
NUTRITION IN CARE HOMES TASK AND FINISH REVIEW GROUP - FINAL REPORT

Introduction

1. To report the findings and recommendations of the Nutrition in Care Homes Task and Finish Review Group, established by the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee.

Background Information

2. Members will recall that the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a piece of work in relation to nutrition and hydration in care homes and established a Task and Finish Review Group to undertake this. The aim of the work was to ensure that the care homes currently contracting with this Authority were ensuring that individuals, using their services, were supported in having appropriate and adequate nutrition and hydration.
3. The Task and Finish Review Group met on a number of occasions and both announced and unannounced visits to a number of care homes took place as part of the review. The attached draft report (**Appendix 1**) sets out the work, findings and recommendations of the Group.
4. Whilst this piece of work has now concluded, it will form part of a wider piece of work in relation to safeguarding adults which will be undertaken over the next 12 months.

Recommendations

5. That the following recommendations of the Review Group be approved :-
 - (a) the thanks of this Task and Finish Review Group be conveyed to the Assistant Director – Adult Social Care and all the staff within the Contracts Team for the support and advice given during this investigation;
 - (b) the thanks of this Task and Finish Review Group be conveyed to Rachel Masters, Senior Specialist, Focus on Under-nutrition Dietician for her initial involvement and presentation which gave Members the background to enable them to undertake the investigation;
 - (c) this Task and Finish Review Group is re-assured that Focus on Under-nutrition is involved with the care homes currently contracting with this Council and is actively involved in monitoring and giving advice and training to their staff on

nutrition and hydration; and

- (d) this Task and Finish Review Group is confident that there is sufficient evidence to ensure that the Quality Standards in relation to nutrition and hydration within care homes are being met and that any issues which might occur in the future would be dealt with promptly and efficiently by Officers within the Contracts Team.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Resources

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report other than those referred to

Shirley Burton : Extension 2233

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the five themes.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.