

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8 JUNE 2011

WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The Committee has agreed the attached work programme
- 1.2. The report gives members the opportunity to be updated on work programme items and review the shape of the work ahead.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 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.'

3.0 Request for Scrutiny of Support for Carers: Mr D Harbourne

- 3.1 I reported to the last meeting the suggestion from David Harbourne, Chair of the Carers' Resource, Ripon, Harrogate that the Committee undertake a review of the County Council's position, strategy and plans for supporting carers in communities.
- 3.2 You agreed that an "overview" be taken on how the County Council supports carers and their families to full Committee on Thursday 2 June, possibly Thursday 8 September.
- 3.3 The intention was your Chairman and other Group Spokespersons review the background and do some fact finding and research. They have agreed the approach but have yet to enter into a brief informal dialogue with organisations that work with, represent and support carers.
- 3.4 This work has therefore been delayed and is now more likely to be reported to the November Committee meeting.

4.0 Briefing: Disability Living Allowance and Independent Living Fund

- 4.1 I reported to you that the Group Spokespersons would be considering the potential implications of the Department of Work and Pensions decision to withdraw the Independent Living Fund. The Independent Living Fund is now permanently closed to all new applications.
- 4.2 The Group Spokespersons, at their Mid-Cycle Briefing on 11 May, considered the response last year to a Department of Work and Pensions consultation. Whilst there was no formal mechanism for recording all the information requested, analysis suggested a steady average of 13 new packages funded by the Independent Living Fund per year. Withdrawal of funding might require reassessment of those clients who are not currently supported by Adult and Community Services. These clients would need to be reviewed annually and an assessment carried out should there be a change in circumstances. There was potential for the Directorate to incur increased costs, in terms of current level of care and any increase in needs, not only for those clients who are currently being supported by Adult and Community Services, but also those who are not known to Adult and Community Services but whose needs are currently fully met by Independent Living Fund.
- 4.3 Members learned that those clients who currently have a high level of funding from Adult and Community Services and Independent Living Fund but who do not have access to increase in formal support, may not be able to continue to live independently if Independent Living Fund funding were not to be maintained.
- 4.4 The issue for Group Spokespersons was particularly for new clients where Adult and Community Services may not be in a position to offer a level of support necessary to remain independent within the community.
- 4.5 Discussion on this issue led to a much wider debate around the Coalition Government's welfare reform intentions. It had been some time, Members remarked, since welfare benefits generally had been considered by Scrutiny.
- 4.6 It was agreed that further work be done on arranging a seminar/ workshop for members of the Committee with agencies involved in welfare benefit advice and support. The purpose would be particularly to help Members understand the implications for the Directorate and communities of the Coalition Government's possible changes to welfare reform generally.

5.0 Dementia Declaration

- 5.1 Your Group Spokespersons discussed how to move forward some of the Committee's intentions about the commitments entered into as part

of the Dementia Declaration. County Councillor John Savage, a Group Spokesperson on the Committee, is currently active in the Harrogate and Craven Local Dementia Users Forum. Councillor Savage attends this both in the context of his being a member of the Committee and also as a carer. His first hand experiences will help assess how you move forward the commitment to make North Yorkshire a best practice example of elected Member commitment and involvement in local Dementia issues. A report will be prepared for September.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Committee is recommended to consider the attached work programme and determine whether any further amendments should be made at this stage.

BRYON HUNTER SCRUTINY TEAM LEADER

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31 May 2011

Background Documents: None

CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME – January 2011

Vision for Social Care

P1. Prevention	P2. Personalisation	P3. Partnership	P4. Plurality	P5. Protection	P6. Productivity	P7. People
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In-depth Scrutiny Projects

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	PARTNERSHIP ISSUES	TIMESCALES
Access to Dementia Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To assess local interpretation of the National Dementia Strategy. 2. To develop proposals for a good Dementia Service. 3. Preparation of a Joint Commissioning Strategy 4. Further work on the Dementia Declaration and elected Member involvement in local Dementia forums. 	Follow Up Actions Final Report agreed by Executive February 2009	Network involves partners from all sectors	September 2011
Valuing Employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To assess and contribute to our and our partners' preparedness for the implications of Valuing Employment Now. 2. What are the numbers of people with learning disability in employment in North Yorkshire now? 3. What worked/did not work in getting these individuals into employment in North Yorkshire? 4. What are the success stories from elsewhere in the country and what lessons might be brought back to North Yorkshire? 5. How do the Committee assist the Corporate County Council understand this agenda? 6. What awareness is there among other critical partners? 7. What should be the role of ACS? 	Task Group	Working with partners in all sectors to encourage a positive approach	Final Report to be agreed

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Extra Care Development	Report to January Committee regarding objectives of review and potential Terms of Reference	To be decided	Collaborative venture involving developer and role of housing authorities	To be decided
Re-ablement	To review and report upon the shape, impact and effectiveness of reablement services that are being and/or are planned to be delivered in North Yorkshire	To be decided		Update June 2011
Drugs and Alcohol Team	<p>Focus around the strategic assessment on the fitness of the DAAT to deliver against its core objectives.</p> <p>Review of the structure of how the corrosive effects of substance abuse in the North Yorkshire is tackled in the county area.</p> <p>Wider analysis of the balance of activity and relationship between alcohol and drug use in our communities</p>	Task Group with Corporate and Partnerships		Final report spring/summer 2011

	2011/12						
<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	3 February <i>10:30 am</i>	17 March <i>10:30 am</i>	2 June <i>10:30 am</i>	8 September <i>10:30 am</i>	10 November <i>10:30 am</i>	2 February <i>10:30 am</i>	12 April <i>10:30 am</i>
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	3 February <i>9:30 am</i>	17 March <i>9:30 am</i>	2 June <i>9:30 am</i>	8 September <i>9:30 am</i>	10 November <i>9:30 am</i>	2 February <i>9:30 am</i>	12 April <i>9:30 am</i>
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	24 February <i>10:30 am</i>	14 April <i>10:30 am</i>	14 July <i>2:00 pm</i>	13 October <i>10:30 am</i>	6 January <i>10:30 am</i>	8 March <i>10:30 am</i>	24 May <i>2:00 pm</i>

Overview Reports

Overview / Update Topics							
1. Personalisation/Self Directed Support			Update				
2. Safeguarding Adults (Board)					Annual Review		
3. Early Intervention and Prevention							
4. Dignity Champion	Report Due						
5. Library Consultation	Update		Review Results				
6. Care Charging				Review Results			
7. JSNA, Adult Vision for Social Care, Big Society and Commissioning	Overview Report						
8. Learning Disabilities and Out of County Placements	Overview Report						