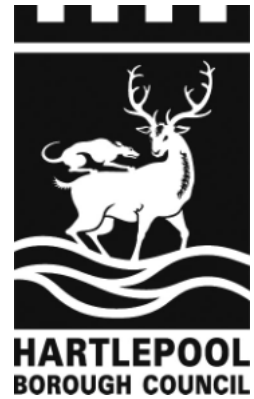


ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Monday 2nd November 2009

at 3.30pm

**in Committee Room B,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

MEMBERS: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

Councillors Atkinson, Coward, Cranney, A Marshall, Preece, Richardson, Simmons, Worthy and Young

Resident Representatives: Mary Green, Evelyn Leck and Mary Power

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
3. **MINUTES**
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2009
4. **RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM**

No items.
5. **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No items.

6. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

- 6.1 Adult and Community Services: Budget and Policy Framework Initial Consultation Proposals 2010/2011 – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of next meeting –

Wednesday 11th November 2009, commencing at 4.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

30 September 2009

The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Chris Simmons (In the Chair)

Councillors: Kevin Cranney, Ann Marshall, Arthur Preece, Carl Richardson
and Gladys Worthy

Resident Representatives:
Evelyn Leck

Also in Attendance:
Councillor Gerard Hall, Portfolio Holder for Adults and Public
Health

Also Present: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Commissioning
Steve Thomas, Planning and Implementation Officer
Laura Starrs, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

19. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Reuben Atkinson.

20. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

21. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2009

Confirmed.

22. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of this Forum

None.

23. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

None.

24. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents

None.

25. ‘Shaping the Future of Care Together’ – Green Paper
(Scrutiny Support Officer/Assistant Director, Commissioning)

The Assistant Director gave a detailed and comprehensive presentation which provided Members with the background to the green paper – Shaping the Future of Care Together, which set out a vision to build a National Care Service which was fair, simple and affordable for all adults in England. It highlighted that change in the way care was provided was needed due to demographic changes, ie people living longer and social change, ie people's expectations increasing.

The consultation sought views on the vision for the future of a National Care Service and how this service would be funded. In relation to funding, the following three options were put forward for ways to fund the National Care Services:

- 1) Partnership
- 2) Insurance
- 3) Comprehensive

Originally, there were two further options included which were ‘Pay for Yourself’ and ‘Tax Funded’. The Government had ruled these two options out of the consideration as being unworkable and unfair.

The Portfolio Holder for Adults and Public Health was in attendance and highlighted the importance of this consultation and informed Members that at a recent presentation on this subject by Government Ministers, the National Care Service was referred to as the NCS and could be seen as a continuation of the work undertaken by Aneurin Bevan in relation to the NHS. It was noted during this presentation that the NCS was about partnership working between National and Local Government and local people to help understand local needs and ensure that appropriate care support was in place. The Chair commented that it was clear that this was a big issue and in view of the ageing population, ways of dealing with a sustainable provision of care needed to be explored.

The Forum moved into two groups facilitated by the Assistant Director and Planning and Implementation Officer to discuss the consultation questions

included within the presentation and formulate a response to be fed back to the Forum as a whole.

Once the groups had looked at the consultation questions, the Assistant Director and Planning and Implementation Officer gave feedback to the Forum on the discussions held in each of the groups. It was noted that a broad range of debate was held in both groups that covered all the questions within the consultation including the importance of accountability to ensure there was confidence in the system. In summary, the following responses were collated across the three main consultation questions.

Question 1 – Building a National Care Service

Members placed real emphasis on prevention and supporting people to stay at home as long as possible along with the development of a community sector provision with built in support for that sector. There were some concerns about the national assessment that would be undertaken and how this information would be kept updated. The importance of recognising local needs and delivering the most appropriate training to deliver the different elements of care required was also noted. Members highlighted the need for clear communication including timescales to be provided throughout the consultation process. The issue of fair funding was discussed including concern that a significant amount of the older generation had already contributed for the provision of care throughout their working life and were being asked to make additional contributions. It was highlighted that all services must be simplified and transparent.

Question 2 – Provision of a Joined Up Service

Members were in agreement with the provision of joined up services to ensure choice and high quality services were available. It was hoped that the provision of a joined up service would enable a single point of contact to be used for members of the public. It was suggested that a rating system be considered with spot checks and rota visits being undertaken to ensure the quality of the care provided was at an appropriate standard. In relation to barriers, there were concerns that different agencies may have differing priorities and targets and communication could become an issue. Members also had concerns about the financing of the system and how this would work in practice with organisations and care homes.

Question 3 – Funding of the National Care Service

The general consensus of opinion was that the comprehensive model of funding was preferred with a compulsory contribution appearing to be the fairest way forward. Although it was highlighted that local choice of service provider should be retained. Clarification was sought on the use of personal pensions to fund care and any tax implications and it was noted that should this option be chosen, further clarification on this issue would be provided.

