

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL
16 SEPTEMBER 2014
7.30 - 8.50 PM**



Present:

Councillors Harrison (Chairman), Allen (Vice-Chairman), Blatchford, Brossard, Finch and Mrs McCracken

Executive Members:

Councillors Birch and McCracken

Also Present:

Andrea Carr, Policy Officer (Overview and Scrutiny)
Mira Haynes, Chief Officer: Older People & Long Term Conditions
Neil Haddock, Head of Performance and Resources
Simon Hendey, Chief Officer: Housing
Zoë Johnstone, Chief Officer: Adults & Joint Commissioning

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillors Mrs Temperton and Virgo

15. Minutes and Matters Arising

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 17 June 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16. Declarations of Interest and Party Whip

There were no declarations of interest or any indications that Members would be participating under the party whip.

17. Urgent Items of Business

There were no urgent items of business.

18. Public Participation

No submissions had been made by members of the public under the Council's Public Participation Scheme for Overview and Scrutiny.

19. Quarterly Service Report (QSR)

The Panel received the Quarterly Service Report (QSR) for the first quarter of 2014/15 (April to June 2014) together with a presentation outlining the major service issues over the second quarter.

Following questions from the Panel on the presentation, the meeting was advised that:

- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) had previously applied to adults in a care home or hospital setting who lacked the capacity to consent to their stay and whose care regime amounted to a deprivation of their liberty. However a Supreme Court judgement in March had widened the definition of DoLS to include people who lived in their own homes and a considerably greater number of people in residential care, nursing homes and hospitals which could increase the number of applications thirtyfold. No additional government funding had been provided at this point, but the resource implications for local authorities was going to be significant.
- Self-care was a term relating to individuals taking responsibility for their own health and well-being. It covered both prevention and management of conditions.

20. **Adult Social Care Annual Report (Local Account) 2013/14**

The Panel considered the Local Account for Adult Social Care 2013/14.

In addition, three short videos had been produced highlighting particular priorities in order to make the report more accessible and to communicate key messages. The Panel watched two of these videos regarding Dementia Friendly Communities and Personalisation. The videos were viewable on You-tube and on the Council's intranet and website.

Following questions from the Panel on the Dementia Friendly Communities video, the meeting was advised that:

- All Bracknell retailers had been invited to the dementia awareness training but the take up had been disappointing.
- A decision on whether to repeat the training would be taken once an evaluation had been completed.

The Panel was advised that the Council's strategy was to support people in their own homes for as long as possible rather than providing more residential care.

The Panel endorsed the approach set out in the report and welcomed the steps being taken to improve communication.

21. **Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report 2013/14**

The Panel considered the Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report 2013/14. The report highlighted a number of key developments to further enhance the safety and wellbeing of adults at risk in the Borough and evidenced the engagement of a number of key partner agencies and the work of the Partnership as a whole in developing services and support that were both safe and met individual outcomes.

Although the number of safeguarding alerts had increased, the number substantiated had reduced and this indicated increased awareness.

The Panel noted that the Board had met 95% of its objectives during the year and that positive progress was continuing.

22. Changes to Regulation and Inspection of Adult Social Care April 2015

The Panel considered a report regarding changes to the regulation and inspection of Adult Social Care Registered Services. The new standard regulations, the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014, would come into force for all providers on 1 April 2015, subject to Parliamentary approval.

Following questions from the Panel on the presentation, the meeting was advised that:

- No notice was given of inspections.
- The duration of the inspection was dependent upon the size of the establishment.
- Completion of the questionnaire was estimated to take approximately 4-5 hours and there was additional work gathering information for the Care Quality Commission.
- The frequency of inspections would be linked to the rating; the lower the rating, the more frequent the inspections.

The Panel noted the report.

23. Regulated Adult Social Care Services Working Group Report

The Panel agreed and adopted the report of the review of the Council's role in regulated Adult Social Care services undertaken by its working group for sending formally to the relevant Executive Member, subject to the inclusion of a Foreword and some points of clarification.

The Chairman thanked the members of the Working Group and the supporting officers for their efforts.

24. Executive Key and Non-Key Decisions

The Panel noted scheduled Executive Key and Non-Key Decisions relating to Adult Social Care and Housing.

In response to questions from the Panel, Councillor Birch, Executive Member for Adult Services, Health and Housing, outlined the reasons for the proposed establishment of a Local Housing Company to provide temporary accommodation for homeless households.

25. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel would be held on 20 January 2015 at 7.30pm.

CHAIRMAN

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