

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Meeting - 7 January 2015

Elizabeth Jarrett from Staffordshire Healthwatch gave a presentation on an Engagement Event held in conjunction with Staffordshire Moorlands district Council in Leek. Its purpose was to enable the public to find out more about the health and social care services and an opportunity to ask questions of senior health providers during a public question time. It was felt to be a success and it was hoped a similar event could be held in conjunction with Newcastle Council. Members were in favour of the event and a small working party was established to work with Healthwatch to look at how it could go ahead.

Portfolio Holders' Question Time

Councillor Kearon sent a report covering the health and wellbeing issues in his portfolio including drug and alcohol dependency; safer nights strategy; campaigns to raise awareness of the problems associated with excessive alcohol consumption; mental health and public safety; young people and the impacts of violent crime and finally purposeful activities for young people.

Councillor Williams sent a report covering the health and wellbeing issues in his portfolio including the Better Care Fund; Local Commissioning, which included the Newcastle Partnership Strategic Framework.

Councillor Hambleton presented the health and wellbeing issues in his portfolio which included the Leisure and Culture Services role in the local delivery of sport and active lifestyles and working with local sports clubs and strategic partners; the health cost of inactivity in Newcastle; financial investments made in the borough through sport and finally new work streams starting this year.

A number of points were raised and further information was requested from all portfolio holders.

Modernisation of Day Centres For People with Learning Difficulties

Staffordshire CC were in the consultation stage where they were consulting people around the future of Kidsgrove Day Centre. The committee had a document from the county explaining the reason for the review and the options open to them. These included:

Option 1 – Keep Kidsgrove Service open and operated by the Council

Option 2 – Keep Kidsgrove Day open, but operated by another provider

Option 3 – Develop personalised day opportunities for all eligible people and discontinue the service from Kidsgrove Day Service, closing the building once all alternatives are in place

It was resolved on the evidence provided to the committee, the members were opposed to the closure of Kidsgrove Day Centre and this response be sent to Staffordshire County Council.

Code of Joint Working

The code of joint working had been discussed on previous meetings and it was resolved the committee receive the code of Joint Working arrangements.