

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 11 October 2018

Report of the Head of Service, Social Care Service (Health)

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Adult Social Care Winter Plan 2018/19

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

A Winter Plan has been developed for the last two years for Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care.

This year's plan has now been finalised and reflects and summarises the various actions and services that are in place to support the residents of Lancashire who may need our services across the winter months.

Information is also included in the plan from other services across the council which contribute towards supporting people to stay safe and well during winter. The plan highlights both existing and developing services and some of the risks to sustaining these.

The plan is shared each year with NHS organisations across Lancashire and contributes into the multi-agency Winter Plans in each of the 5 Lancashire Integrated Care Partnership areas (Fylde Coast, Morecambe Bay, Central Lancashire, West Lancashire, and Pennine Lancashire).

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Approve the county council's Adult Social Care Winter Plan for 2018/19 as set out at Appendix 'A'.
- (ii) Note the financial risks beyond the current financial year 2018/19 of some of

the schemes detailed in the plan, which are currently funded from the Improved Better Care Fund.

Background and Advice

The annual cycle of winter planning is now well embedded across the health and social care system in Lancashire. It is critical for ensuring business continuity and reducing major areas of risk during what is typically a highly pressured season of the year.

In order to set out the approach across winter 2018/19 for Lancashire County Council's Adult Social Care, a winter plan has been developed. This plan comes into effect from 1st October 2018 and will run until 31st March 2019, and addresses internal capacity and capability, and arrangements with external partners which will contribute towards maintaining business continuity.

Information is included in the plan from other services across the council which contribute towards supporting people to stay safe and well during winter. The plan highlights both existing and developing services and some of the risks to sustaining these.

The plan is shared each year with NHS organisations across Lancashire and contributes into the multi-agency Winter Plans in each of the 5 Lancashire Integrated Care Partnership areas (Fylde Coast, Morecambe Bay, Central Lancashire, West Lancashire, and Pennine Lancashire).

An ageing population combined with increasing numbers of people with a long term health conditions means that demand for both health and social care is increasing year on year.

These pressures further increase or 'spike' during winter months, particularly across the urgent care system. There are a number of reasons that contribute to this including cold and inclement weather, falls, and higher volumes of poorly people for example due to Flu.

On the back of a challenging winter across 2017/18, and the continuing pressures throughout this summer, it is critical that Adult Social Care have plans in place to contribute to the multi-agency Winter Plans in each of the 5 Lancashire Integrated Care Partnership systems. The plans set out how organisations will maintain or expand service delivery levels and sustain performance across the winter months. As we head into winter 2018/19, the impact of the intensive work over the last 12 months, including the benefits from the investment of the Improved Better Care Fund monies to start new initiatives or expand existing services, is placing Adult Social Care in an improved position to respond to the pressures than in the previous two years.

New initiatives have been pump primed through use of the Improved Better Care Fund across the county including the following:

- Home First - This enables more people to leave hospital earlier and return home as soon as they are no longer in need of an acute Hospital bed. Short term support is provided in the person's own home for up to 5 days to give them time to recover, and assessments are undertaken within this time for any ongoing support required. The service is currently being rolled out across the county based on the model that has been operating in East Lancashire for almost 18 months, where the county council and East Lancashire Hospitals Trust have been shortlisted in the prestigious Health Service Journal awards in the category of 'Improved Partnerships Between Health and Local Government'.
- Adult Social Care now also has social care staff working at weekends in each of the Acute Hospitals across Lancashire, along with Care Navigation staff to enable access to services for people on discharge from Hospital 7 days a week.
- A 24/7 Acute Mental Health Professionals team is also now in place to respond to those people who are experiencing a mental health crisis and may need to be admitted to a mental health bed.
- The increased capacity of the community Occupational Therapy team and the continued work of Adult Social Care through the Passport to Independence programme is seeing more people receive an assessment in a timely way, and increased numbers of people who are already receiving social care services have a review.
- The increased capacity of the Reablement service means more people are able to receive this service and remain as independent as possible.

These measures support people to remain in the community at their optimum level of independence and avoid unnecessary admissions to both hospital and residential care. They also support people to be discharged from hospital in a timely way to the most appropriate place and service.

The Winter Plan also sets out staff capacity and key contacts for Adult Social Care across the 2 weeks of the Christmas and New Year holiday period. The service also restricts annual leave for staff throughout the December to January holiday period, in order to maintain capacity during this most pressured time.

Contained in the Winter Plan are also the important contributions to winter planning from Public Health with the Flu campaign, which encourages county council staff to take up the vaccination and remain well across winter.

There are also important schemes such as Affordable Warmth which offers support to the most vulnerable people in Lancashire with heating their homes. The messages on the county council winter webpages detail important information on staying warm, safe and well across winter and these are regularly accessed by Lancashire residents.

The Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care Winter Plan 2018/19 is set out at Appendix 'A'.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

It must be noted that within the plan are a number of schemes and services that are in operation only through the use of Improved Better Care Fund monies. Many of these schemes have a positive impact on performance targets such as Delayed Transfers of Care, as well as delivering improved outcomes and experience for Lancashire citizens in need of support. Sustainable funding solutions are therefore required if these critical services are to continue beyond March 2019, but the existing money should suffice to ensure these services continue through this coming winter.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A