

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 5 December 2018

Adult Social Care

Finance Team

1. The finance team have recently been successful in assisting Cleveland Police in prosecuting a perpetrator of financial abuse. The case was originally highlighted in 2016 when a nephew of an elderly couple agreed to manage finances pending an application for deputyship. The old gentleman was in residential care, and the lady was receiving a package of care at home. No bills were being paid for either package and the gentleman died leaving debt to the council. The nephew insisted he was applying for deputyship, but it became apparent after some time that this was not the case and a safeguarding alert was raised on behalf of the lady. Other family members visited the lady unannounced and found her in squalor, with no food in the house and dirty clothing. They raised the issue to social workers, and joint working resulted in the cases of both the lady and gentleman being linked and a whole review took place. Family members and neighbours indicated that not only had the couple been deprived of their regular income, it was common knowledge that they kept over £100k in cash in a safe. Police were alerted and the safe was found to be empty, however, large sums of cash were found in the nephew's house. Police were eventually able to prove that some of this cash had actually been in the couple's house at some time and a prosecution commenced. Notes kept and witness statements given by the finance team, proved invaluable in getting the case to court. The perpetrator has now pleaded guilty and will be sentenced in December.

Training – Social Care Occupational Therapy and Home improvement Agencies

Michael Mandelstam Training - Care Act, Occupational Therapy and Home adaptations, Law and Practice

2. A training need was identified for the Occupational Therapy and Home Improvement Agency staff in Social care. It had been a number of years since training on legislation relating to Occupational Therapy, Housing and Adaptations had been delivered and there had been changes in this area over recent years.
3. Therefore suitable training opportunities were sought and a 1 day course which would be beneficial to staff delivered by Michael Mandelstam was a cost of £110 +VAT per person. This cost was too great to be able to train the number who required this.
4. Therefore an enquiry was made regarding hosting this locally and jointly commissioning the training with Middlesbrough Council and Redcar and Cleveland Council in the local area. This proved to be cost effective and a more accessible way for the staff to receive this training.

5. It was agreed that the 2 councils would jointly commission Michael Mandelstam to deliver 1 days training for 40 staff in total from both the Occupational Therapy Teams and Home Improvement Agencies across both areas. The individual cost per person was £27 each rather than £110. The topics to be covered in the training were agreed by the managers of each of the services to ensure the training was relevant to local needs.
6. The training was held on the 6th of September and was very well received by the staff as can be seen from the comments below.

Most valuable learning:-

7. Reinforcement of DFG principles under the associated legislation
8. The importance of documenting clear justification around a particular decision, listening to the service user and offering suitable solutions to a genuine issue
9. Regulatory reform Orders and how they are being put into practice
10. Review of the legislation and interaction between different pieces of legislation
11. That we are on track and doing the right things

General comments

12. Presenter was very experienced and knowledgeable in this area and made the material understandable and relevant.
13. Enjoyed hearing about the cases which had been to court, this makes the legislation more real.
14. Case studies were particularly helpful

Community Inclusion Service (CIS) – Sandringham

15. The Sandringham resource unit for Adults with Autism, based at Park End, Middlesbrough has recently undergone some internal refurbishment of some of the ground floor rooms. The unit will now be able to support increased demand for its services, including building based provision for individuals with more complex autism needs.
16. The changes have been well received by the service users and families,, and will allow the unit to build upon the excellent work it undertakes supporting Adults with Autism in Middlesbrough.

Independent Living Centre – Blue Badge scheme

17. A new Blue Badge system and process scheme is to be launched in January 2019, which has come about as a result of government changes to the Blue badge scheme. Preparation work is ongoing , with a view to having the new system in place , that will see the blue badge application , assessment and processing all being undertaken through a more simplified co-ordinated system based at the Independent Living Centre . (The current system has a number of different processes, that the general

public use, which often creates confusion). It will also help towards the expansion of the Blue Badge scheme in April 2019 to people with Learning Disabilities , Hidden Disabilities (Re: Autism and Dementia) and people with Mental Health issues.

Orchard- Newsletter

18. The Orchard have recently released a fantastic 16 page glossy new newsletter, that showcases the wonderful partnership work between Middlesbrough Council Adult Social Care and TEWV NHS Foundation Trust for individuals with complex health and social care needs . There are some great pictures and commentary around a vast array of activities that the service users and staff get involved with both within the unit and outside in the community. The newsletter will be available on the council's website, staff intranet and through hard copies.
19. In addition some project work is also ongoing with TEWV, CCG and MBC around the increased demand expected over the next three years for the Orchard's services. There are 21 individuals with complex health and social care needs coming through transitions who may need some form of building based provision.

