CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2010 AT 2:00PM

Present: Councillors Mrs Y Clarkson, Chairman; Mrs M Docherty; G Garrity; S Meteer: J Park; R Salkeld; P Tyson; P Watson and C Whiteside.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs A Faichney and H Branney.

Officers: A Johnson, Interim Scrutiny Consultant; C Robson, Health Improvement Officer and C Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Also Present: Councillor N Williams.

CYPHC 21/09 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2009 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to Councillor H Branney being shown as an attendee.

CYPHC 22/09 IDeA Healthy Communities Peer Review and Health Inequalities Agenda

The recently appointed Health Improvement Officer presented to the Committee on the IDeA Healthy Communities Peer Review.

Members were advised that this Officers role, which was part funded by Cumbria County Council and the Primary Care Trust was to look at the health of both Council Staff and Local Communities with the aim of improving life expectancy.

The Peer Review had identified four areas for specific attention, these were Physical Activity, Smoking, Alcohol and Healthy Eating & Nutrition and a draft action plan was being worked on to address them.

With regard to Physical Activity, organised lunchtime walks for staff had already commenced and this was being extended to other localities. Opportunities were being provided to help people stop smoking with clinics for staff and promotion through community clinic and schools. With regard to Alcohol, the Health Improvement Officer was working in partnership with the Police, Local Communities and Licensed premises. Education for Council staff in the form of posters had already started. In conjunction with the Food Standards Agency, promotional information regarding Healthy Eating and Nutrition was being distributed. For Council staff, the contents of vending machines would be reviewed to ensure healthy options were available.

RESOLVED – That the presentation by the Health Improvement Officer be received and he be invited to the April meeting with his action plan in relation to the IDeA Peer Review.

CYPHC 23/09 Closer to Home

The Committee received an update report on 'Closer to Home', which had previously been reported to the Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2010.

Members requested that NHS Cumbria be invited to the next meeting of this Committee to provide an update, as members continued to be concerned over a number of aspects of Closer to Home.

RESOLVED – That the Interim Scrutiny Consultant draft an invitation letter for NHS Cumbria detailing the reasons why they were being invited and this be agreed by the Chair and Deputy Chair of this Committee before being issued.

CYPHC 24/09 Quarterly Update Report for Cumbria Health and Well-being Scrutiny Committee from NHS Cumbria

The Committee received the NHS Cumbria Quarterly Update Report for OSC (January 2010).

During the discussion that followed, Members expressed their concern regarding people who have attempted to register for dental care and although promised an acknowledgement, have not received one and this has resulted in confusion over whether or not they are registered.

The Deputy Chair agreed to take this up at the next County Scrutiny meeting. Concern was also expressed regarding LIFT (Local Improvement Finance Trust) and it was agreed that this would be included in the letter to NHS Cumbria as detailed in minute CYPHC23/09 above.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

CYPHC 25/09 Briefing Report from the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Manager

The Committee received a Briefing report from the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Manager that had been presented to the Cumbria Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2010.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

CYPHC 26/09 Minutes of Health and Well-being Scrutiny Committee

The Committee received the Minutes of the Cumbria Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 October 2009, attended by the Deputy Chairman, Councillor G Garrity.

During the discussion that followed, Members were advised that with regard to Pathology Services in West Cumbria, a 'Hot Lab' would remain at the West Cumberland Hospital in Whitehaven, whilst cancer testing would take place at Carlisle.

Members also stated that the Cumbria Link Report referred to in the Minutes of the Cumbria Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee had not answered the questions previously raised.

Members queried the update on Fuel Poverty and asked how this linked in with ongoing work at Copeland Borough Council to produce a Fuel Poverty Strategy and were advised that a briefing on the Copeland Strategy would be held at the end of February 2010.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be received.

CYPHC 27/09 Work Plan

Consideration was given to the Committee's Work Plan.

Members were requested to provide suggestions to the Chair, Deputy Chair or Interim Scrutiny Consultant on Youth Provision in Copeland and how to engage the youth in the Council's decision making process. A report would then be prepared for the next meeting of this Committee on how to progress.

A further Member was sought to join the Task and Finish Group looking at how voluntary agencies can access funds and Councillor S Meteer volunteered.

The Committee requested that County Councillors T Knowles and D Southward be invited to a future meeting to update Members on the County Council's plans for building schools for the future.

RESOLVED - That

- a) the Work Plan be amended/updated as agreed,
- b) Members be requested to provide suggestions to the Chair, Deputy Chair or Interim Scrutiny Consultant on Youth Provision in Copeland and how to engage the youth in the Council's decision making process,
- c) Councillor S Meteer join the Task and Finish Group looking at how voluntary agencies can access funds,
- d) County Councillors T Knowles and D Southward be invited to a future meeting to update Members on the County Council's plans for building schools for the future.

The Meeting Closed at 4:30 pm

Signed:....

Date:....