

Minutes of Joint Portfolio Holder Adult Social Care and Portfolio Holder Community Safety Decision Making Session held on 26 November 2010

Present:

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care)

Councillor Richard Hobbs (Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Community Safety).

Others in attendance:

Member

Councillor Richard Chattaway

Officers:

Janet Purcell -Executive and Member Support Manager

Sue Ingram -Domestic Abuse Manager

1. General

Members Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Richard Hobbs declared a personal interest as member of the Warwickshire Police Authority.

2. Strategic Review of Domestic Abuse Support Services in Warwickshire

Councillor Richard Hobbs introduced the report and proposed the approval of the recommendations. It was noted that the report had been considered by the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and their views were reflected in the report.

Councillor Richard Chattaway commented on the need for good consultation and Councillors Richard Hobbs and Izzi Seccombe agreed that the consultation needed to make clear the benefits of the reorganisation of the service. The main focus was to ensure the service went out to people rather than being building-based. It was noted that the Government's intention to improve the power of Police to keep abusers away from victims would also be part of the new approach in protecting victims of abuse.

Resolved

- (1) That the Portfolio Holders for Adult Social Care and Community Safety authorise a 3-month period of consultation on:
 - (i) The service model from the Strategic Review of domestic abuse support services.
 - (ii) The proposed de-commissioning of the Ashram refuge in Nuneaton.

- (iii) Future support service priorities within the service model in anticipation of reduced budgets.
- (2) That Portfolio Holders authorise a market testing exercise to be undertaken prior to a decision being made on whether to bring an element of the domestic abuse service in house or to undertake an open tendering process.
- (3) That the Portfolio Holders receive a report on the outcome of consultation and a full equality impact assessment of the final proposals in order to make decisions regarding the future commissioning of domestic abuse support services in Warwickshire following a period of consultation.

3. Any other items

There were no other urgent items of business.

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Portfolio Holders

The session concluded at 12. 10 p.m.