

**TO: ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
24 MARCH 2015**

**REPRISE OF PAST PANEL WORK
Chairman of the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To receive a reprise of the Panel's work and activities over the past four years and to thank Panel Members for their contribution.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 **That the Panel notes the summary of its work and activities over the past four years.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 To highlight the Panel's work and activities over the past four years and to thank Members for their contribution.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Over the past four years the Panel has regularly monitored the performance of the Adult Social Care, Health and Housing Department largely through review of its Quarterly Service Reports (QSRs), Annual Reports / Accounts for Adult Social Care, Annual Complaints Reports for Adult Social Care and for Housing, and Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Reports. The QSRs enabled the Panel to question the Executive Member and officers in detail around the trends, pressures and priorities for these important service areas. This resulted in a number of questions and requests for additional information in various areas.
- 5.2 The Panel has also responded to budget consultations, monitored scheduled key and non-key Executive decisions and contributed to the development of its work programmes.
- 5.3 Working Groups were established by the Panel to review the modernisation of Older People's Services, substance misuse and the Council's role in regulated Adult Social Care services.
- 5.4 The Working Group which monitored the implementation of the modernisation of the Older People's Services programme recognised the dedication and compassion of Council staff, partner organisations and carers in their provision of much valued care support to older people. It made a number of recommendations to the Executive including exploring innovative means of improving the efficiency of services to older

people to help meet the anticipated increase in demand and minimising financial risk to the Council arising from the construction of new care homes in the Borough possibly leading to more people becoming eligible for local authority funded care. The recommendations were well received by the Executive who thanked the Working Group for a thorough piece of work looking at the impact and context of the department's work in modernising services for older people.

- 5.5 The Substance Misuse Working Group reviewed the Council's response, and that of its partners, to the Government's requirements in its 2010 Drug Strategy and the Payment by Results (PbR) drug recovery scheme. The Working Group found that Bracknell Forest's Substance Misuse Strategy 2011 – 2014 was aligned to and meeting the requirements of the Government's 2010 Drug Strategy evidenced by the number of people retained in drug and alcohol treatment, the successful sustained outcomes of such treatment and Bracknell Forest being selected as one of eight national PbR pilot sites. The review made several recommendations to the Executive along the lines of strengthening joint working within the legal restrictions applying to confidentiality, establishing an Alcohol Liaison Service at Frimley Park Hospital, seeking continued funding for adult criminal justice services and enhancing existing drug and alcohol education arrangements. The Executive agreed all the recommendations.
- 5.6 The Regulated Adult Social Care Services Working Group reviewed the Council's role in this area and found that it fulfilled its duty of care to people in need of care and robustly undertook its care governance and safeguarding roles in regulated Adult Social Care services seeking to identify and eradicate poor care whilst supporting providers to improve the quality and safety of their services. Resulting recommendations to the Executive focused on emergency evacuation of care / nursing home premises, the Quality Assurance Framework, the adoption and implementation of a missing person's procedure, and expanding the Validation Guidelines. The Executive largely agreed the three recommendations directed to it and the Executive Member for Adult Services, Health and Housing undertook to write to the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service concerning the one outside his remit.
- 5.7 During the past four years Members received an induction and further training in the areas of chairing / leadership, questioning and listening skills to assist them to undertake their Overview and Scrutiny role successfully.
- 5.8 I would like to thank Panel Members for their work and support over the past four years.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT / STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Not applicable.

Background Papers - None.

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