

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON GOOD HEALTH

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 at 6.00 p.m.

### PRESENT:-

Councillor Cody (in the Chair)  
Councillor Hanson (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors Ali, Mrs. Aston, Banks, Ms. Craigie, Johnson, Mrs. Turner and Mrs White together with the Head of Personnel and Support Services (Lead Officer), Director of Social Services, Assistant Director of Social Services Learning Disability and Mental Health (Directorate of Social Services), Assistant Director - Development and Environmental Protection (Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Miss Stephens (Directorate of Law and Property).

### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Lunt, Project Director Ridge Hill, Dudley South PCT and Mr Ward, Good Health Scrutiny Officer

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### MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That, the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2004, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of personal interest, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, were made by the following Members for the reasons indicated:

Councillor Cody, in relation to his employment by the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Councillor Ms Craigie in relation to any matters regarding the Ophthalmic Services

Councillor Johnson, as a user of the Chiropody Service.

Councillor Ali in light of his employment by South Birmingham Primary Care Trust.

SOCIAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE, THE SSI AUTUMN 2003 DELIVERY AND IMPROVEMENT STATEMENT AND UPDATE ON THE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

A report of the Director of Social Services was submitted on the key messages from Social Services Directorate's Autumn 2003 Delivery and Improvement Statement.

The Director of Social Services in expanding upon the report submitted, highlighted on the progress to date with regards to the improvements in services stating that nine out of the thirty-six performance indicators had improved since last year.

Following consideration of the report and appendices to the report submitted, several Members raised comments in particular regarding: -

Councillor Ali queried the accuracy of the target forecasting, raising his concerns regarding areas of weakness such as direct payments and equipment delivery. In response the Director of Social Services stated that target setting was a part motivational exercise in order to challenge staff, she further commented on the specific performance indicators highlighted. She further added that Dudley's performance as a two star authority was good and above average and that areas for development included clear plans to secure performance improvement.

Arising from comments and questions made by Members it was

RESOLVED

1. That the information contained in the report and appendices to the report submitted on Social Services Directorate's Autumn 2003 Delivery and Improvement Statement, and update on the Performance Assessment Framework be received and noted.
2. That the Director of Social Services be requested to submit a performance target report to the Committee on a quarterly basis.

THE JOINT REVIEW ACTION PLAN/DIRECTORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (DIMP)

A report of the Director of Social Services was submitted on the achievements and progress made to date on the Directorate Improvement and Modernisation Plan.

Arising from the comments made Members asked a number of questions in particular relating to recruitment and retention within the Directorate especially with regards to the local workforce and raising the profile of the profession of home carers.

Following consideration of the report and after receiving questions and comments from Members it was

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted, on the achievements and progress made to date on the Directorate Improvement and Modernisation Plan, be received and noted.

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EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A report of the Director of Social Services was submitted on the Equality and Diversity Action Plan for 2004/05 for the Directorate of Social Services.

Arising from the comments made members made a number of comments and asked questions relating in particular to concerns regarding the appropriate formatting of the Corporate and Directorate report, with suggestions being made with regard to showing an additional column, benchmarking performance against previous years.

RESOLVED

That the Equality and Diversity Action Plan for 2004/05 for the Directorate of Social Services be received and noted and that the Director of Social Services be requested to convey suggestions from Members regarding the Corporate report template to the appropriate Officers.

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PROPOSALS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN DUDLEY

A report of the Director of Social Services was submitted on the proposals to develop an integrated Health and Social Care service for Mental Health in Dudley.

Richard Carter (Assistant Director of Social Services - Learning Disabilities and Mental Health)- commented on the content of the report submitted.

Arising from consideration of the report and after receiving comments from Members it was

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted, regarding the proposals to develop an integrated Health and Social Care services for Mental Health in Dudley, be received and noted.

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RE-PROVISION OF RIDGE HILL HOSPITAL

A report of the Director of Social Services was submitted on the latest developments with the re-provision of Ridge Hill hospital.

The Assistant Director of Social Services (Learning Disability and Mental Health) in introducing the report highlighted key issues to include future proposals and funding developments.

Arising from the comments made Members made a number of comments and asked questions relating in particular to possible funding risks attached to the project. In response the Director of Social Services stated that there were financial risks, although these would be shared with the Primary Care Trust and work was being undertaken to close the funding gap.

Following detailed consideration given to the report submitted it was

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted, on the latest developments with the re-provision of Ridge Hill hospital, be received and noted.

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INTRODUCTION AND UPDATE FROM THE GOOD HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE'S SCRUTINY OFFICER

The Chair introduced Sean Ward, Good Health Scrutiny Officer to the Committee.

Arising from the introductions given Mr Ward suggested that, as part of the Committee's scrutiny function the following areas be examined at future meetings including; Chiropody Services, Wheelchair Service, the National Health employment survey and the Borough's response to the *Choosing Health* consultation document.

RESOLVED

That further consideration be given to possible areas of scrutiny by the Committee when the work programme for 2004/05 was to be considered.

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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

It was noted that a special meeting of the Committee was being arranged for May, 2004. Further details would be circulated in due course.

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The meeting ended at 8.05p.m

CHAIR

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