

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Monday, 9 October 2017 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

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### **Overview and Scrutiny Committee members present:**

Councillors Ian Amos, Rita Amos, Emma Anderton, Colette Birch, Rob Fail, John Hodgkinson, John Ibison, Patsy Ormrod, Julie Robinson, Christine Smith, Matthew Vincent and Michael Vincent

### **Officers present:**

Michele Scott, Care and Repair Manager and Lead Officer for Dementia  
Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer

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#### **OS.27 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellison and Jones.

#### **OS.28 Declarations of interest**

None.

#### **OS.29 Confirmation of minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 11 September 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **OS.30 Dementia in Wyre**

Michele Scott, Care and Repair Manager and Lead Officer for Dementia, presented a report. Whilst accepting that Wyre Council did not have any duty to deliver social care services for residents, Mrs Scott detailed the council's proactive role in supporting residents to remain living independently in their homes, as covered in her report.

Mrs Scott emphasized the way in which council departments worked closely together and the effective links that were in place with other organisations.

Councillors made comments and asked a number of questions, from which Mrs Scott added the following points:

- Information was routinely provided about applying for Council Tax discount in appropriate cases. Care and Repair staff were thoroughly briefed in this regard.
- A weekly Tea Dance was held at the Marine Hall. The dances were not specifically for people living with dementia but many people with the condition attended. There were benefits from facilitating the attendance of a wide range of people.
- Businesses could be accredited as Dementia Friends in the same way as individuals were.
- Events were as important for the carers as they were for the people living with dementia. They provided a break in a relaxed environment, where peer support was readily available. There were many carers in Wyre who had little or no support at all.
- Dementia Friends training had been held for some councillors previously but not for about two years. It would be timely to consider running some more sessions, each of which would last for approximately 45 minutes.
- Councillors were invited by Mrs Scott to advise her of any other events or regular sessions aimed at people living with dementia so they could be added to the council's information base.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) Mrs Scott be thanked for attending the meeting and for her very informative report,
- (ii) The Head of Contact Centre be asked to submit a report to the committee meeting on 6 November to advise councillors about how council tax discounts are applied to people who are severely mentally impaired

**OS.31 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2017/18**

The Chairman, Councillor Michael Vincent, updated members about the progress of the current task groups.

The Life in Wyre task group was nearing the completion of its work. The Interim Leader of the Council would be asked to identify a member of the Cabinet to attend the final meeting of the group to discuss the draft recommendations and to respond to those recommendations at a future Cabinet meeting.

The Digital Transformation task group had met once and had visits to three other local authorities arranged before Christmas.

The Chairman proposed that, with relatively few working days between the December and the January meetings of the committee, the December meeting be cancelled, with all business items being considered at the January meeting.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The report of the Service Director Performance and Innovation be noted, and
- (ii) That the meeting scheduled for 11 December be cancelled.

**OS.32      Date and time of next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the next meeting of the committee be held at 6pm on Monday 6 November 2017 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 6.44 pm.