
OVERVIEW OF ADULT SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Purpose of the Report

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

Older People Mental Health

2. The Older Person Mental Health Strategy has been finalised and ratified by the Council and Durham and Darlington NHS.
3. The Strategy for Mental Health Services for Older People (OPMH) will propose a joint social care and healthcare delivery of service in Darlington by developing a model that reflects the key components of a modern OPMH service as set out in 'Everybody's Business' (2005). It is this document that is now incorporated into monitoring of progress in the development of OPMH services.
4. In addition, with the recent publication of the National Dementia Strategy: Living Well with Dementia, this too will provide a framework for the delivery of better services for people suffering from dementia. The OPMH strategy very much incorporates the key themes coming out of the strategy and has a detailed action plan that is specifically related to the recommendations made within the national strategy.
5. An event, 'Living Well with Dementia in Darlington' took place on the 4th June which is part of a range of involvement work which will take place over the next two months. This part of the Engagement Plan is primarily focused on providing an opportunity for as many stakeholders to share their views on what could be done to improve the quality of life for people with dementia and their carers through the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy.
6. Feedback from the engagement work in Darlington will be used to assist NHS and Adult Social Care commissioners to gain further insight into what needs to be addressed locally to ensure that there are significant improvements in dementia services and support.

Mental Health

7. Work is underway with Children's Services and the PCT plus the DAAT with regards to the establishment of a Family Intervention Team. The Adult Social Work post has been recruited into and the team will work across a seven day week service and provide intensive intervention for families where there is a predominant towards mental health issues, domestic violence, criminal justice intervention, substance misuse, all of which affect the ability to parent.

8. Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, the Supervisory Body is well established and continues to meet as and when required in terms of DoL applications. A new member has been added to the membership and this will pick up the clear links between deprivation and safeguarding issues.
9. A project management post to lead on the Green Light Initiative is being advertised, funded by the PCT and hosted by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust. This post holder will be key in terms of the scoping and mapping work to enable adults with a learning disability to access mainstream mental health services in terms of their needs being appropriately met.

Learning Disabilities

10. The Learning Disability Health Passport has been completed and this is a joint venture with the acute trust. The passport will seek to ensure that people with a learning disability receive an effective service from the Acute Trust.

Safeguarding Adults

11. The Safeguarding Adults Team appointments have now all been finalised and the Team will be fully operational by the end of July.
12. The new Safeguarding Policies and Procedures have been completed and are being circulated.

Personalisation

18. The task of delivering the social care transformation outlined in the Government document “Putting People First” is underway. Developments to date include:-
 - (a) A series of scoping days that have included key stakeholders, notably people who currently use adult social care;
 - (b) The development of a vision of what social care will look like in 2020;
 - (c) An overview document that identifies the key outcomes to be achieved;
 - (d) An agreed change delivery model based on the Councils Leading Edge methodology;
 - (e) An easy read version of this change agenda;
 - (f) Regular staff briefings/newsletters in place;
 - (g) Communication plan developed;
 - (h) Links made with key partners to deliver the 4 cornerstones of “Putting People First” – Greater use of universal services, greater use of social capital, a focus on early intervention and prevention and maximising the choice and control people have over their lives;

- (i) A draft commissioning strategy has just been completed, which outlines Adult Social Care's commissioning intentions.

21. In addition to briefings with officers I have attended the following:-

- (a) Two meetings of the Governing Council of the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust.
- (b) GOLD's Health Group Meeting.
- (c) Darlington a Travel Town.
- (d) Dementia Listening Day.
- (e) Open Staff Meeting for Adult Services.
- (f) Armed Forces Fly the Flag Ceremony.
- (g) Carers and Personalisation Seminar.
- (h) Green Assembly in Darlington.
- (i) Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny.
- (j) Disability Equality Scheme Steering Group.

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