

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Health Select Commission
2.	Date:	6th December 2012
3.	Title:	Update on Health Select Commission Reviews
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Health Select Commission members with an update on two reviews currently taking place; Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Residential Homes. The first is being Chaired by the Commission's Vice Chair, Councillor Judith Dalton and the second is being Chaired by the Chair of the Commission, Councillor Brian Steele.

6. Recommendations

That members note the progress and timescales of the two reviews.

7. Proposals and Details:

Both of the reviews referred to in this report were identified as priority reviews in the work programme for 2012/13. They both started in September 2012 and are due to complete shortly.

Attached as appendices to this report are the scoping documents for both reviews. This paper provides members with the early findings of the reviews as they near completion.

Residential Homes.

The group has one more scheduled meeting to take place before it starts to formulate its findings and recommendations. It is anticipated that a final report will be presented to the Health Select Committee at either the January or March meeting.

Early findings:

- Staffing and cleaning and catering costs are high
- Restrictions exist regarding the use of YPO and Building works
- They are limited and tied into previous arrangements preventing their ability to shop around and achieve best value for money.
- Part time staff can be paid up to 41 hours per week when off sick.
- Terms and conditions differ from the independent sector e.g. out of hours enhancements
- Individual care requires extra staff but could it be used as a model of how it should be delivered.
- Being used as a good example or flagship by CQC and other professionals.
- Dementia training has been carried out with the aim of becoming specialists in dementia care – this is a growing area
- Staff feel the future is in enablement – working in partnership with health. Seems to be more funding around this.
- Good management model – enabling and developing staff. Staff are proud to work for Rotherham Council. Want to continue to doing this and doing their job.
- No continuing health care funding goes into the homes
- Residential clients still get paid their fuel allowance but doesn't come to the home at all.
- Dementia support is linked to CHC – can we incorporate nursing care to qualify for this.
- End of life care – can they become this?
- Shifting to a needs led service for the requirements of local community. Buildings are designed to shift to allow for differing needs. Currently have a broad mix but aren't getting access to the appropriate funding for it.
- The capital costs of the homes were part funded by Prudential borrowing which means that even if the homes were the close the debt would still have to be paid.

- The old buildings have been transferred to EDS but the Council as a whole is still paying for them. Some have been sold and the council has benefited from the capital receipt
- Staff would like the opportunity to come up with their own proposals

Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

The group has completed all of its scheduled meetings which have included visits to both Aughton Early Years and Winterhill School. It has received evidence from a wide number of witnesses and has been particularly successful at engaging parents in the review. It is anticipated that this review will be completed in January so will be reported to the Health Select Commission at either the January or March meeting.

Early Findings:

- Still need clarification of the figures for incidence and these need to be reflected in JSNA
- Gap between age 5 and beginning of work with CAMHS - Recommendation around continuous pathway.
- Professional development is key and needs to be ongoing
- NICE criteria should be used across all services
- Significant issue was the closer working between the two diagnosis routes
- Transitions between services
- Gap – support in family home e.g. homework
- Routes 16+ - gaps in that not all go through route such as RCAT.
- Job centre experience difficulties supporting adults that have not received a diagnosis.
- Crucial element of the review has been the parents' perspective
- Adults diagnosis – being worked on currently.
- Preventative services and funding is seen to be key
- Transition – adults and ageing population as they come through
- The concept of a Key worker needs to be explored and joint assessments (e.g. CAF)
- Significant money in school budgets

8. Finance

There are clear financial implications for the Council from the Residential Homes review as they operate with a budget deficit every year. The recommendations from this review will help to enable the Cabinet to take decisions regarding this position.

The ASD review will make recommendations that are cost neutral but that may involve utilising existing resources differently.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

As with most reviews the risks and uncertainties relate to the extent to which Cabinet will take on the recommendations of the reviews.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The reviews have both been undertaken within the framework of the Health and Well Being Strategy and the Corporate Plan. Links to specific objectives can be found in the Appendices – Scoping documents.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

There are a number of these for both reviews that can be made available on request.

Contact Name : Deborah Fellowes, Scrutiny Manager
Deborah.fellowes@rotherham.gov.uk, tel ext 22769.