

Cabinet

18 August 2015

Report of the Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Recommendation of the Adult Social Care and Health OSC

That Cabinet approve the recommendations set out in 2.0 below.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held a select committee on 15 July 2015 to consider the outcome of the consultation on Housing Related Support and the proposals for the future.
- 1.2 Presentations were received from Warwickshire County Council officers as well as Heart of England Mencap, Bromford Housing, Warwickshire and West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company and Housing Managers from the District/Borough Councils. As well as this, a written submission was received from Stratford CAB.
- 1.3 The full minutes of the select committee are available on the Warwickshire County Council website.

2.0 Recommendations

Having considered all the evidence presented at the select committee, the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the following recommendations for approval by the Cabinet:

1. There needs to be more clarity around assessments, the costs of those assessments, and assessments should precede commissioning.
2. Our role as Corporate Parents should be emphasised in any changes affecting young adults.
3. Attention to those 'most in need' should not deny attention to those 'in need'. To ensure this, the timescales of implementation should be adjusted to help facilitate re-assessment of the implications to Warwickshire County Council and its partners.
4. A clear definition of eligibility criteria should precede savings assumptions, and funds may need to be re-distributed to meet the concerns expressed by the Committee.

5. Joint commissioning has some potential to reduce overheads but there needs to be clarity by how much against the risk of future demand on services.
6. If a generic service is to be used to eliminate specialist services, the new service must be robust enough to cover all areas of need.
7. Cabinet should be aware that reducing this service area is likely to put a strain on other public services (not limited to Warwickshire County Council).
8. As a strategic document the report leaves many specific concerns that have not been addressed. This lack of clarity has led to understandable anxiety for many customers and members.
9. Future monitoring should include the Partnership Board and other monitoring bodies e.g. Adult Social Care & Health Overview and Scrutiny and Healthwatch. A monitoring group should also be set up to ensure no duplications or ill-effect of changes, and to ensure that value for money is being obtained.
10. Cabinet are asked to examine these recommendations and report progress against the recommendations to full Council on 24 September 2015.

Background papers

None.

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