

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

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| DECISION MAKER:   | <b>Cllr Vic Pritchard Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services &amp; Housing</b> |  |
| DECISION DATE:  | <b>On or after 19<sup>th</sup> March 2011</b>                                    | PAPER NUMBER                                       |
| TITLE:  | <b>Placements &amp; Packages Policy for Adult Social Care Services</b>           | EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:<br><b>E 2251</b> |
| WARD:   | All  |  |
| <b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>  |  |  |
| <b>List of attachments to this report:</b><br><br>Placements & Packages Policy Document FINAL February 2011 |  |  |

### 1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 A placements project group was set up in early 2010 to identify efficiencies in relation to residential and nursing home placements and in relation to packages of care and support for service users helped to live at home.
- 1.2 The project group also identified a lack of consistency of approach across different operational teams, for example in relation to team custom and practice, and in relation to the level of resources allocated to individual service users.
- 1.3 The attached policy framework and practice guidance has been developed in order to smooth out inconsistencies and to support practitioners in taking a more equitable approach to commissioning placements and packages for service users.

### 2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet member is asked to agree that:

- 2.1 The Placements & Packages Policy for Adult Social Care should be adopted for use by all relevant staff operating within the Community Health & Social Care Service.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Greater consistency of approach, facilitated by staff adherence to a single policy framework, is likely to result in better financial control in relation to adult social care commissioning budgets.

### **4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

*Promoting the independence of older people*

### **5 THE REPORT**

- 5.1 Attached to this cover report is the Placements & Packages Policy for Adult Social Care Services. The policy provides a policy framework and practice guidance on the following areas:

- Strategic Aims
- General Principles
- Community Packages
- Extra Care
- Residential & Nursing Home Placements
- Choice Directive
- Guide Prices for Placements & Packages
- Additional Payments
- Third Party Top Ups
- Extra Special Needs Payments
- Market Forces Payments
- Out of Area Placements
- Placements & Packages Panel Process
- Placements & Packages above guide prices
- Placements & Packages below guide prices
- Continuing Health Care
- S117 Aftercare
- Placement Review
- Safeguarding
- Financial Contributions & Charging

### **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 The report author and Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

### **7 EQUALITIES**

- 7.1 One of the over-arching aims of the policy is to support practice which facilitates a greater degree of equity and equality for adult social care service users.

### **8 RATIONALE**

- 8.1 In addition to the issues highlighted by the placements project group, previous guidance set out in the council's adult social care manual had become outdated, particularly in relation to the changes brought about by *Putting People First*, the

advent of Personal Budgets, the adoption of a single contributions policy and the development of a single panel for decision making and resource allocation.

## 9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 No other options were considered as the concerns already highlighted dictated the requirement for a clear policy framework.

## 10 CONSULTATION

10.1 *Cabinet member; Staff; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer*

## 11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 *Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Human Resources; Corporate*

## 12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) and Section 151 Officer (Strategic Director - Support Services) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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| <b>Background papers</b>   | None   |
| <b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b> |  |