

# **Cllr Vic Pritchard, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health Key Issues Briefing Note**

## **Health & Wellbeing Select Committee January 2017**

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### **1. Hospital to Care Home Learning Workshop**

A Hospital to Care Home learning workshop was held on 21<sup>st</sup> September and included over 40 colleagues from across the Council, Clinical Commissioning Group, RUH, Sirona, care homes and Healthwatch. The purpose of the event was to share issues between care homes and hospitals, to learn about each other's roles and situations and understand how to improve discharges to care homes from hospital.

The event received positive feedback from those who attended and the opportunity to learn more about each other's circumstances was really valued. Actions from the day are being taken forward by a new action group – the Hospital to Care Home Group, which includes representatives from the above organisations and a 6 month plan has been created. This will address issues such as better communication, checklists for discharge and access to support when discharges go wrong.

### **2. Learning Disability Government Funding**

The Council has been successful in bidding £456,800 of Government funding to improve independence for people with learning disabilities. In September, the Department of Health announced that funding would be made available to help people with learning disabilities to live independently by creating a range of housing and technology options.

The fund will enable us to develop the use of Assistive technology through a range of applications, predominantly electronic equipment, used to monitor or enable people with learning disabilities, thus increasing their independence and improving their quality of life.

Assistive technology can help manage or eliminate a wide range of risks to both the individual (e.g. of falling), or to the property (e.g. fire, smoke, flood alert) and can help deliver greater privacy or dignity in the delivery of care and support.

Nationally, only 15% of adults with learning disabilities have a secure long-term tenancy or their own home. The funding will also support a number of people with learning disabilities to own their own homes using a unique Government approved shared ownership model known as HOLD (home ownership for people with long term disabilities).

The plans will be delivered in partnership with a range of bid partners, including West of England Care and Repair, Advance Housing and CURO.

### 3. Your Care Your Way Update

The primary aim of this stage of the project is to ensure the safe transfer of community health and care services and have no disruption for people who use services.

Significant progress has also been made towards finalising the Prime Provider Contract with Virgin care and the final draft is expected to be available for signature by the end of February.

Commissioners have been working closely with both Virgin and Sirona care and health in order to facilitate timely provision of information and engagement with staff to ensure safe transfer of services on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. Formal consultation has also commenced with the workforce, this is a joint approach with Virgin Care and Sirona.

The 3 year transformation project will begin in earnest after the first 100 days of the contract, however transformation plans that we have developed will be included in provider contracts to signal the direction of travel of the services. This is why there is no intention to ask providers of community health and care services being delivered under a sub-contract with Virgin Care to make any large changes to their service from April 1<sup>st</sup>. Associated funding will remain in line with current provision.

Virgin Care and Commissioners will hold a series of Provider open days with sub-contractors in February to answer any questions to date and further explain the process for finalisation of sub-contracts.

The Council and CCG have now agreed an approach with Virgin Care as Prime Provider to managing the day-to-day commissioning and contracting of services which will provide the maximum benefit for the population of Bath and North East Somerset.

This approach will provide flexibility for Virgin Care to manage the integrated pathways of care and support so that the overall aims of ***your care, your way*** are met, whilst still ensuring that the Council and CCG as the strategic commissioners of health and care services have the capacity and processes necessary to provide assurance that their statutory duties are being met and that safe, high quality services continue to be delivered.