'them self' on page 3 to read 'themselves'.

20/09 REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIPS: AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

(Agenda No. 4)

The Commissioning Body considered a report (**SP4**) setting out the Core Strategy Group's proposals for how members might address the following issues in relation to the Commissioning Body.

- Lack of involvement of service users in decision making
- Inadequate arrangements for conflict resolution

The Commissioning Body noted that officers were unable to produce a set of recommendations which may meet unanimous approval by the members of the Commissioning Body. The Core Strategy Group had now amended its own terms of reference to include two representatives of service users within its membership, and also officers connected with the Children's Trust and the Safer Communities thematic partnerships.

During discussion members of the Commissioning Body expressed themselves satisfied with the existing decision making mechanism feeling that unanimity was preferable to a majority decision. It was felt that existing mechanisms for resolving conflict were sufficient. Fennella Trevillion in supporting this view highlighted the possibility of the Commissioning Body coming under criticism if a situation was reached where a consensus could not be found.

With regard to representation by service users it was not felt appropriate for the Commissioning Body. It was open to members of the public to address the Commissioning Body. Service user representatives were included on the Core Strategy Group and this Group fed into the Commission Body meetings. In addition service users were involved via the forum and through involvement in individual programmes. Nick Welch added that user involvement was a very strong element in social care and it was important that the Commissioning Body was able to acknowledge that strong service user involvement existed through the mechanisms mentioned. If service users wished to address the Commissioning Body he would work with them to ensure their voice was effectively and properly heard.

It was agreed that the Memorandum of Understanding remain unchanged.

21/09 SUPPORTING PEOPLE BUDGET REPORT 2009-10

(Agenda No. 5)

The Commissioning Body considered a report (SP5) giving the latest figures showing programme spend at 31 October 2009 broken down by client group.

In noting the report the Commissioning Body agreed that the budget for offenders reflect the agreed allocation.

22/09 ANNUAL PLAN 2009-10 - PROGRESS REPORT

(Agenda No. 6)

The Commissioning Body noted information showing progress against the Annual Plan and a report giving further information about any items in the Annual Plan which the administering authority was not on track to deliver. The Commissioning Body asked that the report be provided in colour to future meetings.

The Commissioning Body congratulated Natalia Lachkou on her new position as Programme Manager.

There was some discussion of the Wet House project and Graham Stratford indicated that he felt that funding would be secured. There was a timing issue. Nick Welch gave an update on the Alert Project. The Chairman noted that users had been under stress for some time and she hoped that this would be in place as soon as possible with discussions being held with each of the sheltered accommodation units. Nick Welch replied that meetings would be held with the forum in the New Year and other arrangements were in place to hear residents concerns.

23/09 ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09

(Agenda No. 7)

The Commissioning Body noted the draft Annual Report which gave comprehensive information about the programme in respect of 2008-09.

It was noted that a number of presentational issues were being corrected and a colour copy of the report would be re-circulated to members of the Supporting People Commissioning Body.

It was noted that although the national and regional analysis was complete for the Annual Report no figures were available for the current year as up to date information had not been supplied by Government.

24/09 SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

(Agenda No. 8)

The Commissioning Body noted a Project Initiation Document (**SP8**) for a project to develop a joint strategy and joint procurement covering services currently funded by the Supporting people programme as well as by NHS Oxfordshire.

25/09 DATES OF MEETINGS

(Agenda No. 9)

The Commissioning Body agreed the following dates for meetings:

2010

26 March (Meeting Room 3, County Hall)

18 June

17 September

10 December

2011

25 March

The Chairman referred to the member of the public in attendance and asked that in future the usual item on 'Petitions and public address' be included on the agenda.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing