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**OVERVIEW OF ADULT SERVICES PORTFOLIO**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work under my Adult Services Portfolio:

**Performance**

2. Adult Services have retained a three star rating from the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) for a second year running. The service has been able to evidence sustained and continuous improvement over the last twelve months to retain this, the highest rating.

**Assistive Technology**

3. Adult Services staff are working closely with staff from Warden Services within Housing to procure software which will more effectively manage the work of both Home Care and Warden Services staff.
4. Initial discussions are underway to develop a 'Smart' flat, which will be a demonstration centre for assistive technology.

**Intermediate Care**

5. On 12 November following a tender process, the Council's Intermediate Care Service relocated to Ventress Hall.
6. Ten Intermediate care beds are available at Ventress Hall which will promote faster recovery from illness, prevent unnecessary admission to hospital/long-term care, support timely discharge and maximise independence.
7. An open session was held at Ventress Hall on 14 December to promote the new service.

**New Opportunities**

8. As part of the New Opportunities programme, moves to supported tenancies took place at the end of November for several individuals with learning disabilities.
9. This enabled the planned closure of Milbury services to be completed on 30 November.
10. The closure of NHS campuses is contained within the New Opportunities Project, links to the North East strategic commissioning team and the regional Valuing People Team are being established.

## **Lifeline Services Christmas Activities**

11. The Lifeline Service organises a range of activities throughout the year but is particularly active in the period leading up to Christmas when opportunities for social interaction is particularly important for older people who often live alone. The following activities have taken place:-

- Christmas parties including food and entertainment in sheltered housing schemes and external venues.
- Visits from local school children and Church groups.
- Participation in local carols concerts.
- Christmas outings to local markets, shopping centres and tourist attractions.
- Christmas Day lunch provided at all the Extra Care Schemes for residents, family and friends as well as any older people living nearby.

12. The communal facilities in sheltered housing schemes are also made available for other groups to use and once again this Christmas a number of Church groups and organisation such as GOLD and the Hard of Hearing Club have organised activities in our facilities.

## **Engagements**

13. I have undertaken the following:

- 3 December – Learning Disability Partnership Board
- 7 December – Carers Conference
- 11 December - Health & Well Being Scrutiny Committee
- 7 January – Visioning Event - Learning Disability Partnership Board
- 15 January – Talking Together Event
- 21 January – Special Health & Well Being Scrutiny
- 29 January – ADS Quarterly Briefing
- Several Briefing Meetings with the Director of Community Services

**Councillor Bryan Thistlethwaite**  
**Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Adult Services**