Public Health

Theatre production to Middlesbrough school students – Alcohol Awareness Week (19 – 25 November 2018)

20. Middlesbrough Council are inviting school students to attend Middlesbrough Town Hall on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd November 2018 to watch an educational performance, written and performed by year three performing arts students from Teesside University. The session has been developed by the Council's Public Protection and Public Health service, in collaboration with Teesside University. The performance will inform students about the physical and social harms associated with alcohol at an age appropriate level, linking in with the PHSE curriculum. At the end of the performance there will also be an opportunity for the students to take a free guided tour of Middlesbrough Town Hall, to learn about the history of Middlesbrough.

Sport England Local Delivery Pilot

21. The development phase of the Sport England Local Delivery Pilot (LDP) in South Tees officially in June 2018. There are five themes namely focus wards, prehabilitation, diabetes, commercial weight loss groups and health professionals. We are working with communities, voluntary groups and relevant partners to plan the delivery of the programme. Other developments have included:
 - a) Appointment of the Programme Director, hosted by Middlesbrough Environment City
 - b) Appointment of the Programme Officer and Programme Support Officer posts to be hosted by Redcar & Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency and Kidz Konnekt
 - c) Development of the evaluation framework with the research team
 - d) Networking with other Local Delivery Pilots from across the Country at events organised by Sport England

22. The launch conference for the programme took place on Friday 21st September 2018 at Redcar & Cleveland College. A total of 140 people attended representing a wide range of organisations. The event ended with partners in the room making pledges and commitments to the work, and these are being followed up by the team.



Grandparents Plus

23. Grandparents Plus have been awarded funding from Sport England's Families Fund to deliver a programme around getting children and grandparents active. The project will work with 472 kinship carers and children in kinship care living in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland. It is estimated that 1,210 children in South Tees are raised by relatives because their parents are unable to care for them, most commonly due to drug/alcohol misuse, domestic abuse, imprisonment or death. Kinship carers tend to be older, poorer and in worse health than any other group raising children and they experience significant financial, practical and emotional challenges.

24. The project, set-up from October 2018, will work with kinship care families to increase activity levels in children and carers through intergenerational activities. Working with varied partners, the project will draw on existing provision to provide low cost or free activities. There will also be one-to-one support from a project worker and peer support groups break down the barriers faced by kinship care families to becoming more physically active.

25. The Public Health Team supported the development of the bid in May 2018 and will be supporting the programme delivery.

HeadStart Hits the Highway for world Mental Health Day

26. To celebrate world mental health day on 10th October the Middlesbrough Headstart team adopted Young Minds #HelloYellow campaign with a tour of Middlesbrough with a yellow sofa. The team visited 20 schools and encouraged pupils to sit on the sofa and talk about what mental health meant to them and how it was important to seek help early.
27. Feedback and comments received has been really positive. Approximately 24,000 people engaged with @HeadStart_Boro tweets on Wednesday during the tour and the majority of Middlesbrough schools retweeted us to promote the campaign through their social media channels.



Solihull On-Line Parenting Course

28. Middlesbrough Council Public Health have purchased a year-long license for an On-Line Parenting Course. Three courses are available – Understanding your pregnancy birth and labour; Understanding your baby; and Understanding your child. These courses are based on the award winning, quality marked, evidence based Solihull Approach.
29. The courses will launch on 19th November 2018. The on-line course aims to increase accesses to support and guidance for any family member including parents or grandparents. It can also be used to provide information on parenting and development for students of childcare courses. Professionals wishing to refresh their Solihull skills, will also be able to access the course, and will receive a certificate once completed.
30. Anyone accessing the course, will have open access in the future, even after the Middlesbrough license has expired. This is a fantastic opportunity to provide a standardised package of support to parents and other family members to ensure all children and young people have the best start in life.

Starting Well

31. NHS England have launched Starting Well, a Smile4Life initiative, which is being supported in Middlesbrough by the Public Health Team. Its aim is to address oral health inequalities and improve the oral health of under 5 year olds. The focus will be on those aged under 1 year who have not accessed a dentist, and as part of this, dental practices will undertake outreach work in the community, to develop the relationships between dental surgeries and communities. Seven dental practices in Middlesbrough have signed up to take part in the initiative, working across Middlesbrough, and with some of the town's most vulnerable groups.

