
OVERVIEW OF ADULT SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Purpose of Report

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

Performance

2. The Self-Assessment Submission (SAS) was completed by officers during April and May and submitted to the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) on 23 May 2008. This will be key in determining the star rating for Adult Services and will be the basis of discussions at the Annual Review Meeting (ARM) in July.

Emergency Exercise

3. Adult Social Care staff took place in Exercise Firestone II on 21 May 2008 at Durham Tees Valley Airport. Their role was to establish a reception centre for friends and family of those involved in the 'air crash'. The reception centre was fully established and a full de-briefing is being planned.

Older Persons Mental Health Strategy

4. The draft Older Persons Mental Health Strategy was taken to the Health and Well Being Scrutiny meeting of 10 June 2008.

Mental Health

5. The Autumn Assessment took place in May 2008 and officers are now awaiting finalised traffic light system via the Strategic Health Authority, which is expected by summer 2008. A presentation was given on a partnership basis with DBC, PCT and TEWV around developments in Mental Health Services; these focused upon patient pathways and urban regeneration projects.
6. Deprivation of Liberties Safeguards (DoLS), the scoping exercise has been completed and the implementation team established with the Operations Manager for Learning Disabilities/Mental health and Substance Misuse taking the lead. This is a joint initiative with County Durham and a DoLS event is to be held over the summer.
7. Implementation of the Mental Health Act 1983 amendments in 2007 is underway, a project manager has been appointed and a full training schedule is in place. An Executive Board is in place as is an Operational Group. The Care Services Improvement Partnership (CSIP) implementation tool has been populated and all Approved Social Workers (ASWs) will be Approved Mental Health Practitioner (AMHP) trained on target for implementation on 3 November 2008.

Learning Disabilities

8. Continued work around the closure of the NHS campus sites, which follows a joined up approach between Durham, Darlington, Stockton and Hartlepool. The DBC lead officer and the North East Strategic Commissioning Lead commissioned a report. The recommendations from the report are around Person Centered Plans (PCPs), TUPE, and transparency of revenue and high level HR and governance arrangements.

Substance Misuse

9. Senior practitioner post has been recruited to the specialist alcohol service, which will be based at Blaketts Health Centre and will be a multi agency team delivering on the Alcohol Strategy.

Engagements

10. The Portfolio Holder has undertaken the following:
 - (a) 2 June 2008 – Learning Disability Partnership Board
 - (b) Briefing Meetings with the Director of Community Services
 - (c) Meeting with the Manager of Chair of DAD at which we discussed matters of mutual interest.
 - (d) During Carers Week I met with a group of carers and thanked them for the hard work they do and discussed matters of general concern.

Councillor Veronica Copeland
Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Adult Services