

## **Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Overview Meeting 2017**

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

### **Adults and Health**

#### **Context**

Members are well aware that as a Council we have had to adapt to funding reductions of £52 million over the last five years and that we are still confronted with having to find further savings.

Whilst we acknowledge that we have a strong track record of sound financial management and we have been dealing with these problems successfully for many years, it will not be easy to address the additional loss of government funding of over £20 million by 2019/20. Moving forward, expectations will need to be realistic as many more difficult decisions will need to be made.

The challenge for all Members is to ensure that decisions about the basis on which services will be delivered are within the resources available, taking account of a number of factors such as reduced budget allocation, changing demographics, increasing demand, new national legislation and policy direction. Members are reminded of the four policy principles that support our decision-making:

- **Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention**, particularly those people in our communities who are subject to, or at risk of harm, people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and those who are financially excluded or whose circumstances make them vulnerable.
- **Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention**, specifically in relation to tackling health inequalities, meeting the skills gap and improving access to job opportunities, tackling fuel poverty, improving education and training opportunities, access to affordable housing and financial and digital inclusion.
- **Developing strong and healthy communities** through the provision of mainstream and preventive services that are available to all those who choose to access them.
- **Creating economic prosperity** across the Borough

It is within this context that the Select Committee is invited to undertake their overview duties.

## Performance Reporting

Performance across the Council Plan has been reported on a six-monthly basis. This was reported to Executive Scrutiny Committee in September 2017 and January 2018. These reports were then forwarded to members of each Select Committee with key issues highlighted by the Committee Chair at their next meeting.

In response to the increased expectation on Councils to put in place internal mechanisms to undertake rigorous internal review and challenge, particularly in relation to the quality and safety of health, children's and social care services, Children and Young People, and Adult Social Care and Health Committees receive additional information as part of their work programme (including additional SBC performance data, inspection reports, and information from partners, for example the NHS).

### Adults and Health – Director – Ann Workman

Relevant services include:

- Adult Services
- Adult Operational Services
- Public Health, including Environmental Health Unit

### Council Plan 2017-18

The Council Plan sets out the aims and objectives for all services and is refreshed on an annual basis.

The 2017-18 objectives for the Health and Wellbeing and Adults themes are attached at **Appendix 1**.

**Adult Social Care Vision is....** that people can get the right level and type of personalised support at the right time in order to help, prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support and maximise their independence.

#### ADULT SOCIAL CARE OBJECTIVES:

- **Safeguarding Adults** – ensuring people can live a life free from abuse and the fear of abuse taking action to protect people where necessary. We treat all people as individuals, with dignity and respect.
- **Focus on prevention and early intervention** – providing low level support to keep people well, to prevent them from needing more intensive care. Services include information and advice, reablement (to aid recovery after illness) falls prevention, support to family, Carers, employment, housing, assistive technology, equipment and day options.
- **Work with individuals, their families and Carers** – Our approach is firmly based on a philosophy of working with individuals and communities to recognise their strengths to build their resilience. This approach is pivotal to and permeates through all that we do. We then work with individuals and their families to produce a personalised approach or plan for them to regain, retain and maintain as much of their independence as possible.

- **Deliver our statutory duties** – Some legislation is key to all that we do and how we do it. Other legislation governs our work with specific client groups. In particular, the Care Act 2014 provides the context for all that we do. The Care Act came into force in April 2015 and outlines the majority of our responsibilities including:
  - Preventing, reducing and delaying need;
  - Assessments of people or their carers who have the appearance of need;
  - Support planning/arranging services for those people who have assessed eligible needs;
  - Reviews;
  - And safeguarding responsibilities

The Care Act also focussed on Carers and in considering whether a Carer has needs local authorities must consider whether:

- The needs arise as a consequence of providing necessary care for an adult
- The effect of the Carer's needs is that any of the circumstances specified in the Eligibility Regulations apply to the Carer
- As a consequence of the fact that there is, or there is likely to be, a significant impact on the Carer's wellbeing.

**Continue to work closely with the NHS** – the landscape of health and social care service provision is changing rapidly. We are committed to helping lead and shape, engage in and support all work to bring that about, appropriately and effectively in the Borough.

**Maximise scarce use of financial resources** – ensuring best value and investing in preventative services, individually and in partnership.

**Ensure most effective and appropriate use of our own and our providers' workforces** – working with providers to focus on quality, contract management and encouraging feedback from people who receive care and support.

**Work in partnership** – with individuals, their families and Carers, internally with other services and teams in the Council and externally with other organisations in the public, private and voluntary community sectors.

### **Challenges and Opportunities**

Adult Social Care has recently undergone a consultation period on a proposed new structure appointments have been made to the senior management team and we are currently out to advert for an Assistant Director Early Intervention and Prevention (Closing date 11<sup>th</sup> February, interviews 23<sup>rd</sup> February). The new structure and model will support the delivery of the Adult Social Care Strategy 2017/2020. Our focus on prevention would be much harder to achieve without a joint approach with the NHS, Public Health and other partners – pathways and options for people will be more effective with this approach.

We will work in partnership with the public and want to ensure that people are able to find information and solutions easily, information and advice needs to be accessible to all.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Council Plan 2017-18 – Health and Wellbeing**

Our vision is for the Borough to be a place where people are supported to be healthy.

Key objectives and activities

Objective: **Address ill health prevention**

### **Council Plan 2017-18 – Adults**

Our vision is that people can get the right level and type of support at the right time to help, prevent, reduce or delay the need for on-going support and maximise their independence.

Key objectives and activities

Objective: **Targeting those with highest levels of need**

Objective: **Working in partnership**

Objective: **Delivering our statutory duties and safeguarding adults**

Objective: **Focussing on prevention and early intervention**

Objective: **Moving towards integrated working with the NHS**

Objective: **Maximising returns from using scarce financial resources and ensuring most effective and appropriate use of our own and our providers workforces**