

ADULT CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
UPDATE AND WORK PROGRAMME 2003/4

Agenda item
No.

6

12 JUNE 2003

Recommendations made to Cabinet/Executive Member/Chief Officer at the last meeting:

Min REVISIONS TO THE DIRECT PAYMENT SCHEME

1.

The Committee recommended that the Director of Adult Care investigate the introduction of a payroll scheme in partnership with PASS which it was felt would be of great help to users.

Response from the Director of Adult Care Services

This has been completed.

Min REPORT ON WAITING LIST MANAGEMENT FOR ELDERLY AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED SERVICES

2.

The Committee expressed concern about the differential rates of pay for professional assistants in Children, Schools and Families and Adult Care Services Departments and requested the Policy Recruitment and Retention Panel to investigate the apparent disparity between the two rates of pay.

Response from the Corporate Director (People and Property)

The issue is being investigated.

Min 5. CHARGING POLICY FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL SOCIAL SERVICES FOR SUPPORTING PEOPLE

The definition of Alzheimer’s was unclear and interchangeable use of severe mental illness and mental impairment had been unhelpful. It was AGREED that whilst recognising the difficulty in definition the officers were requested to clarify the definition and make it clear that this was a means tested scheme with exemption only of medically defined severe mental illness.

Response from the Director of Adult Care Services

This has been completed.

Update on petitions presented to the last meeting:

No petitions were submitted.

UPDATE ON PREVIOUS SCRUTINY ITEMS

	ITEM	C'TTEE DATE	EFFECTS OF SCRUTINY	STATUS* (see endnote)
1.	National Carers' Strategy in Herts	11/1/2001 (Minute 6) 17/1/2002 (Minute 8)	Carers Topic Group formed including carers' representatives so that they have the opportunity to feedback. The Topic Group meets twice a year to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The multi-agency carers strategy • Proposals for the Carers Grant which are then forwarded to Cabinet and monitoring the Carers Grant spending plan. 	Ongoing investigation

2.	Annual Report on Complaints, Compliments and User/Carers Satisfaction	11/1/2001 (Minute 7) 17/1/2002 (Minute 7) 3/10/2002 (Minute 3)	Regular reports to the Committee to keep members informed on the levels of complaints, compliments & user/carers satisfaction.	Monitoring
3.	Hospital Discharge arrangements	4/10/2001 (Minute 1)	Further scrutiny will take place in respect of bed blocking & hospital discharge procedures. This has been reported back to the Committee on two occasions and has been suggested as an item for joint scrutiny with Health.	Awaiting action
4.	Waiting Times for Assessment and Services	14/3/2002 (Minute 2) 13/3/2003	DACS requested to report again to a future meeting of the Committee.	Monitoring
5.	Residential and Nursing Care Home and Home Care Capacity	27/6/2002 (Minute 2)	The Home Care (Quality & Building Capacity) Topic Group has been set up and the final meeting will take place in April 2003 with a report back to ACS Scrutiny in June 2003.	Ongoing investigation (final report to this meeting)
6.	National Service Framework for Older People	3/10/2002 (Minute 1)	The Hertfordshire Older People Steering Group have noted Scrutiny Committee comments and continues to monitor and support progress in achieving NSF milestones. This is a 3 year programme from 2002-2005 and we are progressing towards April 2004 targets which are under control.	Work outside scrutiny

7.	Social Services Inspectorate Inspection of Older People's Services	16/1/2003 (Minute 1)	Arising from the action plan an item has been planned in the work programme (October 2003 meeting) to scrutinise the development of a countywide strategy for black & ethnic minority ACS users and their carers.	Awaiting action (reported to this meeting)
8.	Transition into Adulthood	16/1/2003	A joint meeting of ACS Scrutiny & CSF Scrutiny will take place in October (within the ACS Scrutiny meeting) as agreed by the two chairmen.	Ongoing investigation

* Status definitions:

- **Ongoing Investigation** – The scrutiny committee has commissioned work, which could be from a topic group, officers, consultants or other parties which is not yet complete but will report to the main committee in the future.
- **Work outside scrutiny** – an item which has been raised by the scrutiny committee where work is being taken forward through another mechanism in response to the item being raised by scrutiny– a panel, external body or officer mechanism for example.
- **Monitoring** – Items which the scrutiny committee has scrutinised in the past where it has asked for occasional or regular updates. This update could be a planned report, in which case the dates should be given, or monitoring through the update report. Items where there is work outside scrutiny can also be monitoring items.
- **Awaiting Action** – Items the committee wishes to scrutinise or review where the timing is unclear due to awaiting events or the outcome of other investigations. E.g. government guidance

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

	ITEM	C'TTEE DATE	SCRUTINY FOCUS
1.	Transition into Adulthood (<i>Please note scrutiny of this matter will take place in conjunction with Members of the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee</i>)	October 2003	
2.	Development of Countywide Strategy for Black and Ethnic Minority Adult Care Services users and their carers.	October 2003	
3.	Adult Care Services Proposed Resource Budget 2004/5 – 2007/8	January 2004	
4.	Joint Health/Adult Care Scrutiny on Hospital Discharge Arrangements	To be decided	