

## **Lead Member Update Report – Children’s and Adults Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel September 2024**

### **Adult Services Update**

#### **CQC Inspection**

Following the Government’s introduction of a new local authority inspection regime for Adult Social Care, B&NES was informed in April 2024 by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) that our adult social care services would be inspected within the next 6 months. Therefore, B&NES is one of the first 15 councils to be inspected by the CQC.

We submitted the required data return, including a self -assessment report, by the deadline of May 3<sup>rd</sup> , with a further submission in July of 10 specified cases for case tracking. On 15<sup>th</sup> August the Adult Social Care Leadership Team delivered a 3 hour presentation to the CQC inspectors which also included inputs from public health and housing. We attended a logistics planning meeting with the CQC on 21st August to prepare in detail for the on-site visit in September.

The on-site Assurance Visit takes place this week with a team of 8-12 inspectors expected to be here from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September. They will be conducting interviews with a range of front line staff across the Adult Social Care partnership. The CQC have met with a number partners during July and August to help inform their judgement of BANES ASC. Both The chair of Scrutiny and Lead Member will be seen by inspectors during the onsite assurance visit.

Following the onsite visit to B&NES CQC inspectors will provide high level feedback to the Director of Adult Social Care on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **Community Partners Update**

The commissioners for ASC have completed their baseline of the current contracts (55 services from 22 provider organisations across Community Health and Care Services, Housing, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health) and are developing the Case for Change.

This work is underpinned by up to date needs assessment data which helped inform a joint workshop between HCRG commissioners and the Council’s commissioning team. The workshop sought to review existing services and develop the case for change to inform commissioning plans.

The commissioning team also hosted an information session on the procurement process for providers which was very well attended. Further provider engagement events will take place in September and October.

This complex piece of work is overseen by the Early Help and Community Services Strategy Board which is chaired by Mandy Bishop. Both the cabinet leads for Children's and Adults services are members of this Board, with input from the cabinet lead for housing as required.

It is likely that, due to the complexity of this work, the re-commissioning will take longer than initially anticipated and that interim contract's may be needed to maintain service provision during the procurement process.

### **Age friendly communities**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> June, BANES Full Council supported the motion for the application by the local branch of Age UK, to the World Health Organization for B&NES to become an Age Friendly Community. The initiative will be informed by data provided by B&NES residents aged 55 and over, through the Ageing Well community Survey which was also hosted by Age UK.

The goals of the programme are to transform B&NES into an inclusive, supportive and accessible place where everyone can age well, in whichever way they see fit. The programme will be supported by the newly re-convened Ageing Well Network which will bring together voluntary sector organisations that support people to age well and encourage older people to speak out about the issues that are important to them and their communities.

The Health and Wellbeing Board have agreed to receive reports on the progress of the Ageing Well in Bath & North East Somerset programme. Officers have been requested to investigate B&NES signing up to the Age Friendly Employer Pledge and full council invites this Panel to consider actions the Council might take, under the eight Domains of Age Friendly Community Framework, to address barriers to ageing well in Bath and North East Somerset.

### **Public Health Update**

See separate paper

**Cllr Alison Born – Cabinet Lead for Adult Services and Public Health**