

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

### In-house provider services options appraisal

The options appraisal process is underway to establish the value for money being delivered and achieved from within existing provision and the opportunities to achieve efficiencies within the services. The process will also establish the existing capacity in the market to take on this work should the Council wish to cease being a direct deliverer of care services.

The third strand to the evaluation is testing the market and its ability to take over the in-house team through a TUPE transfer and transform the service into a more entrepreneurial environment.

Over 70 expressions of interest have been received and the tender packs were sent out on 16<sup>th</sup> September. The team will present the outcome of the three evaluation processes in a report to the Executive Board on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### Personalisation

The personalisation program continues apace, with 12 distinct projects being driven to meet our responsibilities to deliver greater choice, control and independence under the 'Putting People First' concordat. Of these, our phase three pilot went live from 13<sup>th</sup> September, which will allow personal budgets to be offered to many more users, in line with the national requirement to make this facility available to all new and existing users by October 2010 and as an important step towards the NI130 target of 1200 people (or 30%) receiving personal budgets by April 2011. We are developing the longer term resource allocation model using the FACE system and Executive Board sign off for this will be sought in November. The new adult social care website 'Your support, your choice' is in development and will also be ready to launch during November. We are also seeking to develop a large scale preventative telehealthcare service jointly with Care Trust Plus, which will in due course require board sign off by both organisations.

### Safeguarding adults

The adult safeguarding agenda has continued to make significant progress for a variety of reasons but principally given the investment in the specialist safeguarding operational team and the decision to utilise the capacity of the strategic safeguarding team across both the children and adult agendas. Although it is recognised that there are significant differences between the legislation and guidance underpinning adult and children's safeguarding there are also many similarities and sharing capacity in this way is making a real difference to the quality of service provided to the public. These recent initiatives have resulted in:

- More speedy and effective multi-agency investigation of allegations of abuse and the protection of vulnerable adults.

- An improved quality of business information by way of a bespoke system.
- The updating/review/creation of a number of inter-agency systems and protocols which include investigation, case review, media and dispute resolution.
- A much more robust Local Adults Safeguarding Board with a developing infrastructure enjoying far greater inter-agency engagement.

Whilst there is still much to do to consolidate and build on the progress made so far, these improvements are being clearly evidenced to both our public and the Care Quality Commission.