

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
MEETING DATE:	27 th July 2012
TITLE:	Q1 Care Homes Quarterly Performance Report (April – June 2012)
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report:	
Appendix 1 – Quarter One Performance Report	

1 THE ISSUE

Further to the report to panel of the 18th May 2012 which set out the Quality Assurance Framework for social care services generally, this report is the first in a series of quarterly reports which focuses specifically on the quality of care and performance of residential and nursing homes under contract in Bath & North East Somerset.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny panel is asked to:

2.1 Note the contents of the report.

2.2 Contribute relevant feedback and articulate clearly the role of the panel in relation to the QAF.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Council's financial plan for 2012/13 sets out year three targets in relation to residential and nursing care provision for all of the main service user groups including older people, people with learning difficulties, people with mental illness and people with physical and sensory disabilities.

3.2 As stated in the previous report,

'Over the past two to three years, the financial viability of some providers of care services has come into question as they have been severely tested by the economic downturn and, also, by pressure from commissioners (both Local Authority and NHS) to deliver efficiency savings. This has led to a growing concern that providers may seek to reduce their operating costs by compromising on the quality and/or safety of care service provision by, for example, employing fewer and/or less skilled/experienced care staff.'

4 THE REPORT

4.1 The quality and performance of care homes can be understood from a range of perspectives for example feedback from those who use services, carers and/or other advocates, from judgements issued by national regulatory body the Care Quality Commission (CQC), from local contractual monitoring/performance management and from the level and type of safeguarding activity recorded. The report provides a high level summary across all these areas and also details progress to date on Council financial targets.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6 EQUALITIES

An EIA has not been completed because this report is provided for information and to assist the panel in articulating its role rather than for decision making or policy development

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 No specific consultation has been undertaken on the contents of this report

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 Customer Focus; Health & Safety; Other Legal Considerations

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	