

# ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 69

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** *Future Workstreams – Briefing Note to accompany verbal presentation*

**Date of Meeting:** **5<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**Report of:** *Director of Adult Social Care and Housing*

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**Wards Affected:** All

The special circumstances for non-compliance with Council Procedure Rule 23, Access to Information Rule 5 and Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act as amended (items not considered unless the agenda is open to inspection at least five days in advance of the meeting) are that the report could not be concluded prior to the despatch of the agenda.

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 The reports sets out information on two key issues that Scrutiny may wish to consider building into its work programme, namely the new Dementia Strategy and the anticipated green paper regarding the future funding of social care.

1.2 Both of these new initiatives will require careful thought and contain potential issues for future policy within the Council.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the Committee consider how it would wish to inform and scrutinise the implementation of these new initiatives.

### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

#### 3.1 Dementia strategy.

Living well with dementia, the national strategy was launched by the Government in February this year. It outlines 3 key steps to improve the quality of life for people with dementia and their carers. These are;

- Ensuring better knowledge about dementia and removing the stigma
- Improving diagnosis of dementia

- Developing a range of services for people with dementia and their carers.

These 3 aims are underpinned by 17 objectives requiring a response from local authorities, health providers and Primary Care Trusts. The objectives of most relevance to the Council include;

- Raising awareness of Dementia. The expectation here is not just within the statutory providers but across all bodies who have significant interaction with the public e.g. transport providers.
- Improved community personal support services. These services should include specialist home care services. A pilot is underway with the Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust exploring the effectiveness of this service.
- Housing support including telecare. The strategy calls for the development of different housing models to include monitoring of extra care housing and exploring the use of assistive technologies in enabling people to remain within their own homes.
- Improved quality of care for people living in care homes. This will require a workforce strategy to ensure staff have the necessary skills and knowledge and ensuring that quality monitoring is robust.

Other issues within the strategy will require a response from partner agencies such as improved GP awareness, improved quality of hospital care and the provision of a dementia advisor to signpost people to information and support and assist access to health and social care.

### 3.1.1 **Scope of potential overview.**

This is the first ever strategy covering Dementia to be published so is new ground nationally and for the authority. The strategy has ambitious and wide reaching implications; however the Department of Health states that it is at the discretion of Councils to prioritise the implementation of the strategy. The overview work could include;

- An analysis of the current level and quality of service
- An analysis of 'best practice' across the country

- Consideration of the demography of the City from the Joint strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and how this should shape our response
- Consideration of how the strategy will include people with learning disabilities. Valuing People Now, the recently published follow on to the Valuing People white paper is clear that other strategies should be scrutinised to ensure that they are inclusive of this group. There is also a high prevalence of Dementia within this group
- Consideration of how the implementation of the carers strategy will include those caring for someone with Dementia
- Consideration of the housing and assisted technology issues arising from the key objectives
- Consideration of gaps arising from the above analysis for Brighton and Hove
- Recommendation for prioritisation and implementation of the strategy including Value for Money considerations

**3.1.2 Summary.** The strategy has wide reaching implications for the shape of services within the City. The implementation of the strategy has financial implications however there is no new funding available to meet the expectations placed on the authority. Whilst welcoming the very positive aspects of the strategy, consideration will need to be given to access criteria and resources.

## **3.2 Future funding of Adult Social Care**

The Government is undertaking a national conversation on the future funding of social care. This consultation will inform the green paper that is due to be published early spring 2009.

The green paper is likely to contain wide ranging changes to the way that social care is funded in the future and will most likely have implications for eligibility criteria. This will mean that the Council may need to review its eligibility and charging policies. The green paper represents the biggest change to adult social care funding experienced since the Community Care Act.

As the paper is still awaited it is recommended that members consider this as a future ad hoc panel.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 The above new initiatives are underpinned by wide ranging national consultation.

**5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

5.1

Legal Implications:

5.2

Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications arising from this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

None