

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE COUNCILLOR MUSTAFA DESAI**

**DATE: JANUARY 2017**

### **ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

#### **SOCIAL CARE OUTCOME MEASURES, CARE SECTOR QUALITY & STAFF TURNOVER**

The Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (Ascof) captures information on outcomes in adult social care. Of the 19 Ascof measures captured in 2015/16, 13 improved compared with 2014/15. Of particular note were the results in the Ascof measures drawn from the adult social care user survey. The results of 7 user outcome measures were reported in Ascof and in all 7 the BwD results were a) higher than in 2014/15, when they were already excellent; and b) were the highest of all the NW authorities.

Another aspect of the department's work worthy of comment is quality in care homes. The department has its own quality assurance scheme (QAS), which monitors quality of care and gives 'enhanced' QAS status to homes meeting particularly high standards. Five additional homes achieved the enhanced QAS status in the past year. In addition to our own QAS scheme, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) monitors the standard of care in homes from a statutory angle. BwD has the highest proportion of homes in the NW rated as 'good' by the CQC, and was – at the most recent count – the only area in the NW with no homes which were 'CQC non-compliant'.

Finally, re staff turnover, in 2015/16 the Blackburn with Darwen care sector – across all types of provision, residential and domiciliary – had a turnover of just 11.3%. This was the lowest rate in the NW, and compared with a NW average of 24.2% and England average of 25.7%.

#### **APPLE HOUSE GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY**

A ground breaking ceremony took place at Apple Street in Blackburn on 30th November to mark the start of building work at a new housing scheme for people aged over 16 with autism, learning disabilities and associated challenges. Cllr Mohammed Khan opened the event and the ground breaking ceremony was completed by Michael Turner, a member of the Blackburn with Darwen Learning Disability Partnership Board.

The 'Apple House' supported tenancy scheme will provide self-contained apartments for 12 people and will be managed by housing providers Homelife and Inclusion Housing. The scheme was developed through consultation with service users, families and carers and will provide 24-hour background support and assistive technology, as well as individualised packages of care. Children and young people with severe/profound autism and challenging behaviour have historically had to leave their family home and community to access out of the borough placements which can support their significant levels of need. This new scheme will bridge the gap in provision and allow people to remain in their local community. The scheme is due to be completed in summer 2017.

#### **ADULT LEARNING DISABILITY TEAM RELOCATION**

The Adult Learning Disability Social Work Team have moved from the Tower Block in Blackburn to Darwen Resource Centre in Darwen. The team is now co-located with the Health Service Learning Disability Team who were previously based at Bridge House in Blackburn. This move will help to improve joint working between the teams as practitioners from Social Work, Community Nursing, Psychology and Speech and Language Therapy are based together within the same office. This co-location is already improving communication and relationships between health and social care colleagues and represents a significant step towards providing a fully integrated learning disability service to our residents.

## **HEALTH**

### **SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY**

After several years of sustained work between Blackburn with Darwen Council and partners to prioritise mental health and wellbeing, the local Suicide Prevention Strategy was launched in September, to coincide with World Suicide Prevention Day. While there are now an average of 15 deaths by suicide each year locally, compared to over 18 per year in the period 2009-12, any death by suicide is a tragedy and there is more we can and must do, particularly in men who account for 75% of suicides.

The strategy encourages more joined-up working and sharing of resources and expertise to prevent suicides, and provide better support for those who have been bereaved or affected by suicide. Early intervention tools are being developed to help identify early, people at risk of suicide and self-harm and implement programmes to improve mental health and wellbeing from an early age and further promote the nationally-recognised 'five ways to wellbeing' - be active, take notice, keep learning, connect, give.

In November the Centre for Mental Health issued national evidence based guidance on 'What makes a good Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Mental Health or Dementia'. In developing its recommendations, Blackburn with Darwen's Emotional Health and Wellbeing ISNA for Children and Young People is cited as a best practice example of a local area using needs assessment to drive change and improvement.

### **STOP SMOKING**

Locally, smoking remains the single biggest cause of preventable death, disability and health inequalities. However, Tobacco Control profiles recently released by Public Health England show that in Blackburn with Darwen during 2015/16, the rate of people setting a quit date per 100,000 smokers was 11<sup>th</sup> highest in the country and that the rate of successful quitters confirmed by testing for carbon monoxide levels was the 19<sup>th</sup> highest in the country.

While smoking rates in adults remains significantly above the national average, the rate in 15 year olds, at 8%, is slightly lower than the national average. However, the percentage of young people who have ever used e-cigarettes is the second highest in the country at 32%, compared with 18% nationally.

### **MAKING EVERY ADULT MATTER (MEAM)**

The Blackburn with Darwen MEAM programme aims to work with some of the most chaotic adults who experience a combination of issues across homelessness, mental health, substance misuse and offending, often trapped in the revolving door of statutory and voluntary services. The programme has recently been evaluated to identify how MEAM has improved the lives of the 28 men and women it worked with between June 2014 and December 2015 and reduced demand for services.

The evaluation found significant strengths in the person-centred outreach work and the integration of professional staff and volunteers. Furthermore, the programme achieved significant impacts on services, with total savings through reduced demand on health, housing and criminal justice estimated at £170,000 per annum.