Suicide Prevention

32. The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH), Local Government Association (LGA), Public Health England (PHE) and Department of Health of Social Care (DHSC) have agreed to develop a Sector-Led Improvement offer on suicide prevention. This self-assessment tool is intended to help councils identify where they are with plans and action and help identify good practice which can be shared and the support and resources that could be offered in future. A Tees self-assessment has been completed and we have been identified as an area of good practice to share key pieces of work that demonstrates joint working and strong partnerships.

Suicide Prevention Study Day

33. External funding and support was received from Child Bereavement UK to run a full day session in Middlesbrough for partners across Tees to; raise awareness of suicide, its impact, support and preventative work ongoing and how we can all work together to reduce the risk of suicide. 100 people attended from a range of organisations including; schools, job centres, emergency services, voluntary sector, bereavement services etc. Feedback from the day was excellent with almost all participants reporting that they felt more confident with their skills to talk about suicide and bereavement.

34. The Tees Mental Health Training Hub provider hosted its annual Suicide Prevention Event in October to coincide with World Mental Health Day theme '**Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World**'. The event was attended by over 100 individuals bringing together a wide representation of agencies who had previously attended training through the hub to further develop their mental health knowledge and skills. The speakers presented; cyberbullying and suicide, self-harm and suicide in LGBT community, social media and isolation, Papyrus Suicide Campaign.

Suicide Prevention Transformation Funding

35. NHS England invited Sustainable and Transformation Partnerships (STP) with high age-standardised suicide rates to submit proposals for funding for suicide prevention. The funding aims to support the overall reduction in suicide rates by 10% by 2020/21 and enhance existing work within our local suicide prevention plans, with a particular focus on middle-aged men, primary care support and self-harm within acute care. In consultation with partners, based upon a rapid gap analysis and discussion a joint bid was submitted by Tees, Durham, Darlington, Hambleton, Richmond and Whitby STP patch and has been successful in receiving £415k grant finance for 2018/19 with recent confirmation of further funding for 2019/20.

Middlesbrough Men's Health Showcase Event October 2018

36. The theme for this year's annual event was '**Paternal Health of Men and 0-5 Service Offer to Dads**'. The event attracted a wide range of stakeholders and addressed the public health of fathers; their involvement in the Pregnancy, Birth and Beyond antenatal programme and the barriers and solutions for fathers to engage and be supported during this period. The event included emotive case studies by one of the established #BoroManCan stories, This presentation triggered discussion with subsequent actions taken to the South Tees Maternal, Infant and Child Health Strategic Partnership.

37. Health Visitors shared the work of Pregnancy, Birth and Beyond groups having seen some success with fathers attending. Feedback was sought in a workshop for the format of a new online survey for fathers in the North East, led by 'Raindrops to

Rainbows'. The survey seeks to understand father's experiences to help shape actions for the MICH partnership and the new partnership being established with Raindrops to Rainbows.

Middlesbrough Halal Cash and Carry LTD.

38. At Teesside Magistrates Court, representatives of the food operator, Middlesbrough Halal Cash & Carry Ltd, pleaded guilty to the four charges under food safety legislation following a visit in October 2017 when Environmental Health Officers visited the premises on Linthorpe Road after receiving a complaint of fresh meat being prepared in the back alley of Tennyson Street. They found a significant mouse infestation, risks to food were not adequately controlled and the premises was dirty and in poor repair. They also found that the operator of the business did not have procedures to be able trace foods back to the supplier, which is important for food safety.
39. Due to the serious and imminent nature of the risk to food safety the officers used their emergency powers closing the premises with immediate effect.
40. The business had been given a previous warning about failing to meet the basic food safety and hygiene requirements. The Magistrates found the business to be guilty for all four offences and it was fined £2000 and ordered to pay the costs of the investigation and victim surcharge.

SMILE Z & W LIMITED trading as HOT WOK

41. A restaurant SMILE Z & W LIMITED trading as HOT WOK was fined in excess of **£33,000** after breaching food hygiene rules.
42. When Environmental Health Officers visited Hot Wok, 140 Linthorpe Road, on 9th November 2017 they discovered poor standards of cleanliness and evidence of a widespread mouse infestation. Emergency powers were used requiring the premises to immediately close.
43. During a further monitoring visit on 9th February 2018 officers found poor standards in the premises. A further programmed inspection on 21st June 2018 found that standards of hygiene had deteriorated. Emergency closure measures were used again during this visit and the premises was immediately closed for trade.
44. Appearing before Teesside Magistrates Court on Tuesday, November 13 2018 a representative of the Company pleaded guilty to eleven offences including; failure to ensure adequate procedures to control pests, to keep the premises and equipment clean and maintained and to ensure food was protected from contamination.
45. During the hearing the Magistrates stated that "*food outlets must maintain the highest standards and there are a number of businesses like yours out there, we take it very seriously to businesses endangering public health*". The Company was fined £48,000 however this was reduced due to the early guilty plea to £32, 000, with £1188 in costs plus a £170 victim surcharge.

