

COUNCIL

15th JULY 2013

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE JONES
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	ADULT SOCIAL CARE
CO-ORINDATING CHIEF OFFICER	GRAHAM HODKINSON, DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his/her portfolio.

1. NEW STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION- CHANGE IN FOCUS

The management restructure was complete by the end of April. The structure separates transformation, which includes commissioning and quality assurance functions from service delivery. In terms of service delivery six teams are now aligned to two neighbourhoods; Birkenhead & Wirral South, and Wallasey & Wirral West.

In addition, DASS have retained; a hospital team based at Arrowe Park Hospital. A review team managed as part of Transformation, providing arms length independence in its scheduled reviews, and an integrated disability service for people with the most complex needs.

The new structure will position Adult Social Care for further integration with the NHS and for changes in strategic commissioning arrangements. It provides a platform for developing professional standards, monitoring the care sector effectively and for improved customer service. It will be accompanied by revised processes aimed at streamlining assessment and service provision.

2. NEW COMMISSIONING STRATEGIES AND MARKET POSITION STATEMENT

In my role as portfolio holder I have recently signed off a market position statement for adult social care, to help providers gear up for new commissioning requirements, "Caring for our Carers" a carers strategy for Wirral which is out for consultation, an early intervention and prevention commissioning plan and a learning disability commissioning plan. These documents together set out how services delivered to people are being commissioned differently to provide more effective and personalised support in the context of the Council's challenging budget settlement.

3. SAFEGUARDING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE UPDATE

Safeguarding and quality assurance arrangements are increasingly effective 96% of all nursing and residential care homes had contract monitoring visits between April 2012 and March 2013. 98% of safeguarding referrals were actioned within 24 hours. Last year a total of 2769 safeguarding alerts were received. Of these, 850 progressed to safeguarding investigation; the others were dealt with as lower level care concerns.

4. NHS INTEGRATION

Significant progress is being made with the NHS to establish more integrated and cohesive services. A long term conditions integration programme has been established to address increased demand from people with long terms conditions and complex needs.

The key agreement relating to the social care fund or transfer of NHS resources for social care has a value of £6,443,824. The detail of the formal Section 256 Agreement is due to be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 10 July.

5. DELIVERY OF A MORE EFFECTIVE DASS

In relation to savings agreed by Council in February, the Department already has £10.5m to deliver over the next three years with almost £6m of that in this financial year. I am pleased to report that a robust transformation and project management framework in place and is on track to deliver all key projects.

In day services for example, staffing changes have been implemented with phased departure of staff on EVR/VS. Building changes are underway, the positive work with carers to identify a smaller venue and to take forward plans for a social enterprise across all of day services continue to progress.