

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE**COUNCILLOR MOHAMMED KHAN****PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING DIRECTOR: SALLY McIVOR****DATE: 16 October 2012****SECONDMENT OF CARE TRUST PLUS STAFF INTO THE COUNCIL**

A decision was taken at September's Executive Board meeting that the section 75 agreement with Health would come to an end on 31st March 2013 and social care commissioning staff within Care Trust Plus would transfer back into the Council with effect from October 2012. Initially, this will be on a secondment basis from the NHS, with a view to a full transfer of employment to the Council in April 2013 under the transfer of undertaking (protection of employment) TUPE regulations. The date for the relocation of staff has been put back to 8th November at which point in time 19 staff will transfer back to the Council. Adult social care commissioning will be undertaken on a 'business as usual' basis between November and April 2013, at which point in time we will be looking to formally reintegrate the teams and functions coming over to the Council, which include commissioning, quality and procurement, and customer care.

UPDATE ON DAY SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The programme for the agreed capital budget of £735,000, along with corporate funding for Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and infection control monies for Stansfeld Centre and Hopwood Court, is underway in partnership with Capita Symonds.

Stansfeld Centre is currently progressing a number of significant alterations to upgrade facilities within the building and surrounding environment. Hopwood Court is scheduled to have a significant new extension as well as upgraded and additional bathing facilities, garden space and rooms for specialist as well as general activities. Plans are being finalised for consultation with all key stakeholders throughout October, followed by an application for planning permission.

WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

A well attended workforce partnership event was held on 1st October with representation from domiciliary agencies, residential homes, supporting people agencies and providers of personal assistants as well as a number of other agencies across the borough. The event was held to encourage agencies to sign up to a new adult social care workforce partnership which will come together across the sector to discuss training and development, identify budget priorities, share good practice and feed into the Health and Wellbeing Board to raise the profile of the workforce locally. At the event 12 representatives asked to join the partnership, with the majority of other attendees (over 40) asking for regular updates and links to further events.

UPDATE ON HEALTH REFORMS**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

Blackburn with Darwen was one of the first places in the country to establish a Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in February 2011 in response to government reforms, which demanded that leaders from the health and care system work more closely together. From April 2013, the Blackburn with Darwen Health and Wellbeing Board will become a statutory partnership board of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. The board is overseeing all transitional arrangements for health reform and providing local direction and leadership for health and wellbeing.

The Board is made up of Councillors, Clinical Commissioning Group members, Council chief officers, Healthwatch representatives and voluntary and community sector representatives and is chaired by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Kate Hollern. It meets bi-monthly in public, with the opportunity for residents to bring questions and petitions to meetings.

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY WHICH WILL OPERATE IN SHADOW FORM FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

The Shadow Blackburn & Darwen Health & Wellbeing Board has begun consultation with the public on the draft strategy. This has been circulated to Councillors, Directorates, Health Partners, LSP groups and community and voluntary sectors, the consultation will be completed by early November.

Based on the 2012 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), the strategy sets out how public, private, community and voluntary sectors will work together over the next three years to improve local health and wellbeing. Planning has been done around the key life stages – childhood; adults at home, work and in leisure; and older people – as this is proven to be the most effective way to tackle health inequalities.

PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSITION

From April 2013, responsibility for commissioning public health prevention services transfers from the Care Trust to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council as part of the wider NHS reforms. The partnership between the local NHS and Council is already well established and this move is seen as a once in a generation opportunity to tackle some of the key issues that affect health in the borough. A key role of public health is to improve the health of the local population and reduce health inequalities.

The public health team has already moved to Blackburn Town Hall and will work with all Council departments to influence factors that impact on health such as housing, environment and employment. The Council will work closely with GPs, who are on the frontline and have a unique understanding of the health challenges facing this borough, to promote good health and prevent ill health.

HEALTHWATCH

From April 2013, Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen will take over from Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) as the local consumer champion for the NHS. Healthwatch will be required to:

- involve local people in health and social care
- help local people to monitor provision and standards of local care
- gather views on needs and experiences
- make views known to providers and commissioners
- report to Healthwatch England and the Care Quality Commission
- provide advice and information about local health and social care services

Healthwatch England will be established in October 2013 as a committee of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and will provide leadership and standards for Local Healthwatch.

The Council has a duty to commission and fund Local Healthwatch and establish an independent corporate body to ensure that Healthwatch conveys the voice of patients and the public directly to the decision-making table and champion the needs and wishes of patients and members of the public. Blackburn with Darwen was successful in achieving pathfinder status and has a local Healthwatch transition project team with members made up of the LINK, the LINK Host, Council, Care Trust, third Sector Network and co-opted members from the CQC and from the North West Transition Alliance.

The project led a process of public involvement and engagement to ensure that Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen is fit for purpose. Recruitment to Healthwatch will be advertised in September, with a view to appointing a shadow Healthwatch by October. A shadow Healthwatch board is expected to be established by October and will officially launch next April.

CCG PARTNERSHIP AND INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS

The Council, with the CCG, are in the process of developing draft arrangements for integrated commissioning of local NHS, children's, adults' and public health services. A formal report will be brought to the Council once the final model has been agreed.