Plans for improving allergen information in catering premises

46. Officers are planning work to improve the allergen information for foods sold from catering premises. Officers in the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Team are responsible for regulating the legislation in relation to food information and procedures covering allergens. This work is routinely carried out as part of a food safety inspections however following the high profile tragic incidents in relation to the consumption of food containing allergens, a more targeted support and enforcement programme is planned.
47. Initially, catering premises including takeaways will receive clear and concise guidance on the steps they must take to prevent putting customers health at risk. They will also be given the opportunity to seek further advice, receive additional visits and attend practical workshops.
48. Businesses are also being advised of the proposed enforcement approach. Where business operators are found to be failing to comply with the law Improvement Notices will be served which will require them to put procedures in place. Failing to comply with a notice is an offence liable to result in prosecution. Where significant and continued risks of contamination with allergenic ingredients are identified, prosecution may be considered. Food hygiene ratings for businesses may also be reduced to reflect the poor confidence in management.
49. The teams will also be carrying out test purchasing of dishes claiming to be “allergen free” dishes. Officers will also be swabbing surfaces to detect traces of allergenic ingredients due to cross contamination.

Trader convicted over illegal tobacco sales

50. A FORMER Middlesbrough trader has been convicted of selling counterfeit and unsafe cigarettes and hand-rolling tobacco.
51. Ari Mohamadi was working in Akmao Butchers, Parliament Road in Middlesbrough in June 2017 when Trading Standards and HMRC Officers visited. They found a box containing over 2,800 illicit cigarettes and 550g of hand rolling tobacco which did not have the correct labelling and some was counterfeit. Mohamadi, who has since moved to Wales, was given a 12-month community order with 180 hours unpaid work, and order to pay £1,215 costs and an £85 victim surcharge.

Lethal fireworks haul seized in run-up to bonfire night

52. As part of a separate investigation into the online sales of counterfeit clothing and cigarettes, Trading Standards Officers discovered a trader who was illegally storing and selling fireworks from his home.
53. When officers entered the house on Friday November 2 they discovered large boxes of fireworks in the kitchen of the home. They were hidden in between electrical appliances, next to the oven and also stacked around a petrol quad bike. Some of the seized fireworks were not suitable for an average garden due to the higher explosive content.
54. The premises were not licensed for the storage of fireworks and the conditions were entirely inappropriate for the goods, which can present a real danger of injury and harm when they are not stored properly. Officers seized the fireworks and removed them to a safe storage area.

Acklam Grange School hosts better health at work 'best practice' meeting

55. On Friday 19th October 2018, Acklam Grange School hosted a Portfolio & Best Practice Meeting as part of Middlesbrough's "Better Health at Work Award" Initiative. This breakfast event was attended by 11 workplaces, who are working towards various levels on the Better Health At Work Award, including Middlesbrough Council who are currently on the 'Continuing Excellence' level. Business representatives had the opportunity to share their experiences over a working breakfast.
56. The Better Health at Work Award is a partnership project unique to the North East, created to take health and wellbeing into the workplace. It is supported by the region's twelve Local Authorities, the NHS and the Northern TUC. Workplace Health is an important part of the regional public health strategy and is even more relevant in these challenging economic times, when companies need to use every tool available to ensure their productivity and competitiveness.
57. With more than 400 regional employers participate in the scheme so far, employees benefit from increased access to health information and potentially life-saving interventions. In more than one instance, workplace health activity has identifying dangerously high cholesterol levels and early stage cancers in employees. At the same time, employers benefit from improved morale, dramatically lower levels of absenteeism and increased productivity.
58. The meeting was opened by Head Teacher Michael Laidler who introduced a short video showcasing the fantastic work carried out by Acklam Grange School, who are currently working towards the Gold level. This was followed by presentations from their Anti Bullying Ambassadors Group and Tracy Lean - Cancer Prevention and Early Diagnosis Improvement Officer from the Public Health team who explained her work and the support she can provide to workplaces.



Councillor Julia Rostron
Executive Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health