

## **CALL-IN OF CABINET DECISION**

### **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

#### **Dissolution of the Council's Partnership with Northumbria Healthcare**

The report provided information about the planning taking place for adult social care and public health services affected by the decision of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to terminate the partnership between the Trust and the Council which had been in place since 2011, and about the proposed future model for these services.

The Chief Executive outlined the background for members to the current position and the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Children's Services detailed the immediate future arrangements for the services which would be affected.

Councillor Pattison asked about the exit arrangements with HDFT. Mrs McEvoy Carr advised that this would be a partnership arrangement not a contractual one and a twelve month exit clause was currently being looked. Councillor Pattison stressed the need for a seamless change in delivery of the service so residents could continue to be supported.

Councillor Watson asked whether officers were confident that HDFT could provide as good a service as that provided by Northumbria. Mrs McEvoy Carr replied that Harrogate currently had a Good CQC rating and Northumbria had an Outstanding rating, though these were both from 5 years ago. Some significant due diligence had been done with regional counterparts who had all been very positive regarding their service delivery. In response to Councillor Pattison, she advised that staffing would not change, and services would be delivered by the same people, hopefully enhanced with new ideas from the Trust.

Councillor Wearmouth commented that he would have liked more time to understand more about the background to the current position in light of recent information received and advised he would abstain from the vote.

The Leader commented that he was keen to make progress on this matter. He referred to the report from Health and Wellbeing OSC which had requested detailed financial information to be made available and for updates. He supported this and agreed with the points that no staff should be disadvantaged and there should be no operational changes.

#### **RESOLVED** that:-

- (a) Cabinet note that the Council's partnership agreement with Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust will come to an end on 30 September 2021, at the request of the Trust as notified in March 2021;

- (b) Cabinet note that, while this was not the Council's preferred outcome, the dissolution of the partnership creates the opportunity to take forward the development of a new model of integrated working between adult social care and a range of NHS, Council and other services supporting people with long-term care and support needs in the community, and to integrate public health services more closely with other services, as described in section [4](#) of the report;
- (c) Cabinet note that the most appropriate viable option for the adult social care functions which were delivered by Northumbria under the partnership agreement is for them to be operated directly by the Council from 1 October 2021, and that planning is underway to prepare for the transfer of employment of the approximately 600 staff carrying out these functions;
- (d) Cabinet confirm that two smaller services which formed part of the partnership also transfer from Northumbria to become directly operated by the Council: the joint equipment loan service (JELS) and the "integrated well-being service" funded by the Council under its public health duties;
- (e) Cabinet note that arrangements are being made to ensure the continuation of the seamless delivery of services in relation to some specific teams where currently Council-funded and NHS-funded staff operate as an integrated team under a single management structure;
- (f) Cabinet note that detailed planning is taking place jointly with Northumbria officers to prepare for associated changes in areas such as ICT;
- (g) Cabinet note that planning work to date has identified both some potential additional costs to the Council and some likely savings, and that it is not yet possible to provide a firm indication of the overall financial impact;
- (h) the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services be authorised to make any necessary decisions required to ensure that the transfer of functions takes place with minimum disruption to services and to staff, and without unnecessary costs, in consultation with Cabinet Members for Adult Services and Children's Services and with the Interim Section 151 Officer;
- (i) Cabinet note that a consultation is currently taking place about a proposed partnership with Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) under which the 0-19 public health services currently operated by Northumbria HDFT would transfer to HDFT; and
- (j) the report of the Health and Wellbeing OSC be supported.

Councillor Wearmouth abstained from voting on this matter.

The reason for the call-in is that the decision was not taken in accordance with Article 13 of the constitution, namely:

- (a) due and appropriate consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- (b) a presumption in favour of openness, and
- (c) clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

by the following seven signatories (five required):

Cllr Peter Jackson  
Cllr David Bawn  
Cllr Malcolm Robinson  
Cllr Christine Taylor  
Cllr Catherine Homer  
Cllr John Beynon  
Cllr Cliff Humphrey

The decision will be considered by the Health and Wellbeing OSC on 18 August 2021 at 1:00pm.

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