



Committee report

Committee	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Date	28 MAY 2015
Title	CARE ACT PROGRESS UPDATE AT APRIL 2015
Report of	MARTIN ELLIOT, INTERIM HEAD OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Care Act represents the most significant reform of care and support in more than 60 years, putting people and their carers in control of their care and support. For the first time, the Act will put a limit on the amount anyone will have to pay towards the costs of their care.
2. The Care Act 2014 became law on 1st April this year, with financial elements such as deferred payments which were implemented in April 2015 and the Cap on Care Cost and the changes to the capital limits, which will be implemented in 2016. The Care Act confirms the statutory responsibilities for Adult Social Care, which the Isle of Wight Council is addressing within an increasingly challenging budget.
3. Through the Care Act, the government is seeking to consolidate, improve consistency and extend social care provision. It also emphasises working in partnership with health and third sector bodies, the improvement of prevention, delaying/reducing care needs and encouraging people to prepare for potential future care needs.
4. The Care Act drives Adult Social Care to be compliant with national policy, deliver efficiencies and promote integration.
5. The Health and Wellbeing board is requested to note progress at April 2015 by Isle of Wight Council

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

6. The implementation of the Care Act is a key aspect of Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan 2015 – 17: “Protecting the most vulnerable with health and social care, investing in support, prevention and continuing care.”

Care Act Progress at April 2015

7. The implementation of the Care Act has focussed on the following areas:

8. Information and Advice

- completed an overview for information and advice to be delivered by Isle of Wight Council and Third sector
- developed and started implementation of information and advice implementation plan
- Adult Social Care website redesigned for Care Act compliance 1st April 2015
- engaged with users and carers regarding information and advice offer

9. Assessment and eligibility

- Implemented a new process and new assessment and eligibility tool in place for service users and carers
- Delivered to all relevant staff mandatory training in new assessment and eligibility tool
- engaged with users and carers regarding development of assessment and eligibility tool

10. Integration:

- developing model of care for co-ordination and lead accountable professional for locality working
- supporting development of Vanguard site to ensure Care Act compliance

11. Making Safeguarding Personal

- developed new multi-agency referral form
- undertaking audit of safeguarding
- commissioned training for 'Making Safeguarding Personal'

12. Carers

- Developed new assessment tool for carers
- Engaged with users and carers undertaken regarding development of carers assessment

13. Personalisation and Personal Budgets

- Produced new 'Your Personal Budgets' booklet
- Mandatory training delivered to all relevant staff
- Developed and implemented Employing Personal Assistants checklist

14. Transitions from Childhood to Adulthood

- Implemented new process and assessment tool
- Delivered mandatory training to all relevant staff

15. Developing the market

- Review of market development report completed, funded by Local Government Association
- New Care Act Partnership Board established and operating well

16. Prisons:

- Information leaflets developed to advise both prisoners and prison staff of the changes as a result of the Care Act
- Able to identify social care needs on arrival at prison and for those existing prisoners
- Provision of social care for those prisoners with eligible needs

17. Deferred Payments Scheme

- Reviewed existing Deferred Payment Scheme, policy, and processes to ensure it is compliant
- All relevant staff received training during March on new Charging and Financial Assessment (shared with Isle Help colleagues so they are familiar with local arrangements)
- Offer of universal deferred payment available from 1 April

All these areas are underpinned by new or refreshed policies that are Care Act compliant

CONSULTATION

18. A consultation ran from 1 March – 30 April 2015 which sought people's views on possible changes to charges for respite care and sitting services.

19. The proposed changes are considered necessary to enable the council to re-invest money into care services that the council will be required to ensure are provided under the provisions of the Care Act.

20. IWC Executive will consider outcome to the consultation and make a decision on 23 June 2015.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

21. 2014-15

22. All local authorities have received a one-off Care Act implementation grant of £125,000 from the Department of Health for programme management and additional resources to implement the Care Act.

23. The Department of Health has also provided further programme support funding of £28,600 which has been allocated for Care Act training.

24. In addition the LGA has provided financial support as part of regional funding of £24,000 and a further £19,000 specifically for market development work.

25. Therefore implementation costs in 2014-15 have been fully funded.

26. 2015-16

27. Funding for 2015-16 has been provided in relation to the parts of the Act which have come into force on 1 April 2015. In total for the Isle of Wight Council this amounts to £1.456m which provides for additional costs mainly in relation to the resources required for early assessments of self funders, deferred payments, services and assessments for carers and for duties of assessment and provision of services to prisoners.
28. In addition to this national funding has also been routed through the Better Care Fund and £359,000 has been identified locally for the Care Act.
29. It is difficult to accurately estimate additional costs that will be incurred as a result of the Care Act in 2015-16 as this will depend upon the number of self funders coming forward for assessment and in particular the number of carers who will come forward for assessment and be deemed eligible for services. It has been the government's intention to fully fund the new burdens of the Care Act and the funding that has been made available has been based on a national impact assessment, however, there is a risk that this funding will be insufficient to meet the extra costs that will be incurred. However, monitoring of additional costs will be undertaken throughout the financial year.
30. The financial reforms due to commence 1 April 2016 will bring the most significant additional costs to the council in relation to the revised capital limits and the cap on care costs. A modelling exercise is being undertaken nationally by CIPFA, with the intention that this can then be used by each local authority to assess the likely local impact. Funding for this stage of the reforms will be known in December 2015.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

31. The council has a legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to seek to eliminate discrimination, victimisation and harassment in relation to age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation and marriage and civil partnership. An Equality Impact assessment has been undertaken for each of the policies that were either introduced or refreshed as a result of the implementation of the Care Act to identify any impacts and any actions necessary. As implementation continues, the council will continue to have regard to this duty.

RECOMMENDATION

32. The Health and Wellbeing board are asked to note the progress of the implementation of Care Act at April 2015.

Contact Point: Tracy Cartmell, Interim Strategic Programme Manager
☎ 07879 468213 or tracy.cartmell@iow.gov.uk

MARTIN ELLIOTT
Director of Adult Social Services

CLLR STEVE STUBBINGS
Executive Member for Adult Social Care