

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Christine Jones
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Adult Social Care & Public Health
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Graham Hodgkinson, 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 her portfolio.

This has been an incredibly busy period for Adult Social Care. Integration with the NHS and impending changes as a result of the Care Act has had a high focus in relation to strategic planning.

Key changes in provision including the continuing work to transform day services in to a Local Authority Company continue to be progressed.

1. BETTER CARE FUND

As part of the national requirements from NHS England, Wirral was required to re-submit its Better Care Fund intentions and plan on 19th September 2014.

The resubmission requirements focussed upon:

- Balancing finances against the national settlement.
- Implementing Care Act changes including 7-day working
- Reducing none elective admissions to Hospital
- A range of schemes to affect change across the health and care economy
- Provider responses to the challenge (Key NHS providers)

2. OUR VISION FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Over the next 5 years we will deliver a transformed service for the people of Wirral focusing on moving care from hospital to community based resources and supporting people in their own homes. There will be a focus on:

- Early intervention and prevention
- Health promotion
- Self-care and self help to enable individuals to identify their own personal outcomes
- Encouraging self-determination and responsibility for communities and neighbourhoods
- Information, advice, signposting and where necessary redirection to appropriate services
- Providing care that is well coordinated around individuals ensuring customers and carers have a positive experience

- Maximise opportunities for greater independence choice and control and avoid preventable admissions to hospital or care homes through joined up collaborative case management
- Developing integrated approaches across the community and the hospital including joint assessments, single point of access and care planning
- Facilitating a significant shift in culture and behaviours across professions and organisations

3. CARE ACT

In May 2014, the Care Bill received Royal Assent and became the Care Act 2014. Some elements come into effect from April 2015; others come into effect from April 2016.

Implementation depends heavily on the detail in the 2015 regulations and guidance which are currently out for consultation and will be presented to Parliament in October 2014.

The changes coming into effect in April 2015 which impact directly on the Council include:

- A duty to provide prevention, information and advice services.
- A national minimum threshold for eligibility for both service users and carers.
- The entitlement for carers to assessment, support services and review equal to that of the service user.
- The right for people who pay for their own care to receive advice and support planning.
- A universal system for deferred payments for residential care.

The changes coming into effect from April 2016 which impact directly on the Council include:

- A cap on the costs that people have to pay to meet their eligible needs.
- A 'care account' giving people with eligible social care needs an annual statement of their progress towards reaching the cap, whether their care is organised by the local authority or not.
- Extending the financial support provided by the local authority by raising the means test threshold for people with eligible needs.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH

Last October, Cabinet authorised the re-commissioning of an integrated healthy child programme for 0-19 year olds and the re-commissioning of recovery-oriented substance misuse services. Each of those tender processes has now concluded and I am pleased to say that contracts have now been awarded to the successful bidders. It is intended that the new services will be in place by 1st February 2015.

The Healthy Child programme was commissioned in partnership with the NHS England Area team who are currently responsible for commissioning the healthy child programme for 0-5 year olds; a responsibility that will transfer to the Council in October 2015. Working together in this way has meant that we will be able to deliver a smoother transition of those responsibilities, since we have been able to set out our aspirations for our local community in advance of that date as part of the specifications. The aim is to improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities for local children across their life course. The services that are now secure for the next three years include: health visiting services and the Family Nurse Partnership programme, parenting support, immunisation and vaccination programmes, interventions aimed at improving mental and physical health and wellbeing, health promotion advice and support, and support for teenage parents, breastfeeding programme, vision screening, and

peer education programmes. The successful tenderer was Wirral Community NHS Trust. The tender exercise has also generated a saving over the life of the contract of £1,427,185.

In terms of the recovery-oriented substance misuse services we have seen a shift in national policy from a focus on maintaining clients in treatment to encouraging recovery and reintegration within society. The provider of these services will be required to deliver a recovery focused service for drug and alcohol users covering all classifications of drugs, poly-substance misuse, alcohol misuse, those using new psychoactive substances (legal highs), those dependent on prescription and over the counter medicines, those with mental health problems, pregnant women and those who are in contact with the Criminal Justice System. The successful tenderer is Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) who currently operate in a number of North West areas. This contract will bring together services which are currently provided by a number of operators and providers. Overall savings against the three year previous contractual value £4,308,280.