# Select Committee Work Programme Suggested Review – Pro Forma

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

#### **Reablement Service**

To consider transformation of Adult Social Care reablement pathway in the context of the Health and Social Care Act 2022, including challenges and opportunities associated with these legislative measures that aim to make it easier for health and care organisations to deliver joined-up care for people who rely on multiple different services, current developments in services, and the focus on prevention.

This service ensures people have the opportunity to maximise their independence when they need it. This can include both step up care as well as step down, to avoid hospital admission and ensure safe discharges. It is also a service to promote and support people to be more independent and reduce the need for long term service provision for as long as possible.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

# **Public interest justification:**

Research has continued to evidence that most people prefer to remain in their own homes and communities<sup>1</sup>, development of services, such as reablement, aim to promote independence of older people despite incremental age associated with long term conditions and frailty.

Reablement is an intensive, time-limited intervention provided in people's homes or in community settings, multi-disciplinary in nature, focussing on supporting people to regain skills around daily activities. It is goal-orientated, holistic and person-centred irrespective of diagnosis, age and individual capacities.

Supporting people back to independence (as independent as they are realistically able to achieve with the use of support and assistive technology) is an essential part of the health and social care commitment to welfare of the local population where additional support is necessary.

The public would expect the NHS and Social Care to work collaboratively and align their services to ensure a coordinated and efficient hospital discharge support (step down) and preventative support (step up) in the community. The effective use of technology should be a key enabler within this offer.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Wiles, JL, Leibing, A, Guberman, N, Reeve, J, Allen, R. (2012) "The meaning of 'aging in place' to older people". *Gerontologist*, 52. Pp. 357-366.

## Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

**Legal**: Adult social care reform (People at the Heart of Care)<sup>2</sup> is focused on ensuring the social care system would work better for people and carers and meet the increasingly complex needs of an aging population and of younger adults who needed support. A principle of the policy was for social care to be more joined up; and a focus on prevention and early intervention; choice, control and support for people to live independent lives.

The Health and Care Act 2022 turned the above intentions into law and, amongst other changes, removed the delayed discharge regime and confirmed 'discharge to assess' (D2A).

**Economic / Social**: Adult social care is operating in a challenging environment, with high levels of change, uncertainty, financial pressure, increasing and complex demand and workforce shortages. This makes it necessary to reflect and review services to assess good practice, focus on prevention and stop needs from escalating and help keep people in their homes for longer. A key to this was working collaboratively and sharing resources.

# Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

During 2023/24, projected Q2 figures show an overspend on the older people residential framework (30 care homes) of £1.3m for 23/24. Actual demand is 6% higher than budgeted.

## **Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):**

In 2024/25 there are several strands of work progressing that link into the scrutiny review of reablement:

- Powering our future (PoF) Project: Review of the Reablement / Intermediate Care Service offered by the Council to support people to live independently, reduce long stay care home admissions and maximise use of technology to ensure best use of Council resources.
- 2. Tees Community Equipment service (TCES) Review: Assessment of the future size and offer from TCES across Tees to support hospital discharge and community support. This is a Tees wide review with the LAs and the ICB.

### How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Support delivery of:

- support people to remain safely and independently in their homes for as long as possible and offer help to people who are feeling lonely.
- continue to work with adult residential care and care at home providers to improve quality of care and to continue to support them as they respond to the challenges arising from COVID-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-system-reform-next-steps-to-put-people-at-the-heart-of-care

 engage with individuals, families, carers and communities when developing adult social care support and continue to collaborate with the NHS to ensure health and care services work effectively together.

### What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

#### Primary:

- To review and evaluate the impact of the Health and Social Care Act 2022 on how
  effectively the services commissioned and directly delivered by both Adult Social
  Care and the NHS are effectively collaborating and delivering efficient support for
  people being discharged from hospital who require care and support.
- The services offered by the Council is maximising the independence for people and delivering the outcomes people expect.

#### Secondary

• The use of technology is an effective enabler for people's independence and supports people to live their lives as independently as possible.