The Assistant Director informed the Forum that there were two consultation

events taking place on 13 October 2009 between 2.00-4.00pm and 6.00-8.00pm in the Council Chamber and it was hoped that these events would be promoted by Members with residents being encouraged to attend and provide comments. In addition, a separate event entitled "Getting it Right" is being organised by the 50+ Forum, local authority, PCT and Links on 6 November 2009 at the Historic Quay. All older people in Hartlepool are invited. The event will look at the Hartlepool's Older People's Strategy and will establish the key priorities for developments over the next 3 - 5 years. Reservations for places need to be made to the Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency.

Members of the Forum were thanked for their valuable contribution and comments on the consultation document. The Assistant Director would ensure that all the comments would be fed back through the consultation on the green paper to contribute to the formulation of a local response.

Councillor Gerard Hall, the Assistant Director, Commissioning and Planning and Implementation Officer were thanked for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

Decision

Members noted the consultation and requested that their views noted above be used to contribute to the formulation of a local response to the Government's Green Paper 'Shaping the Future of Care Together'.

The meeting concluded at 6.05 pm.

CHAIRMAN

ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

2nd November, 2009



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES: BUDGET
AND POLICY FRAMEWORK INITIAL
CONSULTATION PROPOSALS 2010/2011

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity, as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, for the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum to consider the Child and Adult Services Department's pressures relating to the provision of Adult and Community services.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 16th October, 2009, consideration was given to the Executive's Initial Budget and Policy Framework consultation proposals for 2010/2011 to 2012/2013.
- 2.2 At this meeting it was agreed that, as in previous years, each of the Standing Scrutiny Forums will consider the budget proposals covering the service areas within their remit. Given the recent restructure of departments within the Council, and creation of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department and Child and Adult Department, presentations will also be given by Directors to provide an overarching view of the general risks facing their departmental budgets and key policy issues for this year. Any comments / observations will then be fed back to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 27th November, 2009 to enable a formal response to be presented to Cabinet on 14th December, 2009.
- 2.3 Appended to this report, for consideration as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, are details of the pressures relating to the adult and community areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Services Department:-

Appendix A - Schedule of Budget Pressures 2010/2011;

- 2.4 Cabinet is proposing that the pressures identified are funded.
- 2.5 At this stage of the budget process Cabinet have not identified specific efficiency proposals for individual departments as it is envisaged the savings necessary to balance the 2010/2011 budget will be achieved from the Business Transformation Programme. This position assumes pressures will not exceed the available budget head room and the Government confirm the grant increase for 2010/2011.
- 2.6 To assist Members of this Scrutiny Forum in the consideration of the initial proposals, arrangements have been made for the Director of Child and Adult Services to be in attendance and an invitation to this meeting has also been extended to the relevant Portfolio Holder(s) (attendance subject to availability).

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum: -
- a) as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, consider the pressures relating to the adult and community areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Service Department; and
 - b) formulates any comments and observations to be presented by the Chair of this Scrutiny Forum to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 27th November, 2009 to enable a formal response to be presented to the Cabinet on 14th December, 2009.

Contact Officer:- Laura Starrs – Scrutiny Support Officer
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

	£'000	Description
Mental Health - Agency placements	155	Increasing number of high cost community based packages associated with Aspersers/autism/complex Dual Diagnosis. The complex needs associated with these conditions require significant funding and diagnoses of these conditions are expected to increase in the coming years. Packages have previously been funded through vacancies but posts now filled. Statutory duty to meet assessed needs, risks around failure in meeting our Duty of Care.
Older People - Intermediate care/transitional beds	190	Current pressure exists in relation to intermediate care provision and transitional beds. There continues to be an increased demand for these services owing to demographic increases in Older People and specifically those with dementia. The existing transitional beds provision is not suitable for those individuals with severe dementia. Funding is required to expand the current provision and to explore alternative options for more sustainable community based solutions.
Learning Disability Agency	195	Three young people with learning disabilities currently in transitions will turn 18 years of age at the start of 10/11. Early indications are that there will be a pressure of approximately £55K for those individuals, one with complex learning disabilities estimated at £35K, the remaining 2 individuals estimated at £10K each. There are 20 young adults with Learning Disabilities who currently access Post 19 education and enrichment/day opportunity via Catcote School. The provision is supported from a mixture of funding streams, LSC funding supports 50% of the provision classified as teaching and learning, the remainder is supported by Catcote school, of which the council has supported in recent years £66K from short term grant funding. Catcote school can no longer subsidise the overall provision which predominantly meets the assessed social care needs of this complex and vulnerable group of individuals. A pressure of £140K is required to enable this provision to continue.
Total	540	