

YHN/CVS Report – Branch Committee – 12th May 2014

YHN

Welfare Reform Service Review – Management state still on course for implementation date of 2nd June 2014. Also work has commenced/is on-going on evaluation of the new service once it has been implemented. Some concerns raised that 2nd June is looking fairly optimistic as still seem to be behind on logistical issues such as file weeding, furniture removal etc. – though management confident target will be met. Possibility that staff may be asked to work weekends to hit target date.

Young Peoples' Service & Advice & Support – Service reviews about to commence in both services. Two Project Groups headed by Kim McMaster and Susanne Halliwell respectively. Groups will also contain a YHN Board member and someone from NCC. Emphasis in response to Supporting People cuts will be on the value of the services provided by YHN and the potential impact any reductions will have. Hope to have reports to Board by December 2014.

City Build – YHN and NCC are revisiting potential transfer of City Build to YHN first mooted around 12 months ago but then seemingly shelved. Previous work carried out around this is being resurrected – back on the agenda!

NCC/YHN Options – Talks are on-going around Finance and other potential shared services (HR/OD/IT & Communications). Uncertainty around what is going to happen has already affected some staff decisions as to whether they remain at YHN.

YHN see the consultation around Finance to be crucial to YHN's future – an inability to control financial decisions by SMT and the YHN Board could seriously call into question YHN's role regardless of the promises from NCC that there is no intention to bring YHN back in-house.

DM has written to YHN Chief Exec re UNISON involvement/consultation.

Staff Survey – Follow up work has now commenced following the recent YHN staff survey. Two areas were of particular concern for YHN management – bullying and harassment (17% of YHN employees having experienced bullying and harassment within the last two years) and staff feeling they are unable to influence decision making within YHN (only 45% of YHN staff felt that they could influence decision making). Those service areas where these concerns were particularly highlighted are now being sent questionnaires – which can be completed anonymously to help YHN understand and address staff concerns.

TWAM

Front of House consultation still on-going – however still no info on proposed new rosters.

New proposed Dress Code causing some concerns among staff – UNISON has responded accordingly!

CVS

Continues to be case intensive.

Zero Hours Contracts – Shocking new figures have revealed that the number of people nationwide on zero hours contracts – though previously to be around half a million – is actually 1.4m.

Places for People – Have lost one of their maintenance contracts to Keepmoat – TUPE consultation has now commenced. Organisation is also being targeted as part of a national recruitment drive/organising project in Housing Associations.

Derek Muse – Deputy Branch Secretary