

**CABINET MEMBER - HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE  
ON WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Porter

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Brennan and D Rimmer

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Minute No</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Action</b>
Cllr Porter	– Single Capital Pot – Mental Health	Personal - Trustee of the Brighter Living Partnership	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon

**3. MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

**4. COUNCILLOR BARRY GRIFFITHS**

The Cabinet Member and Spokespersons requested that their thanks be passed to Councillor Barry Griffiths, former Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care, for all his efforts in developing the work of the Health and Social Care Department during his tenure.

**5. CHARGING FOR SPECIALIST TRANSPORT SERVICE**

Further to Minute No 134 of the Cabinet meeting held on 1 October 2009, the Cabinet Member considered the report for the Adult Social Care Director on charges for the Specialist Transport Service and indicating that a review had been undertaken to assess the impact of the introduction of the flat rate charge on all service users who had transport arranged by the Council's Specialist Transport Service.

The report indicated that the a flat rate charge of £3.00 per day (£1.50 per journey) had been introduced on 1 October 2009 for all service users who had transport arranged by the Council's Specialist Transport Service; that since that date, 49 complaints had been received regarding the charge; that the complaints centred around charging for trips which had not occurred and had been caused by miscommunication between Adult

Social Care Department, the Specialist Transport Unit and the care agencies. All parties continued to work to improve upon this issue.

As the charge did not come under the fairer charging policy there was no financial assessment. 34 appeals against the charge had been received and 30 had already been visited by the Department's Finance Visiting Officers to submit financial information in support of their appeal. In response to the level of allowance given against expenditure over and above usual living costs claimed and to ensure that the system was not overly bureaucratic, a percentage allowance discount could be introduced.

The Cabinet Member and Spokesperson asked a variety of questions relating to Specialist Transport; welcomed the findings of the report as a "step in the right direction"; and thanked the Specialist Transport team for all their continued efforts to improve the services for all users. Colin Speight agreed to take details of any individuals experiencing difficulty due to the new charge from Members and follow up as appropriate.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) the treatment of expenditure in reaching the decision on an appeal, as outlined in paragraph 8 of the report, be approved;
- (3) the fact that a further report would be submitted on this matter in six months time be noted; and
- (4) the report be referred to Cabinet for information.

## **6. TRANSFORMING SOCIAL CARE - FINAL YEAR END REPORT**

Further to Minute No 62 of the meeting held on 17 February 2010, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Adult Social Care Director, which provided the final year-end report of his Department's performance activity for 2009/10, in relation to achieving key objectives.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

## **7. SINGLE CAPITAL POT - MENTAL HEALTH**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Adult Social Care Director on the Single Capital Pot – Mental Health and seeking approval for its allocation.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;

- (2) the applications received for funding in support of mental health initiatives, as detailed in the report, be approved; and
- (3) the reserve balance of £150,000 be retained for future mental health projects.

#### **8. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS IN SEFTON**

Further to Minute No 63 of the meeting held on 17 February 2010, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Adult Social Care Director regarding the activity and developments in relation to Safeguarding Adults in Sefton.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report updating on the activity and developments in Safeguarding Adults in Sefton be approved; and
- (2) the fact that further reports would be submitted on a quarterly basis on the performance in relation to Safeguarding Adults be noted.

#### **9. SERVICE INSPECTION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Adult Social Care Director on the Care Quality Commission's inspection of Adult Social Care in Sefton which took place in December 2009.

A copy of the Care Quality Commission's full inspection report was attached as an appendix to the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report of the Care Quality Commission on the inspection of Adult Social Care be noted; and
- (2) the recommendations being addressed through the Improvement Plan, as detailed in the report, be endorsed.

#### **10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED:

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion of the information from the Press and Public.

**11. INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE, SCARISBRICK AVENUE,  
SOUTHPORT**

Further to Minute No 22 of the Cabinet meeting held on 20 May 2010, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director – Communities on the Independent Living Centre, Scarisbrick Avenue, Southport.

RESOLVED:

That the decision of the Cabinet be noted.