

ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10th April, 2018

PRESENT - Councillor Knowles (in the Chair); Councillors Culley, Grundy, Kane, Lister, Lyonette, Mills, M Nicholson and Storr. (9)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Copeland and D Jones (2)

ABSENT –

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE –

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – James Stroyan, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care, Pauline Mitchell, Assistant Director, Housing and Building Services and Barbara Copson, Performance Manager.

AH38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

AH39. MINUTES – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of meetings of this Scrutiny Committee held on 13th February, 2018.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

AH40. ADULT SOCIAL CARE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – The Director of Children and Adult Services submitted a report (previously circulated) updating Members on the progress of the Adults Social Care Transformation Programme, since last reported to this Scrutiny Committee.

The submitted report outlined the four workstreams being undertaken to develop a new operating model within Adult Social Care which was sustainable going forward, together with details of a number of cross-cutting projects that were required to support the changes in service delivery.

It was reported that, overall, the Programme was on track with further quantifiable progress in many areas, and the budget position also being in a much healthier position, with targets being over achieved in this financial year.

Particular reference was made to the good performance, in Darlington, in relation to Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC) and discussion ensued on the need to continue to work with NHS partners to maintain that position going forward.

References were also made to the implementation of the new social care casework system, Liquid Logic, which was now being embedded and to the need to provide support mechanisms and continue to work with staff to enable a changed culture and approach to service delivery to be adopted.

RESOLVED – That the progress on the Adults Social Care Transformation Programme be noted.

AH41. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QUARTER 3 2017/18 – The Director of Neighbourhood Services submitted a report (previously circulated) updating Members on the current position against those key performance indicators under the remit of this Scrutiny Committee for the period October to December 2017.

Following a question by a Member in relation to HBS 013, rent arrears of current tenants in the financial year and whether the number of arrears would be likely to increase as a result of the roll-out of Universal Credit, the Assistant Director, Housing and Building Services reported that it was expected that there would be an increase in rent arrears once full Universal Credit was rolled-out in Darlington, in June, 2018 due to payment delays by the Department for Works and Pension (DWP), however work was being undertaken by Housing staff with tenants to mitigate against this, particularly to those tenants identified as most at risk. .

RESOLVED – That the performance information be noted.

AH42. WORK PROGRAMME – The Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's draft work programme for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

RESOLVED – That the work programme for the Municipal Year, as appended to the submitted report, be approved.