

Minutes

RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Thursday 15 October 2015

Meeting held at Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	<p>Committee Members Present: Councillors Michael White (Chairman), Teji Barnes (Vice-Chairman), Mohinder Birah, Peter Davis, Jas Dhot, Patricia Jackson, Judy Kelly, Kuldeep Lakhmana and Brian Stead.</p> <p>Officers: Nigel Dicker (Deputy Director, Residents Services), Claire Freeman (Regulatory Services Manager), Stephanie Waterford (Licensing Services Manager) and Khalid Ahmed (Democratic Services Manager).</p> <p>Witnesses: David George (Station Manager - London Fire Brigade), Jennifer Lewis (Community Team, Central and North West London Foundation Trust) and Sunny Mehmi (Service Manager - Mental Health, LB Hillingdon).</p>	
27.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART I WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT ANY ITEMS MARKED PART II WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE</p> <p>It was confirmed that all items on the agenda would be considered in public.</p>	
28.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2015</p> <p>Agreed as an accurate record.</p>	
29.	<p>RESIDENTS' & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE - MAJOR REVIEW 2015/16 - HOARDING</p> <p>Evidence from Jennifer Lewis, Community Team, Central and North West London Foundation Trust, Sunny Mehmi, Service Manager, Mental Health, LB Hillingdon</p> <p>Reference was made to hoarding disorder which manifested itself in different ways. With some people it was part of their personality and choosing to hoard was a personal choice. Some people got into a pattern in life and this was how they chose to live their lives.</p> <p>The Mental Health team and Social Workers got involved in cases after referrals were made from the Anti-Social Behaviour Investigations Team or the community social housing team.</p>	<p>Action By:</p>

<p>These cases related to residents in need of support or requiring an assessment.</p> <p>There was a need to support people who hoarded and eviction would be avoided as far as possible as it was important that people remained independent in their own homes. Support consisted of dedicated advisors who helped residents with everyday tasks such as helping with household chores and organising finances and the payment of bills..</p> <p>Reference was made to the Mental Health Complex Care Panel which considered cases and tried to offer support, and for individuals to retain their independence by living in their homes.</p> <p>Reference was made to people being given other support such as being offered personal budgets to enable them to purchase activities to get them out of their homes. If individuals had mental health issues and they met the criteria, they were given free discretionary travel.</p> <p>Reference was made to the use of the Mental Health Act to put people into detention if agencies believed that someone was putting theirs or someone else life at risk. Hoarding could be a small part of this overall mental condition and this would be subject to an assessment of the individual.</p> <p>Evidence from David George, Station Manager, London Fire Brigade</p> <p>The Committee was informed that if the Fire Service identified from operational incidents that there was a resident with a hoarding issue, details would be put onto a database because of the hazards sometimes posed by certain hoarding.</p> <p>Reference was made to the community facing side of the force, offering to fit smoke alarms in the homes of people who were identified as collecting clutter. The service had a clutter image rating system from 1-10 and people were rated accordingly to ensure potential danger areas were identified. Anyone who was graded a "6" or over would be categorised as a high fire risk and appropriate action would be looked to be taken.</p> <p>Members were informed that since the Care Act, Hoarding was considered a safeguarding issue. This was perceived as self neglect and referrals would be carried out within 24 hours.</p> <p>Reference was made to the Vulnerable Persons Panel where such cases could be referred to enable various agencies to meet and discuss and offer solutions. Members were informed that in the case of hoarders, the initial action would be to visit the property to assess the fire risk. Smoke alarms could be</p>	<p>Action By:</p>
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	RESOLVED – 1. That the content of the report be noted.	Action By:
31.	WORK PROGRAMME Noted.	
32.	FORWARD PLAN Noted.	
	Meeting commenced at 5.30pm and closed at 6.30pm Next meeting: 12 November 2015 at 5.30pm	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Khalid Ahmed on 01895 250833. These minutes are circulated to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.