
OVERVIEW OF ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee has undertaken.

Work Programme

2. We have approved our draft Work Programme for the next Municipal Year. Two areas to particularly highlight are the completion in 2018/19 of our review into services for adults living in Darlington with autism and we would also like to invite representatives from the Care Quality Commission to one of our meetings.
3. As part of our Autism review, we have visited the North East Autistic Society's college premises in Newton Aycliffe and learnt about the curriculum. Our thanks to them for hosting the visit.

Adult Social Care Transformation Programme

4. We have also received an update on the progress of the Adults Social Care Transformation Programme, which has been developed to modernise services, meet future demands and address pressures within that service area. We were advised that the programme is progressing well and, overall, remains on track, with budget targets also being achieved in this financial year.
5. The Programme is regularly reviewed with new work added and the scope of existing pieces of work widened as applicable.
6. The continued good performance in Darlington in relation to delayed transfers of care (DTC) was highlighted, together with the need to continue to work with partners to maintain that position going forward.

Performance Indicators Quarter 3 2017/18

7. We received an update on performance against those key performance indicators under the remit of our Scrutiny Committee for the period October to December 2017.
8. The indicators used are aligned with key priorities and the majority are used to monitor the Corporate Plan 2017/21.
9. We did raise some concern about the potential rise in rent arrears as a result of the full roll-out in June 2018 of Universal Credit in Darlington. However, we were assured that Housing Services staff have been working with those tenants most at risk to mitigate against this. Evidence provided from other areas does suggest that

rent arrears will rise in the interim due to payment delays of Universal Credit to tenants, however, this is expected to reduce as the roll-out is embedded.

Councillor Marjory Knowles
Chair of Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee