

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

4.00pm 23 June 2003

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Kielty (Chair); Councillor Meadows (Deputy Chair);
Councillors Meegan, Morgan, Mrs Norman (OS), Pidgeon, Turton, Wells,
Williams and Willows

PART ONE

ACTION

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1A Declarations of Substitutes

1A.1 There were no substitute councillors.

1B Declarations of Interest

1B.1 There were none.

1C Exclusion of Press and Public

1C.1 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1C.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items.

2. MINUTES

2.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2003 be approved and signed by the Chair.

3. The Review of Access to Services for Deaf, Blind and Deafblind People

3.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Housing and City Services which set out the recommendations made by the Action Group to review access to services for deaf, blind and deafblind people. (see minute book).

3.2 Members welcomed and supported the recommendations of the Action Group and agreed that it was time positive steps were taken to help deaf, blind and deafblind people. Councillor Pidgeon was particularly keen to see recommendation 4 put into practice as soon as possible. Councillor Turton asked for the problem of overhanging trees and foliage to be highlighted, whilst Councillor Williams welcomed the document but raised some concern about the wording of recommendation 2. His group felt that as currently phrased, the document did not give enough emphasis on society changing in order to facilitate disabled peoples full participation.

3.3 Members raised concerns about the hospital discharge letters attached to report No. 7. Policy for Discharge of Adults from Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust and Choice Protocol. The letters were sent out in ordinary print and were not available in large print, Braille or on tape. Members also raised concern at the abrupt manner of the letters. It was agreed that a letter from the Chair on behalf of the Sub-Committee should be sent to the Brighton & Hove City NHS Primary Care Trust and the Brighton & Sussex University Hospital Trust concerning this matter.

3.4 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the recommendations in the report be noted.

Ian Long

(2) That officers investigate the recommendations at paragraph 3.8 of the report further and report again to the Sub-Committee after the Policy and Resources Committee had considered the matter.

(3) That letters be sent by the chair on behalf of the Sub-Committee to the Brighton & Hove City NHS Primary Care Trust and the Brighton & Sussex University Hospital Trust raising the issue of the format and content of the letters sent to patients being discharged from hospital.

(4) That it be noted that the report would be forwarded to all service committees and the Policy and Resources Committee, for consideration.

4. PETITION – DOCTORS SURGERY, COLDEAN

4.1 The Sub-Committee considered the following petition signed by 200 people and submitted to the Council meeting on 4 April 2003

by Councillor Hawkes.

4.2 "We the undersigned are opposed to the proposal to close the Doctors Surgery at 16 Beatty Avenue, Coldean."

4.3 Councillor Hawkes attended the Sub-Committee and informed Members that the petition had been discussed at the Primary Care Trust Board. It had been agreed that the surgery would only be allowed to leave Coldean, if it was replaced by another surgery. Councillor Hawkes suggested that Larchwood Resource Centre might be a suitable building for a doctor's surgery. St Mary Magdalene's Church with the detached vicar's house, might be a suitable building, if it were to close. She stressed that a community centre with health facilities was required.

4.4 Members welcomed and supported the petition and raised concerns at the closure of surgeries in outlying areas and the difficulty people would face in accessing health facilities.

Ian Long

4.5 The Acting Director of Housing and City Support informed that Sub-Committee that he would ask for a report on primary care services across the city at a future Primary Care Trust meeting. He was supportive of the suggestion that Larchwood Resource Centre be developed as a GP's surgery and would discuss this with the Chief Executive of the Brighton & Hove City Primary Care Trust.

4.6 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the petition be noted.

(2) That it be recommended that a report on the development of Primary Care Services be submitted to a future Primary Care Trust Board.

(3) That the suggestion that Larchwood Resource Centre be developed as a GP's surgery, be discussed with the Chief Executive of the Primary Care Trust.

5. PRESENTATION ON SOME KEY ISSUES

5.1 The Sub-Committee received a presentation from the Acting Director Housing and City Support and Acting Assistant Director - Adult Social Care, on the development of Adult Social Care in Brighton & Hove from 1997 to 2003 (slides attached).

5.2 Brighton & Hove Council took over the responsibility for Social Services in 1997. Three years ago, the council separated the management responsibilities for children's services and adult social care. However, the law had not kept pace with local arrangements and there was still a requirement to have a Statutory Director of

Social Services. Ian Long held the posts of both Statutory Director of Social Services and Acting Director of Housing and City Support.

5.3 The presentation outlined the Section 31 partnership arrangements with the Brighton & Hove City Primary Care Trust and South Downs NHS Health Trust, which made it possible to pool budgets and have integrated services. Partnership working commenced on 1 April 2003 and the Integrated Services Board and the Joint Commissioning Board had been meeting since June 2002. It was agreed that the Boards needed streamlining and it was possible that the two boards might be integrated. It had been agreed that a target date of April 2004 be set for agreement to formally link services under Section 31 for older people and the physically disabled.

5.4 The Acting Assistant Director - Adult Social Care gave a presentation on the Performance Assessment Framework (PAF), the Delivery & Improvement Statement (DIS), Joint Reviews, Inspections and the Annual Review meeting. Members were further informed about the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA), National Service Frameworks and Care Management.

5.5 **RESOLVED** – That the presentation be noted.

6. FAIR ACCESS TO CARE SERVICES: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

6.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Housing and City Services which updated Members on the implementation of revised eligibility criteria for adult social care (see minute book). There had been a limited impact on the introduction of the new criteria, and a minimal increase in complaints. The leaflet providing information to the public would be available in braille and on audiotape and in local languages for the minority ethnic and black community.

6.2 It was suggested that there be a seminar for members on the criteria for service provision.

6.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the eligibility criteria for adult social care are reviewed annually in line with budget setting.

Laura Scott Smith

(2) That the impact of revised eligibility criteria is investigated further through:

- A planned review of preventative services scheduled for 2003.
- The Race Equality Scheme impact assessments on Care Management and Fair Access Policy scheduled for 2003/2004.

(3) That an ongoing programme of training for adult social care and other agency staff is developed to ensure consistent application of the eligibility criteria.

(4) That an exploratory meeting is set up with relevant managers to consider reviewing and streamlining the care management paperwork processes introduced alongside the eligibility criteria.

(5) That officers report back to the Older Peoples Council.

7. POLICY FOR DISCHARGE OF ADULTS FROM BRIGHTON & SUSSEX UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, NHS TRUST AND CHOICE PROTOCOL

7.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Housing and City Support concerning the Policy and Protocol relating to hospital discharge and choice for adults (see minute book).

7.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the policy and protocol be approved.

Phillip Letchfield

(2) That it be noted that a decision has been taken under Item 3, to send letters from the chair on behalf of the Sub-Committee to the Brighton & Hove City NHS Primary Care Trust and the Brighton & Sussex University Hospital Trust raising the issue of the format and content of the letters sent to patients being discharged from hospital.

8. MODERNISING DAY CARE SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

8.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Acting Assistant Director - Adult Social Care that outlined options for the future of Beech Cottage Day Centre and sought approval for a consultation process in relation to the re-provision of this service (see minute book).

8.2 Some members expressed concern about the proposal to re-provide services from Beech Cottage and a longer consultation process was requested.

8.3 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the options outlined within the report be noted.

Steve Hook

(2) That a formal consultation process on the option of re-providing the services from Beech Cottage be approved and that the Sub-Committee receives a further report in September on the outcome of this process. The consultation process will be extended to 1st September 2003.

9. SEMINARS/ESTABLISHMENTS VISITING ROTA FOR COUNCILLORS

9.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Housing and City Services that sought approval for seminars on key issues and induction briefing for Members of the Sub-Committee. A new visiting rota would be finalised and distributed to start from August 2003, once Members had received briefings (see minute book).

9.2 It was suggested that Members carry out visits jointly with non executive visitors from the health trust.

9.3 **RESOLVED** - That the programme of seminars outlined in the report be approved and that this should include a seminar on Fair Access to Care Services. **Brigit Day**

10. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

10.1 **RESOLVED** – There were none.

The meeting concluded at 6.03 p.m.

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2003