

**CABINET**

**25 NOVEMBER 2019**

**WIRRAL HEALTH & CARE COMMISSIONING PEER REVIEW ON  
INTEGRATED SOCIAL WORK (ADULT SOCIAL CARE)**

**Councillor Chris Jones, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing, said:**

“This was a really comprehensive review and I am really pleased to hear that the overarching message that the review team received was that the integration was seen to be; *“the right thing to do”* and that those the team spoke with were positive about what has been achieved so far”.

**REPORT SUMMARY**

In May 2019 a Peer Review took place in Wirral focusing on the quality of front-line Adult Social Work practice. The review was led by a regional team of directors and senior leaders in Adult Social Care and was supported by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) in the North West, and the Local Government Association (LGA).

The key findings were as follows;

- “Integration is the right thing to do.”
- Integrating social care and health is having a positive impact on the frontline and people who use services.
- Co-location of teams is having a positive impact on innovation and opportunities to share good practice.
- More positive joint working at neighbourhood level, particularly complex cases with the ability to share information resulting in improved co-ordination and oversight of cases.
- Problem solving across health and social care is much easier

This paper relates to the pledges “Older People Live Well” and “People with a Disability Live Independently” from the Wirral Plan. This matter affects all Wards within the Borough. The decision is not a key decision.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

Members are asked to note the report and its recommendations.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

N/A

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 There are different types of Peer Review. This was an in-depth and comprehensive approach that involved senior experienced reviewers, and which was supported by the LGA.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 In May 2019, a Peer Review took place in Wirral focusing on the quality of frontline Adult Social Work practice. The review was led by a regional team of senior leaders in Adult Social Care and supported by the Association of Directors of Adults Social Services (ADASS) in the North West, and the Local Government Association (LGA). Peer Reviews are designed to help an authority and its partners assess current achievements, areas for development and capacity to change. The Peer Review is not an inspection. Instead, it offers a supportive approach acting as a “critical friend”. It aims to help an organisation identify its current strengths, as much as what it needs to improve on. But it should also provide it with a basis for further improvement.
- 3.2 The review focused on the quality of frontline Adult Social Work practice within the context of integration, personalisation and neighbourhood working and was completed over three days with intensive interviews and examination of key documentation and data. The review was carried out by a team of senior leaders from across the North West, led by a Director of Adult Social Services. The work was jointly commissioned by the three partner organisations, Wirral Health and Care Commissioning (WHCC), Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (WCHC), and Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust (CWP). Partners were seeking an external view to consider how the transfer of Social Workers has created a seamless, integrated care and health service that provides an improved response to people in need of support. The partner organisations intend to use the findings of this Peer Review to strengthen their work on promoting a strengths-based approach to prevention and access to appropriate services. The review made several recommendations in relation to future development and direction and was positive about what had been achieved to date.
- 3.3 WHCC, WCHC and CWP are producing a joint development plan in response to this review.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this review.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The integrated social care services are subject to a Section 75 Agreement under the National Health Service Act 2006.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

6.1 The Peer Review involved a number of interviews and meetings from staff across the relevant Health Trusts and the Council.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 Integrated services support a more co-ordinated and timely response to adult care and health needs.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 The review considered accounts from users of Adult Social Care Services under the integrated arrangements.

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Equality Impact Assessment not required as was a review of existing services.

#### **10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The content and/or recommendations contained within this report are expected to have no impact on emissions of CO2

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#### **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Wirral Health & Care Commissioning Peer Review Report on Integrated Social Work (2019)

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

N/A

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

| <b>Council Meeting</b>   | <b>Date</b>    |
|--|----------------|
| Adult Care & Health Overview & Scrutiny Performance Working Group: Integration Update                        | 19 August 2019 |
| Adult Care & Health Overview & Scrutiny Performance Working Group: All Age Disability & Mental Health Update | 9 October 2019 |