

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE – 8TH OCTOBER

The Committee considered the County Council's draft Medium Term Corporate Strategy for 2001-2005. A copy of the draft strategy is attached to these minutes.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr. D.R. Parsons CC and Mr. R. Miller CC who had kindly agreed to attend the meeting during the consideration of the draft Strategy.

In reply to questions, Messrs. Parsons and Miller advised as follows:

- (i) the vital role of carers was already recognised and valued;
- (ii) the term 'independent sector' was meant to refer to both the private and voluntary sector. It was recognised that the voluntary sector was a key partner in service delivery;
- (iii) the commitment to work with other statutory partners included working with District Councils;
- (iv) a review of residential care for older people had commenced and it was hoped that a range of options would emerge covering both the refurbished and un-refurbished homes;
- (v) a Best Value Review of Learning Disability services was currently underway and this would inform the future provision of services. Similarly, it was hoped that a partnership scheme with the Health Authority to establish a joint service in respect of mental ill health would offer opportunities/ideas for service improvements;
- (vi) an officer review of the Children's Residential Service was underway. The future of the Blaby Unit would be considered within that context, although it was clear that the Unit could not continue to operate as it presently did;
- (vii) the concerns expressed by members about the lack of targets were noted. Such targets/action plans would emerge in due course and would be reported in the Best Value Performance Plan and service plans. The Committee would be kept informed of progress.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That this Committee notes the assurances given in relation to:-
 - (i) a continuing commitment to work with the voluntary sector and district council's in the delivery of services; and
 - (ii) the recognition of the vital role play by carers and the need for services to support carers;

- (b) That this Committee welcomes the commitment given by the Cabinet representatives to report on a regular basis on progress in delivering the objectives in the Medium Term Corporate Strategy;
- (c) That in the light of the above, this Committee endorses and welcomes the objectives and priorities in relation to Health and Care Needs set out in the draft Medium Term Corporate Strategy 2001-2005.