

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE, CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**5 APRIL 2018**

**Present:** Councillor Pearce (Vice Chair in the Chair)  
Councillors Eden, Gavin, Hoskin, Jones, Khan, Maskell, McKenna,  
O'Connell, Robinson, Vickers and J Williams.

**47. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**48. COUNCILLOR MCELLIGOTT**

The Vice-Chair noted that he would Chair the meeting because the appointed Chair, Councillor Eileen McElligott, had recently stood down as a councillor. He paid tribute to her work as Chair of the ACE Committee and Church ward councillor.

**49. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES**

The Minutes of the following meeting were submitted:

- Children's Trust Partnership Board - 17 January 2018
- Minutes and presentation from a meeting of the Joint Health Scrutiny of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan held on 6 March 2018

**Resolved - That the Minutes be noted.**

**50. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS**

A question on the following matter was submitted, and answered by the Lead Councillor for Education:

Questioner	Subject
Councillor Josh Williams	Fair Workload Charter for Teachers in Reading

(The full text of the question and reply was made available on the Reading Borough Council website).

**51. PROVISION OF SCHOOL CATERING SERVICES- CONTRACT EXTENSION**

The Director of Children, Education and Early Help Services submitted a report that set out a proposal to extend the School Meals Contract with the current contractor, Chartwells, for the next extension period of two years. This would run from 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2020.

The report explained that a consultation exercise had been carried out with all schools that were currently part of the centrally managed contract to seek feedback on the service provided by the contractor. Schools had been asked whether to proceed with the two year extension period or to carry out a procurement exercise of re-tendering, and to give their views about seven topics.

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31 responses had been received from a total of 43 schools in the contract. A meeting had been held in August 2017 with the contractor to discuss their offer and proposal for the extension and results from the consultation and Chartwells' extension offer had been shared and discussed with the School Meals Board on 11 October 2017. Based on the consultation responses the Board had recommended that the current contract should be extended for a further two year period.

To date, two schools had indicated that they might not remain part of the central School Meals Contract, this was due to individual circumstances of the schools rather than dissatisfaction with the contractor, and several academies had said the decision whether or not to remain within the central contract would be down to their Academy Trust rather than the individual school.

The report explained that the Living Wage Foundation Living Wage (LWFLW) would be introduced as part of the proposed contract extension. School meals catering had a history of being a comparatively poorly paid industry and the introduction of the LWFLW would have a significant and positive impact on salaries paid to staff across the workforce.

The meal price for primary schools was currently £2.10, this would increase to £2.20 from 1 August 2018 when all Chartwells staff engaged in the Reading School Meal Contract received the LWFLW. The report included a table that set out the impact on all school meal prices and corresponding percentage increases. The risks associated with the proposal were that the price increase might lead to a reduced take up of chargeable school meals and that schools which were accustomed to the differential paid to them for Universal Infant Free School Meals might choose to opt out to the contract. The report stated that it was not possible to predict the number of schools buying back or the impact this might have on the viability of the contract.

Finally, the report explained that with a view to giving added incentive to schools to encourage more children to eat school meals, Chartwells was suggesting introducing a 10% profit share for uptake above current levels. Based on experience in other local authorities, and based on a 10% increase in uptake profit, between £300 and £1400 per annum would be shared with schools, depending on the size of the school.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the existing School Meals Contract be extended by a further two years from 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2020;**
- (2) That the option outlined in paragraph 4.4 of the report, to introduce the Living Wage Foundation Living Wage into the School Meals Contract with effect from 1 August 2018 be approved;**
- (3) That the initiative to introduce profit share be applied to the School Meals Contract from 1 August 2018 until the expiry of the contract extension on 31 July 2020.**

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**52. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17**

The Director of Adult Care and Health Services submitted for information a copy of the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Annual Report 2016-17. The following appendices were attached to the report:

Appendix A	Membership of the Board
Appendix B	Achievements by Partner Agencies
Appendix C	Completed Business Plan 2016-17
Appendix D	Business Plan 2017-18
Appendix E	Safeguarding Performance Annual Reports for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust</li><li>• Reading Borough Council</li><li>• Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust</li><li>• West Berkshire Council</li><li>• Wokingham Borough Council</li></ul>
Appendix F	Safeguarding Adults Training Activity - 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

The report explained that the overarching purpose of the SAB was to help safeguard adults with care and support needs and it did this by assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements were in place, as defined by the Care Act 2014, and statutory guidance. The Annual Report 2016-17 presented what the SAB had aimed to achieve on behalf of the residents of Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham during 2016-17. This was both as a partnership, and through the work of its participating partners. It provided a picture of who was safeguarded across the area, in what circumstances and why. It outlined the role and values of the SAB, its ongoing work and future priorities.

**Resolved - That the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) Annual Report 2016-17 be noted.**

**53. ANNUAL COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS REPORT 2016 - 2017 FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

The Director of Adult Social Care and Health Services submitted a report providing the Committee with information on how many complaints had been received in 2016/17 and were dealt with using either the Council's Corporate Complaints Procedure or the Statutory Complaints Procedure for Adult Social Care. It also summarised the main types of complaints that had been received and gave some examples where improvements had been made as a result of learning from the complaints. Information on compliments received was also included. A summary of Adult Social Care Complaints 2016/17 was attached to the report at Appendix A.

It was requested at the meeting that future reports cross-reference complaint outcomes against teams and themes, to provide a fuller picture of where there might be issues within the service.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted;**

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- (2) That future reports include cross-referencing of complaint outcomes by team and theme;
- (3) That compliments received continue to be included in future reports.

**54. LORD DARZI REVIEW OF HEALTH AND CARE: CALL FOR EVIDENCE**

The Director of Adult Care and Health Services submitted a report presenting the Committee with the Council's response to the Lord Darzi Review of Health and Care (Call for Evidence). The Council's response to the Review was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The report explained that in December 2017 the Government had announced that Lord Darzi had been appointed to lead a review that aimed to examine the state of quality in health and care services and to make recommendations for future funding and reform of the system. The remit of the review was described in two parts:

- An examination of quality - safety, effectiveness, timeliness, efficiency and equitability of care in the NHS and social care service today;
- Developing recommendations about the funding settlement and reforms needed to drive improvements in the quality of care in the coming decade.

The aim was for the review to publish its findings to coincide with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS in the summer of 2018.

On 19 February 2018 the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) had issued a Call for Evidence in support of the review with a deadline of 19 March 2018. The Council had received an invitation from IPPR to participate in this exercise on 23 February 2018. In view of the very small window of opportunity to respond to the review, the Council had been unable to endorse a response through an appropriate Committee and therefore an officer response had been submitted which had been based on a desktop review of published reports that had touched on the subject matter of the Lord Darzi review.

**Resolved -**

**That the officer response submitted to the Lord Darzi Review of Health and Care (Call for Evidence), as set out in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be noted.**

(The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and closed at 7.20 pm).