

TO: THE EXECUTIVE  
11 DECEMBER 2012

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORT ON "A REVIEW OF THE MODERNISATION OF  
OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES"**  
Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Housing

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To determine the Executive's response to the recommendations in the report by the Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel's Working Group on "A Review of the Modernisation of Older People's Services". This is attached as Annex A to this report.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the following recommendations of the Working Group on "A Review of the Modernisation of Older People's Services" be accepted:**

- 2.1 **Every opportunity is taken to recognise the dedication and compassion of staff in the Council and partner organisations, and the large number of carers, in their provision of much valued care support to older people.**
- 2.2 **The Executive continues to explore innovative means of improving the efficiency of services to older people, to help meet the anticipated increase in demand whilst managing the further pressures on the Council's resources.**
- 2.3 **The Executive verifies that the agreement in place through the Association of Directors for Adult Social Services (whereby a person's previous local authority would pay for their care for a period of 12 weeks whilst an older person's care needs are assessed by the new authority) does not result in Bracknell Forest being financially disadvantaged, and that the expenditure on services for older people for whom the Council is no longer responsible, is legally permissible.**
- 2.4 **The Executive strives to minimise the possible financial risk to the Council arising from the construction of new care homes in the Borough, in the event that self-funders possibly spend all their capital funds on care costs and then become eligible for local authority funded care.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Working Group has spent considerable time on the review and the Executive is happy to support the recommendations outlined above.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not applicable

## 5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 The recommendations and early actions in support of these are set out below:-

5.2 Every opportunity is taken to recognise the dedication and compassion of staff in the Council and partner organisations, and the large number of carers, in their provision of much valued care support to older people

The Executive recognises and supports this and does so when opportunities arise. In addition, the department does this through: providing regular supervision, training, annual recognition of achievement and appraisals for directly employed staff; through regular Provider Meetings and shared training opportunities for external organisations; and by a wide range of support for Carers including Carers Aware Training, Carers Development Work, the Carers Grant, the Carers Emergency Respite Service, two Carers Drop-in Services, the SOS Respite Service, the 40 Winks Scheme and the quarterly Carers Lunches.

5.3 The Executive continues to explore innovative means of improving the efficiency of services to older people, to help meet the anticipated increase in demand whilst managing the further pressures on the Council's resources

We are continuously looking at further innovations and more cost effective ways of working, thereby ensuring that Bracknell is able to meet the needs of growing population of older people during the coming years. This will be evidenced in the 2013/14 budget proposals.

5.4 The Executive verifies that the agreement in place through the Association of Directors for Adult Social Services (whereby a person's previous local authority would pay for their care for a period of 12 weeks whilst an older person's care needs are assessed by the new authority) does not result in Bracknell Forest being financially disadvantaged, and that the expenditure on services for older people for whom the Council is no longer responsible, is legally permissible

The ADASS position on transitional care is good practice. Each person's situation will be monitored individually and additionally the department will look collectively at the issue.

5.5 The Executive strives to minimise the possible financial risk to the Council arising from the construction of new care homes in the Borough, in the event that self-funders possibly spend all their capital funds on care costs and then become eligible for local authority funded care

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The Executive will be aware of the potential financial risks to the Council arising from people from outside the Borough choosing to come to live in a residential home in the Borough when they have sufficient funds to pay for their care, and then subsequently running out of funds, with this Council then being the responsible authority. The Director in providing advice and evidence to the planning authority will do so based on an assessment of need for the current and project population of the Borough. This will be informed by the patterns of support and the wishes of older people. The department will also work proactively with developers to meet this objective. It is

## Unrestricted

recognised that development and planning decisions are in the gift of the Council and the department will continue to work closely with Planning colleagues.

- 5.6 The recommendations for the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Panel are not a matter for Executive determination but for the Panel when put alongside other potential priorities at that time. The Executive is content for that to be the case. These are listed below for information:-
- The Working Group has completed its work and should be stood down.
  - The Panel should monitor, either directly or by re-convening the Working Group later in 2013:
    - any feedback from service users on the quality of services which have been changed through the modernisation programme.
    - the implementation of the Long Term Conditions and Sensory Needs Strategy.
    - the performance of the electronic monitoring system for service providers.
    - the delivery of service efficiencies and economies to establish whether targets are being met with no reduction in service.
- 5.7 The Executive Member would like to thank the Lead Member, Councillor Allen and the Working Group on a thorough piece of work looking at the impact and context of the department's work in Modernising Services for Older People.

## 6 **ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal issues are addressed within the main body of the report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that there are no financial implications arising directly out of this report.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 N/A

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 N/A

## 7 **CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 None

### Method of Consultation

- 7.2 None

Representations Received

7.3 None

Background Papers

*A Review of the Modernisation of Older People's Services* by a Working Group of the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Contact for further information

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