

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....4th September 2013

1. Title of Item/Report

Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) Review of Adult Mental Health Services

2. Record of the Decision

The Adult Services and Health Select Committee had undertaken an EIT Review of Adult Mental Health Social Care Services. The report outlined the results of the review, and detailed a number of proposals for changes to services. The services under review (including day services, rehabilitation, respite, community support, user and carer involvement, care homes) were the responsibility of Stockton Council and were delivered as part of the Integrated Mental Health Service.

The Council had a statutory obligation to meet identified need for those clients assessed as being eligible for services in line with the Council's eligibility criteria for adult social care. Services provided must meet identified need, however the Council must also ensure that they were providing value for money.

The Committee's proposals were approved in principle by Cabinet on 7 February 2013 and had been subject to 12-weeks of public consultation. The results of the consultation were summarised in the Committee's report and the feedback was broadly supportive of the proposals. The Committee had finalised its proposals and made recommendations for change. There would be no changes to individual client circumstances without appropriate re-assessment and care planning.

The recommendations had been informed by the Equality Impact Assessment and this was included in the report at Appendix 4.

RESOLVED that:-

1. service users and carers should be involved in the design of the new services proposed in the report, and be supported throughout the transition period;

2. providers including the voluntary sector should be engaged and supported to develop services that meet the assessed needs of service users and attract personal budgets.
3. the provision of information, advice, and signposting services for service users be improved to enable them to identify appropriate services, and this should include working with existing advice and signposting services;
4. support to service users in taking personal budgets to access services that meet their assessed needs should be strengthened, and consideration be given to temporary additional resources in this area as part of the implementation plan;
5. the Council should support the development of alternative day time activities in the third sector / independent sector, invest in Community Bridge Building as a key intervention and support service for adult mental health service users subject to a successful outcome to the pilot, and cease providing the in-house day services at Norton Road and Ware Street (the Links Unit);
6. alternative options for rehabilitation, respite and short break services, be developed to enable a more flexible approach to service provision and achieve better value for money, and the in-house respite and rehabilitation beds at Ware Street be ceased;
7. a) the community support service specification and eligibility criteria be revised so that it becomes a short term intensive support service based on the recovery model (up to a maximum period of 12 weeks);  
b) the current in-house community support service be re-configured in order to meet the needs of the revised specification, and that any ongoing assessed needs beyond the 12-week period are met through commissioned services or personal budgets.
8. the Council should ensure that the service user and carer involvement functions are embedded into the wider adult social care arrangements for involvement and consultation, and cease provision of the dedicated service user and carer involvement posts.
9. Councillor Norma Stephenson be appointed as Mental Health Member Champion in order to raise awareness of mental health issues across the Local Authority and with partners.

3. Reasons for the Decision

As part of the Council's programme of EIT reviews, and as part of the agreed scrutiny work programme for 2012-13, the Select Committee has undertaken a review of Adult Mental Health Services. Cabinet has previously approved proposals in principle and these were then put forward for consultation. The Committee has considered the results of the consultation and has made final recommendations which are outlined in the report.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Mrs McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 4 - EIT Review of Adult Mental Services as she was on the Council of Governors and Associate Hospital Manager of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

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

Midnight on Friday, 13th September 2013

Proper Officer  
09 October 2013