

Prospects for improvement in 2002 – 03

We have reviewed your plans and prospects for improvement in 2002-03. The key points are:

- ◆ On-going development of CSF;
- ◆ Effective partnerships with health and housing in work with children looked after and children leaving care;
- ◆ Consolidating the approach to recruitment and retention issues;
- ◆ Implementation of BVR of children's services.

B) SERVICES FOR ADULTS

Strengths and improvements during the year

- ◆ Leadership and development of an impressive strategy for services for older people with a wide array of resources planned;
- ◆ Delivery of increased intermediate care services in collaboration with PCTs that has contributed to the reduction in the number of delayed transfers of care;
- ◆ Improvements in the involvement of service users and carers in planning;
- ◆ Good quality services for people with mental health problems;
- ◆ With the independent sector and district councils to reshape existing services to people with learning disabilities to improve quality and increase the range of services available.

Areas for Development

- ◆ Increased and high unit costs in all service user groups;
- ◆ Progress on BVR of people with physical disabilities and mental health for older people;
- ◆ Importance of sustaining current achievements in reducing delayed transfers by continuing development of market for residential, nursing home and domiciliary care, especially in relation to older people and including staff recruitment;
- ◆ Further use of Health Act flexibilities to progress partnerships and service innovations in relation to adult services;