

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

28 October 2010

REPORT OF CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

CABINET DECISION

Adult Services and Health – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Jim Beall

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION SERVICE INSPECTION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. Summary

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council received a Care Quality Commission (CQC) service inspection for adult social care in July 2010, focusing on safeguarding adults, increased choice and control for older people, and leadership and commissioning.

As part of the process, the Council is expected to formally present the final report by CQC and the action plan to a public meeting of the Council, to consider the published report and the Council's plan to progress the inspection's recommendations for improving performance.

2. Recommendations

Cabinet are recommended to:

1. note the content of the Inspection report;
2. approve the Action Plan for implementation.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

The report is presented in order to raise awareness of the results of this important inspection and its implications for future service planning and development; and to meet the reporting and approval requirements of the Care Quality Commission.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.

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PARAGRAPH(S) ? OF SCHEDULE 12A
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

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SUMMARY

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As part of the process, the Council is expected to formally present the final report by CQC and the action plan to a public meeting of the Council, to consider the published report and the Council's plan to progress the inspection's recommendations for improving performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet are recommended to:

1. note the content of the Inspection report;
2. approve the Action Plan for implementation.

DETAIL

1. In July 2010, CQC undertook their Adult Social Care service inspection, focused on the themes of safeguarding adults; increased choice and control for older people; and leadership & commissioning. The inspection concluded that we were "performing well" in relation to safeguarding adults, and increased choice and control for older people; and that we have "promising capacity to improve" in relation to leadership and commissioning. These judgements were consistent with our self-assessment which was considered by inspectors as part of the evidence base for the inspection.
2. The specific details of the findings are contained in the formal report (appendix 1) produced by CQC and to be formally presented at the meeting by the lead inspector, Laura Middleton.
3. In line with CQC's inspection reporting and monitoring requirements, the Council has prepared an action plan which sets out how we intend to address the recommendations for improvement identified in the inspection report. A copy of the draft Action Plan is included

at appendix 2. There is a requirement to report formally to CQC in March 2011 regarding the progress we have made in achieving improved outcomes in line with the action plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Resource issues to address areas for improvement will be managed through the annual cycle of service planning and review of the medium term financial plan.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

6. The reporting of the inspection outcome is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

7. The outcome of the inspection will impact across many of the key themes within the Sustainable Community Strategy: Health and Wellbeing; Safer Communities; Environment and Housing; Economic Regeneration and Transport; as well as on each of the supporting themes of Older Adults, Stronger Communities, and Arts, Leisure and Culture.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8. This report is not subject to an Equality Impact Assessment as it is in response to external inspection requirements, and is not recommending any change to existing policy or strategy at this stage.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

9. Consultation was not relevant in relation to this report.

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Education related? No

Background Papers: CQC Inspection Report and Stockton's Action Plan.

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: The inspection report will be in the public domain from 29th October and will be available to all Councillors for information.

Property: the report does not have implications in relation to the Council's property.