

## Draft Minutes

of the Meeting of the

## Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 5th February 2015

held at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

Meeting Commenced: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Concluded: 10: 20 a.m.

### Councillors:

P Roz Willis (Chairman)

P Linda Knott (Vice-Chairman)

P Michael Bell

A Carl Francis-Pester

P Catherine Gibbons

A David Hitchins

P Anne Kemp

P John Norton-Sealey

P Nick Pennycott

P Annabel Tall

P Deborah Yamanaka

P Robert Cleland

P Bob Garner

A Hugh Gregor

P Jill Iles

P Tom Leimdorfer

A Ian Parker

P Sonia Russé (substitute for Liz Wells)

A Liz Wells

### Co-opted Member:

P Georgie Bigg

P: Present

A: Apologies for absence submitted

**Officers in attendance:** Ginette Corr (People and Communities), Leo Taylor (Corporate Services)

### HEA Declarations of Interest by Members

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None

### HEA Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014 (Agenda Item 4)

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**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

### HEA Public Health Contracts Review (Agenda Item 6)

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The Chairman presented the report of the Panel's Public Health Contracts Working Group which:-

- reviewed progress made by the Public Health team in addressing the Panel's interim recommendations, as set out at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013; and
- set out further recommendations for endorsement by the Panel, with the aim of consolidating that progress.

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Strategic Public Health Manager responded to Members' comments and queries as follows:

- (1) funding for the (fixed term) Performance and Contract Manager had already been allocated would not be compromised by proposed economies in the ring fenced public health budget.
- (2) Staff capacity within the public health team was likely to be challenging in the short term with both the Director of Public Health and herself leaving the Council over the next few weeks. Recruitment for replacements would start immediately but it would be a number of months before these were in place.
- (3) She acknowledged Members concerns about the remaining numbers of short term Public Health contracts but said that these could not be addressed without additional contract management capacity.

In considering and unanimously endorsing the Working Group's proposed recommendations, The Panel:-

**Concluded:** that it be recommended to the Leader and Executive Member for Adult Care:-

- 1) that consideration should be given to the appointment of a permanent Public Health Performance and Contracts Manager at the earliest opportunity;
- 2) that there is a need to address identified issues about limited procurement competition, market development and strategic commissioning gaps, possibly by the creation of a Strategic Business Development Lead role. Strategic contract management could be provided by a shared post within the Council or in partnership with another local authority; and
- 3) that any on-going discussions with other authorities in respect of possible joint working on procurement should take account of the potential for a new structure to provide strategic contract management support to Council directorates, including Public Health.

**HEA 42 Proposed joint scrutiny working group – Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (Agenda Item 7)**

The Chairman presented the report seeking the Panel's endorsement of Councillor Tom Leimdorfer's nomination to represent the Panel in a proposed cross-local authority health scrutiny exercise to consider the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) recent quality report on Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (AWP).

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Leimdorfer requested that Members feed back to him any concerns or issues arising from the CQC findings that they feel should be raised in this exercise.

**Concluded:**

- (1) that Councillor Tom Leimdorfer's nomination be endorsed ; and
- (2) that Councillor Gibbons be nominated as a substitute.

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Chairman

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