

**Cllr Vic Pritchard, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing  
Key Issues Briefing Note**

**Health & Wellbeing Select Committee November 2015**

**Leadership Awards**

I am pleased to confirm that Andrea Morland, our joint Senior Commissioning Manager for Mental Health and Substance Misuse, was shortlisted for the South West Leadership Recognition Awards 2015 in the category of Leader of Inclusivity. This is for her work, along with a range of partners, including service users and carers, in leading B&NES' Mental Health Crisis Concordat, tackling the stigma associated with mental ill health and developing preventative, peer-support and wellbeing services.

Bath and North East Somerset was also shortlisted in the national HSJ (Health Services Journal) Award for the Commissioning for Carers Award. This recognises the work done in B&NES, under our joint-commissioning arrangement, which includes a joint carers lead (Angela Smith), in partnership with the Carers Centre to develop a wide range of support services for carers.

Whilst we did not win in either category, for both awards there were hundreds of nominations and to be shortlisted was a huge achievement and reason to celebrate the excellent work being undertaken in both areas.

***Your Care, Your Way***

Over the past ten months the Council and Clinical Commissioning Group have been listening to the views of local people and organisations delivering community health and care services. We have been working together to respond to what our community has told us and to develop proposals to improve the delivery of integrated health and care services for the people and communities of Bath and North East Somerset.

Formal consultation was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> September following agreement to the consultation document by Council Cabinet and CCG Board. Consultation closed at the end of October by which time we had reached 2,000 individuals, gathering feedback from service users, patients, carers and members of the public who may be services users in the future as well as from those people delivering and commissioning services. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who did take the time to give us their views.

The Outline Business Case being considered by Council Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and CCG Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> December recognises that not all aspects of community services need to change and acknowledges the need to build on the successes of the current provision and achievements of the workforce. We have a sound foundation on which to build and to ensure that community services are ready, flexible, and resilient enough for the future – not only to respond to the challenges of constrained resources but also to drive lasting and sustainable improvements in outcomes for our population.

The Outline Business Case sets out how public engagement consultation has shaped our vision, priorities and our strategy. It also sets out the proposed approach to market testing and future contracting arrangements following engagement with staff and organisations providing health and care.

The future of community health and care services in Bath and North East Somerset is a key strategic priority for the Council and will make a significant contribution to our achieving our Vision. Approval of the Outline Business Case is an important milestone in delivering health and care services that are fit for the future and achieve even better health and wellbeing outcomes for our people and communities.

### **Mental health early deaths report**

Some Committee Members may have become aware of an item on BBC news last week, which reported on a review by the Open Public Services Network which has indicated that the physical health needs of people with mental health problems are not being properly addressed. The study looked at deaths before 75 in 2011-12 in more than 200 local areas and found that almost one in four areas of England had unacceptably high rates of early deaths among people with mental health problems. In each area, the premature mortality rate was higher among those with mental health problems. B&NES was an area referenced in this report.

I, amongst others, was concerned about this report and sought assurances as this report did not appear to reflect the current understanding of performance in B&NES.

The report by the Open Public Services Network is based on data from 2011/12 when B&NES rates of early deaths amongst people with mental health conditions was higher than the national average. However, in 2012/13 (the most recent data available) our performance improved and our early mortality rate for people aged under-75 with a serious mental health condition was in line with the rest of England. This doesn't mean to say there is not still work to be done and the CCG and Council do want to reduce further the number of early deaths amongst those with a mental health condition. Both the Council and the CCG will continue to work collaboratively with our partners to ensure people receive the best physical and mental health and social care services and benefit from early intervention to help keep them safe.