

ADULTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

1st March 2010

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Gerard Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director of Commissioning
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer
Beverley Thompson, Strategic Commissioner for Mental Health

**33. Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan
2009/2010 – 3rd Quarter Monitoring Report** *(Director of
Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 in the first three quarters of the year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the progress against the actions contained in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 and the third quarter outturns of key performance indicators. All actions had been, or were expected to be, achieved as were 44 of the 47 performance indicators. However one of the performance indicators was not expected to be achieved (PO79 Number of safeguarding adults referrals during the year) and two would require intervention (PO66 Admissions to residential care – age 65+ and NI130 Social care clients receiving self directed support).

With reference to PO79 the Assistant Director advised that this was a local indicator and the first year of data collection. 130 had been set as the target using the previous year's figures but there had already been 137 referrals as at end of December 2009. However it was felt that the higher profile given to the issue of safeguarding and vulnerability had had a direct impact on the number of referrals. The Portfolio Holder agreed that any

increase in awareness should be viewed in a positive light regardless of whether locally set targets were met or not. It did not mean that abuse had increased simply that people were more aware of it. The Assistant Director advised that another area where there had been an increase was in relation to older people with mental health problems and the management of potentially challenging behaviour. This issue would be addressed through work with providers regarding management of such cases. The Portfolio Holder commented that the number of residential home representatives in attendance at the recent Dignity in Care event suggested most homes probably had at least one member of staff nominated to deal with such issues.

Regarding PO66 the Assistant Director advised that measures had been put in place to reduce the number of admissions by exploring other options. While there was always a slight increase during the winter months this year's severe winter weather had impacted significantly, primarily because of the increased number of people being discharged from hospitals and the difficulty of making longer term plans at times when staff were working under increased pressure. Demographics also had to be taken into account.

With reference to NI130 the Assistant Director commented that the 70% target had been set taking into account all social care clients that the Department viewed as being eligible to receive a personal budget (which would exclude people receiving Occupational Therapy, equipment and intermediate care). This had been agreed with Government Office North East however since then the Government had altered the way that the target was measured on a national basis meaning that 70% would not be achievable. A representation had been made to alter the target to reflect the changed method of data collection but this was not possible. The national target for Local Authorities was to achieve 30% by April 2011. Hartlepool was currently achieving over 45% so were exceeding the nationally set target, over a year in advance,. This had affected a number of local authorities, and the issue was now being addressed by central government. The Portfolio Holder queried who had decided on 70% and was advised that this had been a departmental decision based on the information available at the time

Details were also provided on a number of actions which had recently been completed including a review of the current day service provision at Hartfields and the establishment of the North of Tees Management Board. A likely risk of serious disruption from financial shortfalls for the voluntary sector was also highlighted.

Decision

That the achievement on actions, indicators and risks be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10:25 am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 3rd March 2010