

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting8th October 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

The Care Act 2014 - Update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that gave an update on the Care Act 2014.

The Care Act 2014 (the Act) introduced major reforms to the legal framework for Adult Social Care. The implementation of the Act was originally to take place in two phases, taking effect in April 2015 and April 2016. However, in the summer of 2015, with the first phase having already taken effect on 1 April 2015 the Government changed plans for implementation of the remainder of the Act. It was planned that funding reforms would be implemented in 2020 and not April 2016. Proposals regarding the implementation of a new appeals system would be announced as part of the autumn Spending Review.

In terms of the implementation of the first phase of reforms the Council had progressed very well. In summary, the Council was well prepared for the first phase of the Care Act when it came into effect on 1 April 2015, with significant work having already been undertaken in implementing plans to ensure compliance. Since April 2015 work had continued to strengthen the arrangements with post-implementation reviews continuing to ensure the Council was well placed to continue to meet the requirements of the new legislative framework.

The next steps was that the Adult Programme Board would continue to review post-implementation effectiveness, monitor the ongoing impact of the Act and await further Government announcements in the Spending Review regarding the appeals system.

A report to would be presented to Cabinet in December presenting the findings of the review adult social care charging policy within the context of the new powers under the Act and impact of the new duties and funding reform, making recommendations as appropriate.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be received.
2. The Officers, Members and Partners and all those involved be commended for the planning and proprietary work for ensuring that the Council was Care Act 2014 compliant within the legislative changes that came into effect on 1 April 2015.
3. The Government's intention to delay funding reform to 2020 and make a further announcement regarding a new appeals system in the autumn Spending Review be noted.
4. The intention to report to December Cabinet on the findings and recommendations regarding Charging Policy be noted.
3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure compliance with the new legislative framework for adult social care and consider the key areas in which the Act introduces new discretions.
4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.
5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None.
6. Details of any Dispensations

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

Midnight on 16th October 2015

Proper Officer
12 October 2015