

Minutes

- Meeting:** Policy Committee
- Date:** 3 September 2014
- Time:** 10.30am
- Venue:** Rooms 0.18 and 0.24, Compass House, Dundee
- Present:** Paul Edie, Chair (Convener of Committee)
Mike Cairns
Anne Haddow
David Wiseman
- In Attendance:** Annette Bruton, Chief Executive
Karen Anderson, Director of Strategic Development
Gordon Weir, Director of Corporate Services
Robert Peat, Director of Inspection
Kenny McClure, Head of Legal Services
Elaine Cranston, DSO (Minute)
- Apologies:** Anne Houston

Item

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted as above.

2.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There was no declaration of interest.

3.0 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 23 MAY 2014

The minute of the previous meeting was approved as a correct record.

Version: 4.0	Status: <i>Approved 28.11.14</i>	Date: 27/01/2015
--------------	----------------------------------	------------------

4.0 POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION SHEET

The rolling action sheet was noted and updated accordingly.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising:

- The committee was now known as the Policy Committee
- Monitoring Our Performance was no longer going to the Policy Committee but straight to the Board for approval
- Enforcement Guidance was circulated to Board members for information
- Amendment to the report on the number of technical enforcement notices was complete as per Board Paper (June 2014)
- The Analysis of Care Service Grade at 31 March 2014 – send to all Board Members
- Involvement – Duty User Focus Group – requested amendments had been made and submitted to the Board as per Board Paper (June 2014)

6.0 MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION REPORT INTO THE DEATH OF MR JL AND ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CARE INSPECTORATE

The Director of Inspection presented the report to inform the committee about implications for the Care Inspectorate and the recommendations made to improve our practice when inspecting services from the MWC Report on Mr JL.

The Committee noted the issues regarding the service user's care and discussed concerns surrounding these. It was agreed that although the service was graded very good, the review of the sequence of events was helpful.

The Committee discussed /recommended that:

- There was a need for a review of risk assessment in services types which are inherently risky;
- Examine issues surrounding 'unannounced' and 'announced' inspections;
- the length of time during which inspectors carry the same case load should be kept under review;
- The specialist teams that were now in place helped ensure that the Care Inspectorate had strengthened its expertise in care planning and human rights issues across different services and cognate groups;
- There was a need for more inspection volunteers with a knowledge of mental health issues to support inspectors and better engage with people who use services; and

Version: 4.0	Status: <i>Approved 28.11.14</i>	Date: 27/01/2015
--------------	----------------------------------	------------------

- The report identified key learning points for inspectors which would also be taken into account in new scrutiny and improvement methodology

DoI

The committee were interested to know when the service was inspected. The Director of Inspection offered to source this information for members. It was agreed that this report was not required to go to the Board Meeting but if members wished to see this they were welcome.

7.0 TRIENNIAL REVIEW

The Director of Strategic Development gave the committee a verbal update on the purpose, scope and timing of the Triennial Review.

The work was being led by two strategic inspectors by conducting a series of internal seminars with professional staff. The purpose of the report was to highlight what we know about social care in Scotland, achievements and challenges and the capacity for improvement.

The overall Care Inspectorate knowledge and understanding of care would be presented around four principal care groups: early years, children and young people, adults (including criminal justice) and older people, and from a range of evidence based sources, including inspections, strategic inspections, self-evaluation, significant reviews and reviews of deaths of looked after children.

The report would conclude by setting out an overall comment on the capacity for improvement evident in Scottish social care.

The committee welcomed the report which would be produced in November 2014.

DoS

8.0 PRESENTATION ON NEW REGULATED CARE SERVICE METHODOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

The Director of Strategic Development presented on the above to the committee and explained the rational for undertaking modernisation of our scrutiny and improvement methodology for regulated care services.

A discussion took place around this and it was noted:

- What worked well – approach, attitude, behaviour, knowledge and activity
- The areas to be focused on to improve our scrutiny and improvement activities
- The focus of the methodologies
- The work continually being undertaken to consult and develop the new methodologies
- The importance of risk assessment and intelligence

Version: 4.0	Status: <i>Approved 28.11.14</i>	Date: 27/01/2015
--------------	----------------------------------	------------------

It was also agreed that the committee needed a report by December 2014 on this important development. It was also agreed that slight changes should be made to the slides then circulated with a timeline to all Board Members for information. Thereafter to be tabled for the Strategic Development event in October 2014.

9.0 NATIONAL CARE STANDARDS CONSULTATION

The Director of Strategic Development gave the committee a verbal update of the progression of this review.

The current set of 23 standards were written from the perspective of service users and have served well. The standards are regulated by the Care Inspectorate and HIS and were being reviewed to ensure they reflect to the wide ranging public sector reform initiatives as well as strengthening their focus on rights and outcomes. It was also noted that the way services are designed, delivered and commissioned is changing significantly too.

It was proposed that rather than 23 different standards they should be more streamlined into around 6 standards with up to three structured levels of quality standards, focusing on at an overarching care level, rights, cognate groups, adults and children then specific standards for aspects of care.

The new standards are also likely to focus on participation, improvement, health and wellbeing. A joint response was being prepared by the Care Inspectorate and HIS to the SG consultation. The response had been informed by consultation with staff, this included using survey monkey and 16 small meeting sessions. The response would be agreed in correspondence with Board members.

The Committee:

- Welcomed the update and agreed to put some thought into the consultation response
- Confirmed it was Scottish Ministers standards with CI and HIS input
- Noted new National Care Standards may impair on our registration process

The Chair thanked the Director of Strategic Development for the update.

10.0 AOCB

The Chief Executive informed the committee of the role of the new Strategic Scrutiny Group and to keep the committee updated at an early stage.

She explained the purpose of the Scrutiny Group was to:

Version: 4.0	Status: <i>Approved 28.11.14</i>	Date: 27/01/2015
--------------	----------------------------------	------------------

- Promote collaboration and shared learning amongst Scotland's main public sector scrutiny bodies
- Underpin by 5 principles of scrutiny and the obligation to the Public Service Reform (Scotland) Act
- Acknowledge specific and distinctive roles and responsibilities of each organisation

The Chief Executive said the group had revised its key functions and updated the group with all regulatory members. She explained the group would establish appropriate communication links with Scottish Government, ensure liaison and coordination of audit and inspection activity, and promote a coordinated approach to supporting self-evaluation and improvement

The group had established key risks for the sector which included, financial sustainability, legislative and policy changes, the changing public sector, skills and capacity, performance and outcomes and ICT. Slides from the previous meeting were also provided to the committee along with the work programme agreed at the previous meeting, this included the agreed 5 priority projects:

- Effective alignment between external scrutiny and the public sector reform agenda
- Improved coordination and alignment of thematic scrutiny
- Review of the SRA process
- Place based scrutiny development and pilot
- Programme of operation scrutiny improvement

The Chief executive advised the Board that she had been approached by the Chair of the Accounts Commission to work with Audit Scotland and SG to review scrutiny and improvement functions and partnership with other partner bodies.

CE

The Committee welcomed this important piece of work and were also very keen to be kept informed of future developments of the group and looked forward to an update at the next Policy meeting.

11.0 Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 12 November 2014, Compass House, Dundee at 10.30am.

Signed:

Paul Edie
Chair

Version: 4.0	Status: <i>Approved 28.11.14</i>	Date: 27/01/2015
--------------	----------------------------------	------------------