

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting21st July 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Personalisation of Services - Update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report which outlined the requirements of the government concordat "Putting People First", published in December 2007, which had signalled a transformation in the delivery of adult social care based on the personalisation of services for adults and older people.

The report noted that "Putting People First – A shared vision and commitment to the transformation of Adult Social care" established a collaborative approach between central and local government, the sector's professional leadership, providers and the regulator. It signalled that the Department of Health wanted to maximise the role of communities in supporting care but also deliver support tailored to the individual. Personalisation and early intervention were seen as key issues for the whole of local government and not just for adult social care.

It was explained that central to this reform was local authority leadership and partnership working with the local NHS, other statutory agencies, third and independent sector organisations, users, carers and the wider community. It was explained that the expectation was that there would be shared outcomes designed to ensure that, irrespective of illness and disability people were supported to:

- Live independently;
- Stay healthy, recover quickly from illness;
- Exercise the maximum control over their own lives;
- Sustain family units and avoid children taking on inappropriate caring roles;
- Participate as active and equal citizens;
- Have best quality of life; and
- Retain maximum dignity and respect.

In practice this meant ensuring that universal information, advice and advocacy service for people needing services and their carers were available regardless of eligibility. This could be achieved via the

development of a “first stop shop” which dealt with issues and queries in an accessible manner and that connected with other partners such as the Pensions Agency or the voluntary sector.

The pilot work found that giving individuals a personal budget, either through self assessment or being assessed, had offered individuals greater choice and control over how they wanted to spend the money and greater satisfaction with their outcomes. To take forward personal budgets the systems and processes would need to change to ensure appropriate safeguards were in place to protect vulnerable adults and systems were in place to ensure that there was no financial abuse. There needed to be detailed work to assess how the resource allocation would function and how outcomes would be monitored. The workforce needed to support and develop personalisation, however roles would change and existing services would change from the way they were provided.

In order to provide more detail about Personalisation an information session had been scheduled on 2 September 2008 for Councillors. Additional sessions with providers and workforce had also been planned.

To enable Personalisation to be implemented a Social Care Reform Grant had been awarded, which offered an opportunity to focus plans on how services needed to be developed to address this agenda. The allocation for year one was £289,000 which would be focused around two areas;

- The development of a team to provide support and expertise for this programme, and
- New service and workforce development.

Members of Cabinet were advised that a Personalisation Manager was being recruited, who would act as a change agent, facilitating the necessary developments in the processes, systems and workforce. The remaining funding had been used to invest in new services that addressed the principles of personalisation and support the workforce changes. This included investment into additional support capacity for direct payments and individual budgets, the “Brighter Futures” scheme for young adults with learning disabilities and the development of alternatives to day services across adult groups.

Recognising the wide-ranging nature of the programme it had been agreed that the Adult Vision would be refreshed to take into account the requirements of Putting People First. The Adult Care Management Team overseen the implementation of the programme and would review progress against the Project Initiation Document. A draft Project Initiation Document had been developed and the Personalisation approach would

be subject to risk assessment and project controls. A Project Board was being developed.

RESOLVED that:

1. The direction of travel be noted and the principles of personalising social care be supported.

2. The investment approach be agreed.

3. The project management approach be agreed.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To enable Stockton to progress the implementation of Personalisation for adults and older people in a cohesive and coordinated manner.

To progress the investment plans as outlined in the report.

To support the project management arrangements.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Tuesday 29th July 2008

Proper Officer
23 July 2008