

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 May 2015****STATEMENT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH INTEGRATION
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARE WOOD****Dementia Support**

This week is Dementia Awareness Week, which is being marked locally and nationally. I continue to be pleased to support initiatives in relation to people with dementia and their carers, including work being undertaken at Castle Howard to make it a dementia friendly visitor attraction.

The Castle Howard work is an example of how we can create 'dementia friendly communities' and we are currently looking at other locations across the County where we can do similar work at scale.

Extra Care

I am pleased to report that we have gone out to the market to seek partners for the roll-out of extra care developments across the County. This procurement exercise is being undertaken as part of our Care and Support Where I Live Strategy, which comprises ambitious plans to see extra care schemes delivered in every major town and village across the County.

Botton Village

There has been a considerable amount of media interest in the dispute between the Camphill Village Trust (CVT) and the co-workers within Botton village. The dispute centres on the perceived threat to the care ethos of the village by CVT's plans to address tax and employment concerns by proposing that the co-workers become paid staff. The County Council has maintained a neutral stance in relation to this dispute.

Our paramount concern is the safety and well-being of the people with learning disabilities who live in the village.

Our assessment, quality monitoring and audit staff continue with their active involvement to support the residents of the village.

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS)

Members may recall an earlier statement when I detailed how the Cheshire West judgment had widened the definition for people subject to the provisions of the Mental Capacity Act. The case covers the arrangements where people are looked after in Care Homes and other settings and whether these arrangements constitute a Deprivation of Liberty.

The new definition has led to a ten-fold increase in the number of assessments and has placed great pressure on the County Council along with all Local Authorities.

The County Council has invested in staff and revised systems to deal with these new responsibilities and pleasingly a one-off grant has been announced for 2015/16 to assist with some of these costs. However, this issue remains an area of significant cost, risk and work pressure for this Council and for all Councils.

In order to provide assurance, we have undertaken an independent review of how we are managing these issues in North Yorkshire – the review has found that the County Council has responded well to the increased pressures.

We recently hosted a one day conference for Care Homes, which attracted 150 people, to explain the new legal interpretation and our response to it.

Domiciliary Care

In January, we awarded framework contracts for the provision of domiciliary care in Harrogate and Selby. The new contracts include requiring providers to offer more personalised support to those using the service, and clearer expectations around timeliness of visits and continuity of staff who provide care.

The County Council is currently working with new and existing providers, and people who use services, to manage the transitions to the new arrangements.

Health and Social Care Integration – Vanguard Bids

NHS England recently invited expressions of interest to become one of a small number of areas to test out new models of integration across health and social care and the development of primary and community services. The programme is called Vanguard, and I was very pleased that we were involved in contributing to all 5 North Yorkshire CCG bids and even more pleased that the Harrogate and Rural District bid was selected as one of 29 national Vanguard sites.

The successful bid includes developing community hubs which will involve GPs, community nursing and adult social care services. This means that organisations will work more closely together and people will have better access to community services closer to where they live.

The CCGs not accepted as part of the Vanguard programme are continuing to work with County Council officers to develop new models of care so that everyone living in North Yorkshire can benefit from better community services closer to where they live. This work builds on and links to the schemes started through our Better Care Fund.

Clare Wood