

# **ADULT AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD**

13<sup>th</sup> February 2013

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor: John Lauderdale, Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder

Officers: Geraldine Martin, Head of Service - OT Reablement and Mental Health  
Neil Harrison, Head of Service – Child and Adult Commissioning Services  
Rachael White, Democratic Services Officer

## **11. The Local Government Association (LGA) ‘Show is you Care’ Campaign** *(Assistant Director – Adult Social Care)*

**Type of decision**

Non key decision.

**Purpose of report**

To provide the Portfolio Holder with details of the ‘Show us you Care’ campaign and to recommend that Hartlepool Borough Council joins the campaign that aims to:

- Put adult social care on a sustainable financial footing in the face of demographic and cost pressures; and
- Secure longer-term reform of the system to make it fairer and more transparent

**Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Service, OT Reablement and Mental Health reported that in 2012, the Government published the Care and Support White Paper, a draft Bill and a progress report on funding social care in the future. Securing reform of care and support was crucial for all the people who were dependant on commissioned services or who were facing the uncertainties

of how to fund care and support to meet their needs. The LGA, the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE) and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) had committed to work together to ensure that a strong and united local government voice was available to help inform and shape the crucial agenda. The report provided details of the core principles of the White Paper and the planned systems reforms.

The Officer advised that system reform would, however, mean very little if the issue of funding was not addressed as a priority alongside it but securing more investment in the current economic climate would not be easy. The 2010 Spending Review set out real term reductions of 28% in the Central Government grant to local government by 2014/15. Evidence from a budget survey by ADASS revealed that nearly £1.8 billion had already been taken out of adult social care budgets over the last two years and demographic pressures were growing at 3% per year.

The aim of the 'Show us you Care' campaign's was to ensure that the social care system provided certainty and stability for future generations, that it was fit for purpose and could be properly funded. The campaign called for an immediate injection of money from the Government to meet the rising demand for adult social care in the short term and a complete overhaul of the social care system, as proposed in the White Paper, delivered in a timely way.

Unless the funding for social care was sustainable and realistic, there would be no alternative but to implement cuts to services. The Social Care Paper provided a good basis for reform of a dated care system and its associated legislation. However, without the fundamental funding issues being addressed the reforms would be largely unachievable. Without the viable funding of social care being put in place before the proposed timetable of the 2014/15 spending review, elderly and disabled people, together with their carers, would face continuing uncertainty for at least a further three to five years.

### **Decision**

That the proposal for Hartlepool Borough Council to sign up the 'Show us you Care' campaign be endorsed.

## **12. Adult Capital Grant Allocation** *(Assistant Director - Adult Social Care)*

### **Type of decision**

Non key decision.

## **Purpose of report**

That the Portfolio Holder approves the spending of Capital Grant to support a joint initiative with Housing Hartlepool as outlined in the report.

## **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Service, Child and Adult Commissioning Services, reported that the Capital Grant was designed to support three key areas of personalisation, reform and efficiency. In 2009 the Government published 'Valuing People Now', a new strategy for people with learning disabilities. The strategy focus was on what needed to be done at all levels to deliver the vision of equality with the aim of designing and delivering public services and support which met people's individual needs.

In conjunction with the Housing Partnership, the Council developed a new Housing Strategy for 2011-2015. It was produced in consultation with a wide range of partners, colleagues, stakeholders and residents. Three main priorities for the strategy had been developed using a robust evidence base and these reflected the issues and priorities identified through consultation:

- Delivering new homes, contributing to sustainable communities
- Improving existing homes, supporting sustainable communities
- Meeting specific housing needs

The Council's Housing Care and Support Strategy highlights the need to 'increase the range and type of housing available to people with a disability'. It was proposed that Hartlepool Borough Council place a capital charge of £99,125 (62% of the property value) against the purchase of a property to enable a young man with complex needs and autism to remain close to his family home and be supported in an appropriate community setting. Housing Hartlepool would contribute £61,875 (38% of the property value) and in addition would continue to maintain the property as required. Hartlepool Borough Council would be granted first nomination rights to any future tenants and the property would be allocated to the tenant through Housing Hartlepool.

No other suitable accommodation in the town had been found. If not supported, commissioners would need to explore specialist out of area placements which were generally very costly and would not enable the young man concerned to remain close to his family.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and agreed that it was a sensible use of the funding. The Portfolio Holder queried whether using the funding for this purpose would be setting a precedent. The Head of Service, Child and Adult Commissioning Services advised that there were several schemes where funding from the Capital Grant had been used for example, funding was used to move many people from NHS campus accommodation in 2009/10.

## **Decision**

That the proposal and funding arrangements be approved.

### **13. Regional Reablement Review Phase 1 Report** *(Assistant Director – Adult Social Care)*

#### **Type of decision**

For information only.

#### **Purpose of report**

To provide the Portfolio Holder with the findings from Phase 1 of the Regional Reablement Review which seeks to identify the most cost effective, efficient and appropriate models for service delivery.

A further report was to be provided the Portfolio Holder following the completion of Phases 2 and 3 of the project by the end of Spring 2013.

#### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Service, OT Reablement and Mental Health reported that the focus of reablement was on restoring independent functioning and helping people do things for themselves rather than the conventional home care approach of others doing things for them. In October 2011, Hartlepool Borough Council developed an in-house reablement service alongside commissioned low-level supported services, to promote people's independence, safety and wellbeing, prevent social isolation and support people to live as independently as possible in their own homes as well as contributing to timely, safe hospital discharges.

In July 2012, People Too Ltd was commissioned to evaluate reablement services across the North East Region. A list of components analysed in Phase 1 was detailed in the report. Each of the 12 North East councils had adopted a different model for the reablement service based on local and sub-regional priorities. As each Council had configured their service differently it was not possible to draw meaningful or accurate comparative data for establishing 'like' for 'like' models. It was, however, possible to consider the effectiveness of each model and to focus on what worked. The Officer provided an overview of the key observations that had been made as a result of exploring the effectiveness of each North East Council.

Current data indicated that the Hartlepool service was performing well with 73.9% of people using the service improving to the point of needing no

further services. The number of referrals into the services greatly exceeded those of other Councils which reflected the robust low-level services/welfare notices as part of an integrated reablement pathway. However the Officer advised that further work needed to be carried out in order to improve the number of people accessing reablement from the community as only 36.5% of referrals came from the community and the other 63.5% from health services/hospital.

### **Decision**

That the contents of the report be noted.

## **14. Annual Complaints Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012** *(Assistant Director – Adult Social Care)*

### **Type of decision**

For information only.

### **Purpose of report**

To present the Annual Complaints Report of the Child and Adult Services Department for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Service, Child and Adult Commissioning Services, advised that it was a legal requirement in adult social care that an Annual Report be published on complaints. The Annual Report provided information on the complaints and representation frameworks appropriate in the department where information in relation to complaints that had been received and dealt with during the reporting period were collated.

The report demonstrated the learning that occurred from the complaints received and had identified trends emerging through the year's activities within the Complaints Framework. The report provided analysis of recorded complaints, compliments and representations with comparisons to the previous year.

### **Decision**

That the contents of the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 9.50am.

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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