

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

14 December 2011

**STATEMENT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES PORTFOLIO
HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARE WOOD**

Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board

Members will be aware that the Council held a consultation exercise on the role, structure and membership of North Yorkshire's proposed Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. The role of the Board is to provide leadership to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of North Yorkshire through the development of improved and integrated health and social care services. I am pleased to confirm that the Executive, at its meeting on the 29th November 2011, agreed that the membership will be broadly in line with national guidance. Members will recall that a key part of the health reforms, is a requirement for all Councils to establish a Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board before the 1st April 2012 prior to the creation of a full board in 2013. Following feedback from the consultation exercise, the Executive has agreed to extend an invite to the Voluntary Sector to take a seat on the North Yorkshire board.

Greyfriars Extra Care Housing Scheme

I am delighted to announce that North Yorkshire's newest Extra Care housing scheme, Greyfriars, in Richmond will be officially opened on the 16th December. The Greyfriars scheme is a £6.2M development which will provide 39 two-bedroom apartments either for rent or to buy. Members will know that Extra Care housing allows people to live independently within their local communities with on-site 24 hour support available if required. The scheme is an excellent example of how the County Council is working with its District Council partners, housing associations and building contractors to meet the care needs of older people in our communities.

The Voluntary Sector Innovation Day

Members will recall that at the last meeting of the full County Council, I reported on the £1.5M Voluntary Sector Innovation Fund. This fund has been established to support our partners in the voluntary sector to develop innovative local services for the most vulnerable to live independent and healthy lives in our communities. I am pleased to confirm that an Innovation Day will be held on December 16th at Thirsk Racecourse. Successful bidders from the first round will present their schemes to the wider sector to share best practice and help other organisations to prepare bids for the second round of bids to be held early next year.

CQC Home Care Inspection Outcome

You will have heard in the media that nationally home care services have come in for considerable criticism in recent weeks relating to poor treatment and lack of dignity and respect to people who receive care in their own homes. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) recently inspected the North Yorkshire County Council

domiciliary care and supported living services based in the Scarborough, Whitby, and Ryedale area which provide personal care. CQC spoke to staff and people who use services. CQC judged the service to be fully compliant, the highest level, in respect of all the standards. Quoting directly from the inspection report the CQC said: “people told us that the service was “brilliant” and that carers were friendly and knowledgeable and people also told us that the care staff always treated them or their relatives with dignity and respect at all times.” This is particularly heartening in these times when the quality of social care is receiving so much criticism and bad press.

Health and Adult Services Leadership Forum

I attended my first Leadership Forum within the HAS Directorate which involved senior managers. I thoroughly enjoyed my day meeting with the managers and was impressed with their positive response to the considerable challenges and opportunities in the forthcoming years. The themes that were addressed in the Forum were personalisation and self directed care, integrating services with health and how the directorate will continue to deliver affordable quality care in these financially challenging times.

Appointment of the New Assistant Director- Health and Adult Services

Following a very challenging two day selection process, I am pleased to confirm that Anne Marie Lubanski has been appointed as the Assistant Director, Adult Social Care Operations in the Health and Adult Services (HAS) Directorate. Anne Marie, who is currently the Directorate’s Head of Self Directed Care and Transformation, will take up her new post from the beginning of January. I wish to congratulate Anne Marie on her appointment and wish her every success in her new role. Beverley Maybury, the current Assistant Director, Adult Social Care Operations, leaves North Yorkshire County Council at the end of the year to take up her new role as Director, Health and Adult Services, at Calderdale Council. I want to take this opportunity to personally thank Bev for her tireless commitment and contribution to improving services in North Yorkshire.

CLARE WOOD