

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 APRIL 2009

#### WORK PROGRAMME

##### Purpose of Report

1. The Committee has agreed the attached work programme (Appendix 1).
2. The report gives members the opportunity to be updated on work programme items and review the shape of the work ahead.

##### Background

3. The scope of this Committee is defined as:

*The needs of vulnerable adults and older people and people whose independence needs to be supported by intervention from the public or voluntary sector.*

##### Items Discussed at Mid Cycle Briefing

4. Arising out of the Mid Cycle Briefing your Chairman has suggested that an informal meeting with NHS North Yorkshire and York representatives be held as soon as possible. One particular line of enquiry will be the use of funding, which has yet to be identified, for the local response to the National Dementia Strategy.
5. At the Mid-Cycle Briefing there was some discussion on topics that might make up the work programme for the Committee after the elections in June. This led onto preferences for the format of that first meeting.
6. It was agreed that the first part of the meeting should be geared towards presentations by “continuing” Members on previous reviews covering both highlights and lowlights. Themes suggested were:
  - Dementia Strategy
  - POPPs project
  - Telecare
  - Integrated Community Equipment
7. Whilst Group Spokespersons were anxious not to dictate to the new Committee, to help it “hit the ground running” after June it was agreed I write up project proposals in relation to possible study areas after June. In this respect it was helpful that the Corporate Director highlighted the key challenges facing this directorate in relation to particular issues outlined below.
  - **Demographic pressures** - There is an ever increasing older population (unlike children where there is a decreasing demographic). By 2010, it

is estimated that 7% increase in older people aged between 65-74 and an increase by 4% of older people aged between 75-85 who are unable to manage at least one domestic task on their own. A significant number within this age group will require some form of care. In addition longer term, there will be 52,000 more over 65 year olds by 2020 and 9,000 more over 85 year olds- a quarter will have some form of dementia. At today's prices the Council would have to find an additional £43M.

- **Supporting People in the Economic Downturn** - Historically, recessions have led to an increase in people approaching social services for care who would not have previously done so. People who are vulnerable and disadvantaged are the most likely to experience the great hardship as a result of factors such as malnutrition, fuel poverty, reduced income as a result of unemployment etc. But also uniquely, as a result of the credit crunch and the lowest recorded interest rate people funding their own care will find savings depleted at a faster rate and will turn to the Council in increasing numbers for financial support. We will through our Welfare Benefits Service provide help for people with debt advice and ensure that they claim the money that they are entitled to from the Government. Last year, we helped people claim more than £5 million and we expect this figure to increase in the current economic climate. We are also helping people with practical items such as keeping warm in the winter through insulation schemes and warm clothing.
- **Transformation** - ACS is required to radically transform the way in which it delivers its Adult Social Care so that services fit around people's lives. It is embarked upon the largest transformational change programme in the Council. This includes delivering the Government's vision as set out in its Putting People First National Concordat. There is a range of expectations including personalised budgets and greater integration with health partners. Fundamentally the role of social care services will be increasingly focussed on supporting people's independence and promoting inclusion in communities through preventative approaches and the promotion of well being, rather than the traditional approach of intervention at the point of crisis.
- **Modernising Libraries** - We will continue to modernise our library services so that they are the hub of our communities and that people are the centre of both developing and shaping services. We will continue to develop an interactive information resource which will enable community groups to share information about events and organisations which can be accessible around the clock. At the same time ACS is embarking upon a challenging efficiency and modernisation programme so that sustaining libraries as a community hub and maintaining high numbers of people who use library services will be challenging.
- **The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)** - We will build on the good work already completed through our engagement with local communities. With other 1,000 voices in the JSNA of what the people in local communities say are the key priorities for the, we will work with

our partners aim to address these priorities. We will also check back year after year to see if we have been successful.

- **Financial** - As resources become more scarce, ACS is required to support more people for less money. Its “growth”/ standstill element within the MTFs has been reduced by about 60% or £1.15M of the £2M shortfall identified by the Council in 2009/10. As the majority of services are commissioned within the independent and voluntary sector, organisations will need to work increasingly closely with the Directorate in delivering value for money.
- **Performance** - ACS has made very significant strides in terms of improved adult social care performance and the latest Commission for Social Care Inspection’s (to be Care Quality Commission) assessment was a maximum 3 star rating by delivering “good” outcomes with an “excellent” capacity for improvement judgement with an “excellent” assessment of leadership and commissioning/ use of resources. Key indicators show that ACS helps to live independently in their own homes and how quickly the Directorate responds to meeting people’s care needs. Last year the Adult Social Care ranking improved from a position of 20<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in the Price Waterhouse Coopers Benchmarking Club. Overall, service improvements have been achieved by increasing the number of people receiving a service. The challenge will be sustaining performance in the light of the financial/transformational/ demographic/service pressures outlined above.

### **Recommendations**

8. The Committee is:

- i. Recommended to consider the attached work programme and determine whether any further amendments should be made at this stage.
- ii. Invited to discuss the approach suggested for the July Committee Meeting.

**HUGH WILLIAMSON**  
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21 January 2009

Background Documents: None

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Care and Independence Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2009**

	2009				
<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	<b>29 January</b> 10.30am	<b>16 April</b> 10.30am	<b>9 July</b> 10.30am	<b>3 September</b> 10.30am	<b>19 November</b> 10.30am
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	<b>26 January</b> 2.00pm	<b>14 April</b> 10.30am	<b>3 July</b> 10.30am	<b>1 September</b> 10.30am	<b>17 November</b> 2.00pm
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	<b>26 March</b> 2.00pm	<b>14 May</b> 10.30am	<b>28 July</b> 2.00pm	<b>15 October</b> 10.30am	<b>17 December</b> 10.30am
<b>In-depth Projects</b>					
1. Early Intervention and Prevention (POPPS)					
2. Employment Opportunities for People with Learning Difficulties					
3. Older Peoples' Strategy - Engagement	Review Approach				Review Conclusions
4. Dementia Strategy	Final Report	Follow Up Actions			
<b>Overview / Update Topics</b>					
5. Assistive Technology/Telecare			Review Progress		
6. Individual Budgets/Self Directed Support		Update			
7. Provision on Meals			Follow Up		
8. NSF Report					

9. Improvement Review - PDSI		Action Plan Monitoring			
10. Integrated Community Equipment		Informal Members' Group Report			
11. Safeguards/No Secrets	Status Report: Presentation				
12. CSCI Annual Inspection	Report				