



Minutes of the Meeting of the ADULT & COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH 2007 at 5.30pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>

<u>Councillor Corrall - Chair</u> <u>Councillor Almey – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson</u> <u>Councillor Porter – Conservative Spokesperson</u> <u>Councillor A. Vincent – Focus Team Spokesperson</u>

Councillor Kitterick (for Cllr.Waddington) Councillor Nurse Councillor Renold Councillor Thompson

* * * * * * * *

60. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Waddington.

61. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda and/or indicate if Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

No declarations were made.

67. CHARGING FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL SOCIAL CARE SERVICES - FAIRER CHARGING POLICY

The Corporate Director, Adults and Housing, submitted a report that sought the views of the Committee on the revision and updating of the Fairer Charging Policy.

The Committee were informed that the Fairer Charging Policy basically determined how the means test would be applied to an individual, and not the actual hourly charges to be applied to care.

The Committee expressed concerns as to the complexity of the Policy and questioned how the public would be able to understand it. Members were informed that a booklet, setting out in a more 'user friendly' way the scope of the Policy, was already made available to service users but that this would be updated to take account of the revisions made. A longer term piece of work would then take place to further revamp the booklet, involving consultation with service user groups and the Committee requested that a draft of this booklet be circulated to members of the Committee prior to it being released.

The Committee had no further comments to make on the major changes and additions to the Fairer Charging Policy set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

- 1) that the major changes and additions to the Fairer Charging Policy as set out in the report, be supported.
- 2) that copies of the extensively revised draft summary booklet be circulated to members of the Committee prior to it being released.