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## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** WEDNESDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2016, 5.00 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact [scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

9 **Correspondence Following the Committee Meeting** *(Pages 1 - 4)*

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My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

12 October 2016

Councillor Susan Elsmore  
Cabinet Member  
c/o Room 520  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW



Dear Susan

### **Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 5 October 2016**

On behalf of the Members of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I would like to thank you, officers, Dr. Suzanne Wood and Helen Joy for attending and contributing to the discussion on Agenda Item 4, the **Dementia Three Year Plan 2014-2017: Progress Update**. A separate letter will be sent regarding Agenda Item 5, Assessment.

Members note that Cardiff & Vale University Health Board is the only Health Board in Wales to have a stand-alone Dementia Plan; Members commend this approach and the partnership working that is evident in the changes to date. Members were very pleased to hear from Helen Joy that the current structure of a Task Group and Sub-Groups is working well due to there being the right level of representation at these meetings; people who have the authority and knowledge to be able to effect change and make a difference. Overall, Members were impressed with the progress that has been made in implementing the agreed actions for Year One and Year Two of the Dementia Three Year Plan and wish to pass on our thanks to all those who have worked hard to ensure their achievement.

Members were interested to explore the planned actions for Year Three and note that Cardiff Council has a critical role to play in many of these, including respite opportunities, accommodation options, quality in residential and nursing care home provision and creating dementia friendly communities. With regard to these, Members note that:

- reviews are underway with regard to respite opportunities;
- recommissioning will take place with regard to accommodation opportunities, including retendering mental health- related accommodation, and that young onset dementia accommodation is included in the recommissioning of learning disabilities – related accommodation provision;
- the Escalating Concerns protocol is being robustly applied to address quality concerns in residential and nursing care homes, as appropriate; and
- the Neighbourhood Partnerships are facilitating conversations amongst partners to complete the Dementia Friendly Action Plan template.

With regard to the recommissioning and retendering of accommodation for learning disabilities and mental health, Members would like to be informed about the likely timescales for these, please.

With regard to Dementia Friendly Communities, Members are pleased that work is underway and wish to receive a briefing in March 2017 with regard to the progress made in completing the Action Plans by each Neighbourhood Partnership. Members are particularly interested to understand how the Good Work Framework, referenced at the meeting, is being used in rolling out Dementia Friendly Communities.

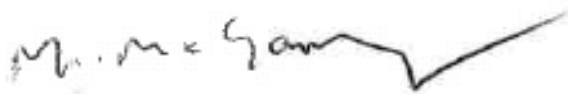
It is clear that work to tackle Dementia and the impact of this illness on carers, families and communities will need to continue and so Members were pleased to hear from Dr. Suzanne Wood that there will be a refresh of the Three Year Plan, from April 2017. Members were interested in witnesses' views about what would be needed in a refreshed Plan. Members also note that there is some way to go in order to be at the same level of performance when compared to the best performing English Health bodies, for example in dementia diagnosis rates.

Members recognise that the Progress Reports have been authored by Health on behalf of the wider partnership. Having reflected on the views expressed at the meeting, Members have a number of recommendations they wish to make. Members therefore ask that the following recommendations be put forward by Cardiff Council as part of our partnership input into the final progress report:

- the current structure of a Task Group and Sub Groups and the current level of representation on these be retained;
- the Care Council for Wales training guidance be embedded into the new Plan;
- more work be planned to increase the feedback received from carers, families and advocates and actions taken as a result of feedback;
- more work be planned to ensure under-represented groups regarding dementia are heard from, such as people who are LGBT and people who are from an Ethnic Minority.

Finally, Members will be interested to receive a copy of the Year Three Progress Report. As part of this, Members recommend that reference is made to the role of day centres in the provision of dementia services. Members also think that it would be helpful for carers' stories to be included in the Year Three report; it may be that the work Helen Joy referenced regarding the collation of Nexus consultation findings may be of use in this.

Yours sincerely,



**COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M<sup>C</sup>GARRY**

**Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee**

Cc: Dr. Suzanne Wood      Public Health      Helen Joy      Nexus, CAVAMH  
Tony Young & Amanda Phillips      Social Services  
Paula Angel      Personal Assistant  
Matt Swindell      Cabinet Support Officer

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c/o Room 520  
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Dear Susan

### **Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 5 October 2016**

On behalf of the Members of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I would like to thank you and officers for attending and contributing to the discussion on Agenda Item 5, the **Social Services & Well Being (Wales) Act 2014: Assessment item**. A separate letter will be sent regarding Agenda Item 4.

Members wish to thank officers for their help in ensuring that the Committee Papers contained relevant and up to date information on the assessment processes in place since the Act went live in April this year. Members are reassured by this information and by the answers given at Committee that we have started the new assessment process in the right way. Members were particularly pleased to hear the Assistant Director of Adult Social Services, Amanda Phillips, state that Social Workers are very aware of the fact that some existing service users will be fearful that the new assessment approach may reduce their care package and that staff are aware of the need to manage this sensitively and supportively. Members also note that the new assessments currently take longer than the previous assessments but that this pressure is being dealt with by managers proactively monitoring the situation. Members note that a pressure bid has been made for 2017/18 for additional resources to go into a review team.

We note the comment from the Director of Social Services, Tony Young, that this is a transitional year and that it will be important to use data from this year to enrich future provision appropriately. Members believe it would be particularly beneficial to plan to be able to compare customer satisfaction data 2016/17 and 2017/18 in order to identify areas of improvement and learning.

Members particularly wish to thank Carlyne Palmer for her clear and informative answers at Committee with regards to Preventative Services and the critical role they are playing in ensuring well-being in our communities. Members note that improvements are being made to the Joint Equipment Service and that thought is being given to how to establish online self-assessments for smaller equipment items, so that officer time can be prioritised to more complex cases.

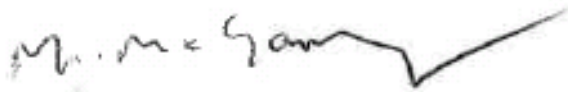
With regard to the First Point of Contact (FPOC), Members note that carers can go to the FPOC to receive information, advice and assistance and will be referred on to the Adult Services Carers Assessment Team and that the ICF monies will continue to fund 2 FTE Social Workers in the FPOC in 2017/18.

Members also note that pressure bids have been made for 2017/18 for additional funding for the FPOC and for Independent Living Visitor Officers.

With regard to the Locality Working pilot, Members note that the reason some of the expected savings will not be realised in 2016/17 is due to it taking longer to resolve some of the domiciliary care services than anticipated.

Once again, thank you all for your attendance. This letter does not require a response.

Yours sincerely,



**COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M<sup>C</sup>GARRY**

**Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee**

|     |  |                         |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| Cc: | Tony Young & Amanda Phillips               | Social Services         |
|     | Sarah McGill, Jane Thomas, Carolyne Palmer | Communities & Housing   |
|     | Paula Angel                                | Personal Assistant      |
|     | Liz Patterson                              | Personal Assistant      |
|     | Matt Swindell                              | Cabinet Support Officer |