



SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE – 23 January 2017

Minutes: Annex 1

AGENDA ITEM 7

WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS

1. Mrs Carol Coleman will ask the following question:

“Early years daycare settings in the borough have strict regulations concerning numbers of staff ratio to children and are inspected and monitored by OFSTED regularly to safeguard our young children. There is also an inspection and monitoring regime of youth centres and schools where children are looked after during the daytime.

QCC inspect and monitor homes for elderly and vulnerable people in the borough, but what about day centres for the elderly such as people with dementia? There should be a minimum ratio of staff to clients, and inspections to ensure that these people are getting a good standard of care and the correct stimulation and nutrition and fluids.

What are Surrey County Council and Spelthorne Borough Council doing to inspect and monitor Day Care for the elderly and people with Dementia in the borough and to safeguard them?”

Spelthorne Borough Council and SCC will give the following answer:

Karen Sinclair, Spelthorne BC Joint Group Head Community Wellbeing:

"We did some research with regards to this when we did an older person review of services and when we looked at starting the OPAL group (Older People Actively Living) in two of our day centres. The QCC only regulate Hospitals, GPs, Doctors & care home not Day/Communities centres because of the type of member attending the centre.

But when we did start the group we looked at what advice they gave care homes and we also talked to various different care providers and what they did. Their recommendations have been incorporated. Furthermore, we have successfully participated in a complex and thorough framework agreement

with Surrey County Council whereby they checked a range of factors such as staff training, first aid provision and activities. As a result Surrey County Council staff are able to make direct referral to the services.

In terms of specifics with regards to ratios, we try to keep that to 1 staff member to 5 group members plus with a good bank of volunteers that help on a day to day basis some of them give 1-2-1 if a member need that extra bit of support/attention.

Our support workers have backgrounds in care and care homes and also have NVQs. If they don't have NVQs then we help them to get that qualification.

Both Centre Managers and deputies also are qualified to NVQ level, staff have been on lots of different training course to help them with different types of illness and circumstances and continue to attend different courses."

Michelle Head, SCC Area Director, Adult Social Care:

"Day care provision as Spelthorne Borough Council explains is not a regulated service via the Care Quality Commission. Surrey County Council's Quality Assurance Managers will support day care providers if they are needed to assist a service where issues have been raised. The Safeguarding Advisor in the Locality Team's can also visit providers to offer guidance and support with training if required. All services purchased directly by the County Council are reviewed by social care practitioners, to ensure an individuals needs are being met and quality standards are met."

AGENDA ITEM 8

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

1. Mr Andrew McLuskey will ask the following question:

"Can the Chairman explain the change of name (and apparent other changes) relating to the Committee and its work?"

Jane Last, Surrey CC Head of Community Partnership & Safety, will give the following answer:

"Councillors and officers of both Surrey County Council (SCC), and Spelthorne Borough Council (SBC) are committed to working together for the residents of Spelthorne. The Spelthorne Joint Committee (SJC), aims to improve outcomes and value for money for residents by strengthening local democracy and improving partnership work within the borough.

The SJC is a Joint Committee of SCC and SBC set up under the provisions of Section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. Building on the work of the

Local Committee (Spelthorne), the SJC is a true equal partnership between both Councils with all members fully and equally involved on all items considered by the committee.

The SJC is a jointly constituted committee as such the SJC can consider functions delegated to it from both authorities, promoting closer joint working. As a Joint Committee both SCC and SBC have ownership and control over the committee process and an ability to put forward items on the agenda. In comparison the previous Local Committee (Spelthorne) was a SCC constituted committee and as such it could only be consulted on, or make decisions upon SCC functions.

The remit of the SJC is expanded, as in addition to carrying out the SCC functions previously performed by the Local Committee (Spelthorne), the SJC will also consider a range of functions delegated to it by SBC, with appropriate oversight. The development of the new Joint Committee between the Councils, with its expanded remit, is a further step towards our stronger partnership working.”

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