

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Corporate Director for People
to
People Scrutiny
On
8th October 2013

Agenda
Item No.

7

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Finance and Performance

A Local Account of Adult Social Care Services in Southend 2012/13
Department for People – Executive Councillor: Councillor Salter

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present a draft of the Local Account of Adult Social Care services in 2012/13, including priorities and plans for 2013/14. This is the third annual report of this sort to be produced by the Council. Previous versions of our Local Account have been used regionally and at a national event as an example of good practice.
- 1.2 The Local Account aims to provide information about the quality and value of the social care services to the users of services and local people. It is the Council's self assessment of how it provided services during 2012/13 together with plans for the future which contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of the local community.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **The committee's views are sought on the proposed recommendation set out below;**
- 2.2 **That the draft Local Account be noted as the Council's self assessment for these services**
- 2.3 **That the initiatives associated with plans for 2013/14 as set out in the draft are agreed.**
- 2.4 **That the plans for producing the Local Account for 2013/14 are approved.**

3. Background

- 3.1 In the years leading up to 2010/11, an annual assessment of adult social care services was undertaken by the Regulator of adult social care services. The last

annual assessment was carried out by the Care Quality commission (CQC) for the year 2009/10.

- 3.2 In that year, the Council was assessed as “performing well ... consistently delivering above the minimum requirements” and in two out of the seven areas assessed, achieving a rating of “excellent”, the highest rating. This was the third year in succession in which adult social care services in Southend had improved.
- 3.3 Annual assessments by CQC have now ended and for services provided during 2012/13 we are required to self assess our provision of services and to publish an annual account as part of an overall agenda for transparency. This intention is set out in the result of the department of Health’s consultation on “Transparency in outcomes: a framework for quality in adult social care” published in July 2011 which states that one of the aims is “the conversation which local organisations have with the communities they serve”.
- 3.4 To ensure that information is available on services for 2012/13, a Local Account has been produced in line with Department of Health and Association of Directors Social Services (ADSS) guidance.

Production of a Local Account for 2012/13

- 3.5 There is a clear expectation that the Local Account will engage with the views of people who use services and their carers. In producing the 2012/13 account, a group of voluntary organisations, external providers of services and colleagues in the health sector as well as interested local people were given the opportunity to participate in development of the Account. Consultation on the Account is also planned to take place with Community Services Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board and their comments will be included in the final document.
- 3.6 The Account for 2012/13 will be reported to Scrutiny Committee on 8th October and Cabinet on 5th November 2013.

4. Other Options

- 4.1 No other options are presented

5. Reasons for Recommendation

- 5.1 The publication of the Local Account of adult social care services for 2012/13 ensures the continuity of information for the public about the performance of this service.
- 5.2 The involvement of key stakeholders in the production of the Local Account for 2012/13 and future years will assist in our aim to be transparent about the services we deliver and to ensure that the Account includes information of interest to local people.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

HEALTHY – Continue to improve outcomes for vulnerable adults and older people

PROSPEROUS – Reduce inequalities and increase the life chances of people living in Southend.

EXCELLENT – Deliver strong, relevant and targeted services that meet the needs of our community.

6.2 Financial Implications

The cost of planning the production of future Local Accounts will be met within the existing resources for consultation on adult social care services. Any new costs arising from the Local Account for adult social care services for 2013/14 and future years will need to be considered as part of the relevant annual budget process for the Council.

6.3 Legal Implications

Publication of a Local Account of adult social care in 2012/13 is a requirement of the department of Health

6.4 People Implications

The Account demonstrates how increasingly our staff are working in a more integrated way with other public and voluntary organisations within Southend.

6.5 Property Implications

Not applicable

6.6 Consultation

In producing the 2012/13 Account, a focus group of voluntary organisations, external providers of services and colleagues in the health sector as well as interested local people will be given the opportunity to participate in development of the Account.

Feedback on the draft from the Community Services Scrutiny Committee, including linking current performance to our plans for 2013/14 will be included in the final document.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

Policies for developing adult social care services are subject to equality impact analysis.

6.8 Risk Assessment

The Local Account of adult social care in 2012/13 is a report to which risk assessments were applied as part of the service planning.

6.9 Value for Money

Financial and performance information has been included within the Account as well as how well we are using our joint resources with health more effectively.

6.10 Community Safety Implications

Extracts from the annual safeguarding report are included within the Local Account in line with guidance from the Association of Directors of Adult Social services.

- 6.11 Environmental Impact
Not applicable

7. Background Papers

Transparency in outcomes: a framework for quality in adult social care- response to consultation published in July 2011 may be found at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Responsestoconsultations/DH_125464

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix : A Local Account of adult social care services in Southend 2012/13; an annual report of social services for people ages 18 years and over.