

SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 SEPTEMBER 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday, 5 September 2024

PRESENT: **Councillor Sam Swash (Chair)**
Councillors: Mel Buckley, Tina Claydon, Carol Ellis, Gladys Healey, Andy Hughes, Fran Lister, Dave Mackie, Roz Mansell, Billy Mullin, Debbie Owen and Arnold Woolley

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor: Hilary McGill

APOLOGY: Councillor: Andy Hughes

SUBSTITUTIONS: Councillor Bill Crease (for Carol Ellis)

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Christine Jones (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Social Services and Wellbeing); Chief Officer (Social Services); Senior Manager – Safeguarding and Commissioning; Commissioning Manager; Complaints Officer; Planning and Development Officer and Senior Manager Children

IN ATTENDANCE: Democratic Services Manager and team

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

None.

20. MINUTES [\(Link to recording\)](#)

The Minutes of the meetings held on [29 February 2024](#), [6 June 2024](#), [18 July 2024](#) and minutes of the joint meeting of Education, Youth and Culture Committee held on [27 June 2024](#) were presented for approval.

Councillor Mackie requested that the penultimate paragraph on page 6 of the minutes of 29 February needed clarification and that the following wording be included to replace the existing paragraph.

‘The Service Manager clarified the context of the word challenging within the report in relation to the 16 direct discharge from hospital beds at Marleyfield. He explained that partnering with hospitals inevitably could cause pressures from the hospitals on the manager at Marleyfield when they were aware that beds are available. He added that over recent months they had consistently been operating at 14 to 15 beds occupied’.

Councillor Mackie requested that a reference be included in the minutes of 18 July 2024 regarding the Appendix attached on page 23, that the following to be

added to the second paragraph of point 16 (Charging for Appointeeship) - [Appendix 3](#).

RESOLVED:

That subject to the above amendments, the minutes of 29 February, 6 June, 27 June and 18 July be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

21. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING ([Link to recording](#))

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the current [Forward Work Programme](#) and [Action Tracking](#) for consideration, which included an update on outstanding actions.

It was agreed that at the rise of the meeting on the 24th of October a Rota Visits training session would be held for Members of the Committee.

It was requested that an update on what support was available to carers be included in the Re-commissioning of Carers Services report on the 24th of March 2025.

The Members briefing on Looked After Children & Out of County Placements would be held at 1pm on the 8th of November.

Climbie Visit was in the process of being arranged during October for Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Forward Work Programme be noted;

(b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises; and

(c) That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

22. COMMENTS, COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS ([Link to recording](#))

The Complaints Officer for Social Services presented a [report](#) on the Complaints and Compliments procedure 2023-24.

A revised version of Appendix 3 was circulated to the Committee.

The recommendation was supported.

RESOLVED:

That Members scrutinise the effectiveness of the complaints procedure with lessons being learnt to improve service provision.

23. FLINTSHIRE MICRO-CARE PROJECTS ([Link to recording](#))

The Planning and Development Officer presented a [report](#) on the position of Micro-Care in Flintshire, some key successes of the previous 18 months, and the future direction of the project.

A breakdown of Micro Care Locations was to be provided.

In response to a suggestion, it was agreed that awareness raising of Micro-Care be undertaken targeted at GP surgeries.

The recommendations were supported.

RESOLVED:

(a) That members support the progress made in the Micro-Care project and the contribution the scheme is making in meeting demand for care in Flintshire; and

(b) That members are impressed by the direction the project has taken, the innovative approach and that members support the further development of the project going forward.

24. RESIDENTIAL CARE SECTOR REVIEW 2024-2034 ([Link to recording](#))

The Commissioning Manager presented a [report](#) which provided a starting point for discussion on how the Council continued to respond to the challenges and increasing demands on the sector.

The Chair requested a breakdown of the 36 million Ty Croes Atti would provide in benefits to the area which the Senior Manager, Safeguarding & Commissioning agreed to provide.

The recommendation was amended to reflect the debate.

RESOLVED:

(a) That members support the actions needed to mitigate the predicted shortfall in Flintshire;

(b) That members consider ways to influence the independent market to meet the growing demand, whilst taking into account the proposals within the Welsh Government's Rebalancing Care Agenda; and

(c) That Members recognise the progress made on the development of Ty Croes Atti.

25. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2023/24 TO INCORPORATE THE COUNCIL PLAN END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2023/24 ([Link to recording](#))

The Chief Officer (Social Services) presented the [report](#) which set out an analysis and summary, shown at [Appendix 2](#) of how well the Council had performed against the Well-being Objectives, Priorities and Sub priorities at the end of the financial year 2023/24 of the Council Plan (2023-28). The Annual Performance Report, attached at [Appendix 1](#) also provided a summary of performance regarding other key areas of focus within the Council, i.e., Partnership and Collaboration Activity and the Strategic Equality Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee support the approval of the 2023/24 Annual Performance Report, combined with the Council Plan End of Year 2023/24 Performance Report, noting the performance achieved.

23. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

None.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.47pm)

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Chair

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