

## **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 the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services.

### **Annual Review Meeting**

2. The Annual Review Meeting was held with the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) on 28 July 2008. This will be key in determining the star rating for Adult Services which will be published later in the year. The Meeting included a separate meeting of the Business Relationship Manager with a range of service users.

### **Kings Head Hotel Fire**

3. Adult Social Care staff responded to the fire at the Kings Head Hotel on 15 August 2008 by managing the welfare needs of those hotel residents evacuated during the night. This included working with a large group of tourists to the area who required extensive support to manage their forward journeys once they had been able to reclaim their belongings.

### **Older Persons Mental Health Strategy**

4. A second draft of the Older Persons Mental Health Strategy was taken to the Health and Well Being Scrutiny meeting on 26 August 2008.

### **Mental Health**

5. An awareness and planning launch for The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) took place in July 2008; the workshops undertaken will contribute to the formation of a project plan with regards to an implementation strategy. A number of proposals will be submitted regarding a preferred model relating to the rolling out of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.
6. Implementation of the Mental Health Act 1983 Amendments, 2007 continues to gain speed. A full training schedule is in place for all staff with regards to transitional training from Approved Social Worker (ASW) to Approved Mental Health Practitioner (AMHP). The social care consultant in mental health and the team manager of training and workforce development has attended a train the trainers programme.
7. The training for the 3,600 staff within the provider trust has started and each local authority in the Tess, Esk and Wear Valley Hospital Trust (TEWV) jurisdiction has contributed to this on the basis of training time and expertise. The inaugural meeting of the Mental Health Social Care Forum took place on 15 August; this will be a bi-monthly meeting to ensure

that the social care agenda in mental health is given high priority.

### **Learning Disabilities**

8. The closure of the NHS campus sites is on track for completion by November 2008. This follows extensive financial mapping, Person Centred Care Plans, consultation and communication processes with all stakeholders.
9. A new day services facility at South Park opened in July 2008; the official opening will take place on 15 September 2008. The Mayor has been requested to formally open the building. Much is planned for the opening day, including a Victorian pageant, speeches, lunch and Victorian games in the afternoon.
10. The tenders for independent day opportunities and specialist domiciliary care are currently going through procurement and commissioning processes. Users and carers are involved within the tender processes and a bespoke training pack for users in terms of meaningful engagement is being developed.
11. Valuing People Now (VPN) is expected by end of August and all subgroups of the Learning Disability Partnership Board will be modernised and streamlined in keeping with the VPN core objectives.

### **Substance Misuse**

12. A senior management group has been established to take forward the implementation of the new specialist alcohol service. This will be made up of nine experienced professionals in the field, including medicine, social work, nursing, administration and counsellors. The team has already outgrown the base at Blakett's health centre and a new base is being sourced. The team will be operational by October 2008.

### **Assistive Technology**

13. All professionals who refer into the service have attended the Assistive Technology training at the demonstration flat in Rosemary Court. 43 service users in Darlington are now benefiting from telecare.
14. A rolling programme of training has been set-up for remainder of 2008/09.
15. A comprehensive communication/marketing plan has been created which includes (but not limited to):
  - (a) A new Darlington Telecare leaflet
  - (b) A full page add in the August edition of the Town Crier
  - (c) Attendance at various awareness sessions e.g. talking together, GOLD positive health
  - (d) New staff intranet pages on Assistive Technology
16. Setting up of a Telehealth Pilot run in partnership with Darlington PCT. Approximately 10-15 patients, those who regularly visit hospital will take part in the pilot, commencing in October 2008. The pilot will focus on both Heart Failure and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder (COPD) patients.

17. Tynetec, one of Darlington's equipment providers have been successful in a large scale (nearly £500k) bid to carry out an 18 month project to demonstrate telehealthcare benefits. Darlington will benefit as one of the five partners in the project, through access to more equipment and specialist knowledge in this area.
18. An exercise has been set-up to procure new call handling software. This will replace or upgrade the existing CCTV database.

### **Business Transformation Team**

19. Mark Humble was appointed to the Head of Business Transformation post on 17 July 2008. Mark will be leading on the Transformation of Social Care and will be involved in the recruitment of staff to the Business Transformation Team.

### **Engagements**

20. In addition to my regular briefings with officers I have undertaken the following visits and meetings:
  - (a) GOLD
  - (b) Foundation Governors Meeting
  - (c) Visit to the new facility at Lakeside Lodge
  - (d) Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee
  - (e) Health Improvement Group
  - (f) Visit to Vane house to look at the services for the visually impaired
  - (g) Visit to Rosemary Court to look at the Assistive Technology
  - (h) Positive Health day held at Darlington Football Stadium
  - (i) North East Association of Directors of Adult Services

**Councillor V Copeland**  
**Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Adult Services**