

Jersey Care Commission Meeting

Wednesday 13th November 2019

Meeting Summary

1.0 Welcome, Apologies, Introductions & Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed all present and noted there were no declarations of interest. He reported that the item on Assisted Dying had been removed from the Agenda and would be considered at a future Board.

2.0 Minutes of the Last Meeting, Matters Arising and Review of Actions

The minutes of the September meeting were approved with two minor amendments. One action was noted as incomplete, although work was in progress to bring about its completion; the other related to recruitment. This is complete and two new staff members are due to commence their posts early in 2020.

It was agreed that the minute summary remains useful and will continue to be provided and that abbreviations should be stated in full.

3.0 Chair's Report

The Ofsted follow-up inspection report is on schedule to be published on 04 December.

A meeting with Ruth Johnson (Strategic Policy, Performance and Planning), took place on 12 November 2019. It focussed on the 'Response to the Inquiry Update Report', produced by the Children in Jersey Review Panel.

The Complaints Policy has been temporarily removed from the website, subject to further review and consideration.

A range of Policies and Standards are being developed due to the findings of both the Care Inquiry and Ofsted inspections. The priority is in respect of both children's social work services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

The Commission has been asked by Strategic Policy, Performance and Planning (SPPP), whether it agrees with the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry Panel Review's proposal that the requirement for each of the children's homes to appoint an independent person be reviewed. It is the Commission's view that the arrangement currently in place should continue and the Chair will write to SPPP accordingly.

The Chair has been advised that there will be no change to the Ministerial portfolios and responsibility for the Commission will continue to reside with the Chief Minister.

4.0 Chief Inspector Update

A press release was issued on 11 September to announce the Chief Inspector appointment.

The Chief Inspector advised that she has attended a number of meetings with a range of stakeholders including the Safeguarding Partnership Board Manager and the Children's

Commissioner. She has visited various care establishments including children's residential homes.

Two information workshops have been organised for the morning and afternoon of 22 November in order to present to providers on the matter of inspections.

5.0 Head of Governance, Policy and Standards (HGPS) Report

The Head of Governance, Policy and Standards advised that:

Some provider registrations in progress and others remain outstanding. At the date of reporting, 36 registered Care Homes still need to be inspected. An action plan will be developed in respect of this.

An Operational Risk Register has been devised and was presented for discussion.

A discussion paper in respect of a communications strategy was considered.

A draft Inspection Policy & Procedure was presented. This was agreed pending some amendments. It will be sent out for wider consultation with stakeholders before becoming an approved document.

The draft Escalation, Enforcement and Review Policy was resubmitted. This has now been agreed as a working document pending some minor revision.

6.0 Budget

The Board expressed concern that it has not been possible to have sight of the Care Commission's budget and balance sheet. This will be raised at the next quarterly review meeting.

7.0 Review of Strategic Risk Register

While no new risks were noted, this matter was deferred to the January Board.

8.0 Papers for Noting

Commissioners noted that, the Government of Jersey Business Plan includes a reference to Assisted Dying.

9.0 Care Commission's Business Plan

A mid-year update has been completed. There is a need to consider preparation for the annual report for 2019. The Business Plan can serve as a basis for this.

10.0 Memorandum of Understanding with Government of Jersey

This matter will be discussed during the January Board meeting.

11.0 Any other business

There were no other matters discussed.

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