

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

**DATE: APRIL 2017**

### **ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

#### **NEW HOUSING SCHEME AT FORMER ALBION MILL SITE**

The decision to progress the development of the former Albion Mill site was ratified at the Council's Executive Board in February and developers are due to commence work at the site soon. The scheme is scheduled to open in late Autumn 2018 and will provide 50 extra care, 24 dementia and 35 intermediate care and short term apartments across the development as well as further community facilities including a gym, restaurant/coffee bar, IT suite and hair salon. Local people and volunteers will also be encouraged to use the facilities as part of the Council's drive to promote health and independent living amongst the local community in partnership with other agencies such as primary health and the Wellbeing Service.

A multi-agency project group has been established between the CCG and Council to develop and deliver the scheme – this includes a communication strategy to inform potential tenants, stakeholders and the wider public about the scheme and a procurement process to identify the organisations which will deliver the housing element and care and support to the individuals living in the scheme as well as the specialised therapy and enablement resources for the intermediate care apartments.

#### **ADULT SERVICES WORKFORCE REVIEW**

The Adult Services workforce review is now complete and is currently being implemented across the department. Detailed information is being shared with staff groups via a combination of group briefings, individual conversations and written summaries. The workforce review has adhered to the nine overarching principles required of all reviews across the Council and has presented an opportunity for positive change. Relevant roles and management structures have been reviewed as a means to support the development of a highly skilled, flexible and agile workforce able to continue to meet statutory duties and growing demand pressures alongside the requirements of integrated working. Although the Adult Services workforce review represents significant change, no staff members are at detriment or risk of redundancy. The outcome of the review reflects an understanding that the ability to successfully recruit, retain and develop a motivated and appropriately rewarded workforce is key to the future direction of the department.

#### **NEW MODEL OF CARE**

Adult Services are engaged in an emerging piece of work to develop a new model of care for the provision of all age support across both Blackburn with Darwen and Pennine Lancashire. This work will build upon the significant steps already taken towards developing an integrated service offer across health, social care and neighbourhoods. The wider partnership are working together to produce a joined up model of care which represents all aspects of support, care and treatment available both within local neighbourhoods and across wider footprints. The model will represent all levels of support, from universal services to specialist services and will represent the way in which people are able to step up and step down through different levels of support as required. The new model of care will reflect shared outcomes around supporting people to remain living independently at home for longer, supporting people to retain choice and control over the way their care and support is delivered, maximising community capacity and organising support as close to home as possible.

## **HEALTH**

### **EAT WELL, MOVE MORE, SHAPE UP**

Being active is one of the best ways to maintain or improve your health and can reduce the risks of you becoming ill from a whole range of conditions. It has also been shown to help reverse and reduce the effects of some conditions so it is never too late to start. More people than ever before are now participating in sport and physical activity in the borough, and local rates are now higher than both regional and national data according to the recent Active People Survey.

The Council's re:refresh programme was created to tackle low levels of activity, by offering local people the opportunity to access a huge range of leisure, health and wellbeing activities, that can help them to live longer and live better. In March the borough launched its 'Eat Well, Move More, Shape Up' strategy, to take these advances to a new level by developing an environment where physical activity and healthy eating is an easier choice for everyone throughout their lives.

### **ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES**

Getting the 'best start' is one of the key ways to a long and healthy life. Improving children's emotional health and wellbeing is a priority for the Blackburn with Darwen Children's Partnership 'Start Well' Board. Ground-breaking work in the borough has highlighted the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and if they do occur, the importance of effectively managing their consequences.

In February, a North West conference on ACEs showcased good practise examples from across Lancashire, included a number of local contributions. Lancashire Constabulary presented their Early Action approach to transform policing by becoming ACE-aware and by embedding REACH (Routine Enquiry about Adversity in Childhood) training and practice across their workforce, which was funded and facilitated by Blackburn with Darwen Public Health. Witton Academy presented their EmBRACE (Emotional and Brain Resilience in ACEs) programme. An animation on ACEs commissioned by Blackburn with Darwen Public Health was also launched, believed to be the first in the country to depict the long term impact of ACEs, in order to raise public awareness.

### **COMMUNITY GENETICS SERVICE**

The local genetic counselling service, which started in Blackburn with Darwen over 10 years ago with Department of Health development funding, has gone from strength to strength since Public Health commissioned an innovative community genetics outreach role in 2014.

Hosted by the Families Health and Wellbeing Consortium, the role aims to provide information and promote conversations in the community about genetic disorders in extended families, as well as train frontline health and care staff. After piloting in Pendle, the model was soon adopted by East Lancashire CCG, and recently also by Oldham Council and CCG, with four outreach workers now supervised by Blackburn's Genetic Counsellor, a former local Health Visitor.