

Minute

Orkney Health and Care Committee

Thursday, 6 June 2019, 14:15.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Rachael A King, Stephen G Clackson, David Dawson, J Harvey Johnston, John T Richards, Stephen Sankey, James W Stockan and Kevin F Woodbridge.

Clerk

- Hazel Flett, Senior Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- Sally Shaw, Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.
- Scott Hunter, Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice and Chief Social Work Officer.
- Pat Robinson, Chief Finance Officer (for Items 1 to 5).
- Peter Trodden, Solicitor.
- Shaun Hourston-Wells, Project Manager, Orkney Health and Care.

Observing

- Gareth Waterson, Head of Finance.
- Andrew Hamilton, Performance and Best Value Officer (for Items 1 to 4).

Apology

- Councillor W Leslie Manson.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Rachael A King.

1. Disclosure of Exempt Information

The Committee noted the proposal that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Item 6, as the business to be discussed involved the potential disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

2. Appointment of Vice Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice Chair, and the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, that Councillor Kevin F Woodbridge be appointed Vice Chair of the Orkney Health and Care Committee.

Councillor J Harvey Johnston joined the meeting at this point.

3. Orkney Childcare and Young People's Partnership

After consideration of a report by the Chief Executive, copies of which had been circulated, the Committee:

Noted:

3.1. Council policy on appointments and/or nominations to external bodies, as outlined in section 3 of the report by the Chief Executive.

3.2. The proposal that, as the term of this Council was five years, any appointment to be made to the Orkney Childcare and Young People's Partnership should last for the remainder of the term of this Council, namely for three years until May 2022.

The Committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

3.3. That Councillor Kevin F Woodbridge be appointed to represent the Orkney Health and Care Committee on the Orkney Childcare and Young People's Partnership for the remainder of the term of this Council, namely for three years to May 2022.

4. Performance Monitoring

The Committee noted this item had been withdrawn.

5. Day Care and Telecare Services

Proposed Consultation on Charging

After consideration of a report by the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care, together with Equality Impact Assessments, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Chief Finance Officer, the Committee:

Noted:

5.1. That attendance at Day Care or services provided in lieu of day services was currently provided free of charge, although service users paid for meals that they received.

5.2. That, at present, there were no charges for Telecare services.

5.3. The proposal to undertake consultation on the introduction of the following charges:

- Day Care – £5 per day.
- Telecare – £3.50 per week.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

5.4. That the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care should undertake a consultation on the proposal to introduce charges in relation to Day Care and Telecare.

5.5. That the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care should submit a report, to a meeting of the Committee no later than November 2019, detailing the outcome of the consultation process.

6. Review of Services for Children and Young People in need of Care and Protection

On the motion of Councillor Rachael A King, seconded by Councillor John T Richards, the Committee resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 5 and 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

After consideration of a report by the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice and Chief Social Work Officer, the Committee:

Noted:

6.1. That, because of new policy and legislative frameworks which were impacting on delivery of statutory social work services to children and families in Orkney, a review was commissioned, with the following objectives:

- To gather local and national data on the Looked After Children population as well as current and projected information on care placements.
- To consult with a range of stakeholders, including residential and foster carers, partner agencies and care experienced young people and their families.
- To provide recommendations for consideration by Orkney Health and Care and onwards to the Integration Joint Board and the Council.

6.2. The relative performance data of Orkney services in relation to island colleagues, as outlined on pages 21 to 30 of the review report, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.

6.3. That the projected number of looked after children was projected to reach 49 by 2022, being a 70% increase since 2013, which was contrary to national trends which showed a 9.3% reduction in the same period.

6.4. That Orkney Islands Council was responsible for delivery of statutory social work services which included children and young people in need of care and protection.

6.5. That, to contain demand on looked after services and improve longer term outcomes for children and young people in Orkney, there was an urgent need to move to early intervention services.

6.6. The findings of the review of services in respect of children and young people in need of care and protection, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care.

The Committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

6.7. That the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care should fully develop and prioritise each of the identified areas of need, arising from the review of services in respect of children and young people in need of care and protection, as potential service pressure bids for submission to the budget setting process for 2020 to 2021.

6.8. That, in anticipation of a constrained revenue budget position for 2020 to 2021 and the requirement to make savings, the Chief Officer/Executive Director, Orkney Health and Care should seek to identify areas of compensatory savings within Orkney Health and Care that would support the decisive shift to early intervention to improve outcomes for children and young people and contain future cost pressures.

7. Conclusion of Meeting

At 15:35 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: R A King.