

Barnsley Adult Social Care Local Account 2016/17 – Cover Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the sixth Barnsley Adult Social Care Local Account 2016/17(Item 4b) to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Local Account is a public document designed to enable transparency, scrutiny and accountability. As recipients and funders of public sector services, the target audience is adult social care service users and the public in Barnsley.
- 2.2 The report shows achievements made in the year and how Barnsley has performed compared to other authorities. The measures used in the report are taken from the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) – a national dataset introduced by the Department of Health & Social Care. The information contained within ASCOF is taken in part from BMBC systems and from questions asked of service users and carers through surveys.
- 2.3 As well as performance information, each section of the report provides information about what the service thinks is important for users to know and understand about their priorities, plans, and some of the aspirations and challenges for 2017/18.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 Minor adjustments have been made to the Barnsley Local Account over the years. This year a workshop was held with equal representation from service users and carers and officers of the Council, Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and voluntary sector organisations.
- 3.2 As a result of the feedback from these sessions, the Local Account has been simplified to make it more meaningful and easy to understand. Links to other Council reports and strategies have also been added for those wanting more detail.
- 3.3 This year, the Local Account will be published on the Council's website and publicity material will be sent to a range of key partners, including libraries, voluntary sector organisations and health services. This publicity material will be displayed in public access spaces to maximise exposure. Monitoring will take place to see how many times the online report is accessed and the findings will feed into future marketing strategies.

4.0 Future Plans & Challenges

- 4.1 Adult Social Care priorities for 2017/18 include:-
- the 'Live Well Barnsley' website to become the one trusted source of information about community and adult social care services in Barnsley
 - continue to embed safeguarding principles to ensure vulnerable adults are at the centre of all work
 - the delivery of an improved carers' offer

- the review and development of housing schemes as an alternative to residential care
- focussed work to improve performance in supporting adults with learning disability and mental health conditions into paid employment
- continue to focus on the management of adult social care demand and budgets

4.2 Challenges in terms of publishing the Local Account include:-

- the need to balance service user feedback against the need to adhere to sector led guidance
- delays in the publication of the ASCOF data affects the timeliness of the Local Account
- the need to reach more people in order to justify the time it takes to produce the document

5.0 Invited Witnesses

5.1 The following experts have been invited to today's meeting to answer questions from the committee:

- Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director - People
- Lennie Sahota, Service Director - Adult Social Care & Health
- Sharon Graham, Head of Service - Joint Commissioning
- Jane Wood, Head of Service - Assessment & Care Management
- Claire Edgar, Head of Service - Mental Health & Disability
- Councillor Margaret Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson for People - Safeguarding

6.0 Possible Areas for Investigation

6.1 Members may wish to ask questions around the following areas:

- Of the actions and priorities identified for 2017/18, where are we now and how are these actions being evaluated to ensure they are adding value?
- How are the ASCOF indicators rated as red progressing?
- What has been done to manage the financial pressures facing the service and how has this affected service delivery?
- Are the responses from the adult social care survey an accurate representation of service users or is this only a small percentage of the target group? If so, how do you engage with users throughout the year?
- How do you plan to tackle social isolation of both carers and service users?
- How does the service ensure that they effectively keep up-to-date with the changing needs of service users to ensure quality of care, and are targets being met?
- What needs to be done to improve the ratings of care homes in the borough and what responsibility does the Council have?
- How do you communicate with new users and manage their expectations of what the service can and cannot offer?
- Is there an adequate number of appropriate care providers in the borough and how quickly can commissioned services be changed to address the needs of the community?

- What are the usage figures for the electronic version of the report showing and what would be considered 'good'?
- What actions could be taken by Members to support Adult Social Care and the plans and priorities contained within the Local Account?

7.0 Background Papers and Useful Links

Item 4b - Barnsley Adult Social Care Local Account 2016/17 (attached)

8.0 Glossary

ASCOF	Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group

9.0 Officer Contact

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