

**REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY LEADER
AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE,
INTEGRATION, HUMAN RESOURCES AND CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON
WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015**

Report from Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing

New funding for new model of care

Members will be pleased to learn that NHS England and its Five Year Forward View partners have announced that the Island's 'My Life a Full Life' initiative to promote the health and wellbeing of the Island population and to develop integrated care, focused on the needs of the person, is to receive a share of £41 million new funding this year. This is to implement the programme at a scale and pace that would not otherwise be possible with current resources.

My Life a Full Life (MLAFL) is a partnership of organisations on the Isle of Wight and includes the Island's clinical commissioning group (CCG), the council, the NHS trust, One Wight Health and the voluntary sector. Jointly they serve a population of 140,000, with 2.5 million visitors per annum.

Our new care model is aimed at improving health and wellbeing, care and quality outcomes, delivering more care at home and in the community.

At the centre of our model is the person who will be supported by the voluntary sector, social services and the NHS to receive the support they require.

Wightcare charges to be brought in over two years to balance the books

Members will be aware that the Executive (at its meeting in August) agreed to increase the cost of Wightcare services in order to balance the council's budget deficit for the service, which is currently losing more than £450,000 per year. Increased charges will be delivered in two phases over the next two years in order to protect residents' finances as much as possible.

The Isle of Wight Council surveyed users of the Wightcare service and their families earlier in 2015, and the majority of respondents (69.8 per cent) agreed that this vital service for around 2,300 Island residents needs to be self-sustaining in order to ensure its survival, by opting for the increase.

The number of emergency calls to Wightcare has risen considerably, from 4,091 in 2012, to 5,719 in 2014.

The existing deficit faced by the council is £451,413 each year. Charges will increase for each level of service by £2 per person/per week in 2016/17, and by a further £2 per person/per week in 2017/18. This option means that a deficit will remain in 2016/17 (of £211,668), but will be rectified by the following year; however, Wightcare clients will be better protected against a one-phased increase to balance the budget.

'Reclaim the night' stall at Bestival

Members of the Isle of Wight Domestic Abuse Forum returned to Bestival this year to raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence.

Working under the banner 'Reclaim the night', the team made bracelets with festival-goers using plectrums printed with consent messages, and the team's bell tent was used to provide a safe space for people to talk about concerns with specialist staff.

The Bestival project is closely linked to the forum's 'Consent' rape awareness campaign and the 'Reclaim the night' stall was staffed by trained volunteers including an independent sexual violence adviser, domestic abuse experts, and sexual health nurses who advised on the issues.

Event for adult social care providers

Members will be interested to learn that the Isle of Wight Council is in the process of establishing a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for the procurement of adults social care. This will include residential and nursing care, day opportunities and home support.

While enabling the local authority to be Care Act compliant, the DPS will facilitate greater choice, flexibility and personalisation for the provision of outcome focused individual support. It will also help to drive improvements in quality and expand the current provider market. It will also enable adult social care to have a systemised approach to commissioning care packages and will facilitate a closer working relationship with care providers.

We are holding a number of market engagement events. The first was a consultation on the entry criteria for becoming an approved provider for the Isle of Wight, which included a consultation on what should be included in the contract between the council and the provider.

The event took place on Wednesday 23 September 2015. The session was for both prospective providers and existing providers of adult social care across multiple care categories.

Housing Benefits

The landlord portal has gone 'live' enabling the four key landlords to resolve 99 per cent of their enquiries online. The housing associations are Vectis Housing and Salvation Army, Spectrum and Southern Housing. The portal will give the housing officers working at these organisations online access to their tenants' housing benefit payment schedule thereby enabling them to resolve payment issues without the need to contact housing benefit officers.

The consultation started for the Local Council Tax support Scheme on 7 September, which looks to gain residents comments on a range of options and includes reviewing the vulnerability criteria.

The Fraud Team transferred to the Department for Work and Pensions on 1 September, but there is a protocol in place to enable officers to gather information from case files to carry out investigations

Report from Corporate Governance

Elections and Local Land Charges

The first canvass to be conducted under the new Individual Electoral Registration is now well underway. Canvassers will commence making personal visits to properties that have not returned a form from mid-October, and the revised Register of Electors will be published on 1 December 2015.

For the first time, householders are able to provide the information requested in the form online, although to date the online response rate has been muted at 16.94 per cent. The Cabinet Office and The Electoral Commission have commenced a review of the forms used to see if they can be made more user-friendly, and thus hopefully lift response rates, while also encouraging residents to provide the information online.

Planning for the delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) election in May 2016 has commenced and the first meeting of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight PCC delivery group was held at Southampton City Council offices on 14 September, and hosted by Mark Heath who has been appointed as the police area returning officer.

Report from Human Resources

At the quarterly meeting of the Equality and Diversity Board the need to better embed the council's statutory duties for undertaking equality impact assessments (EIAs) in decision making was identified. As a result, training for the workforce has been commissioned to include both our equality duty, tackling discrimination and the role of EIAs. The board also recommended that greater emphasis was placed on feedback from consultations. The council's lead officer for diversity will also be available to offer support to managers unsure of how to deal with issues of diversity when undertaking

consultation exercises. The board also recommended that the council undertake a campaign to raise awareness of acceptable behaviour in public areas and in the workplace. A communications campaign will therefore be rolled out this autumn. Updates on the equality duty are now a regular (weekly) feature of the council's staff newsletter, the Vine.

Councillor Steve Stubbings

Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Integration, Human Resources and Corporate Governance