



Haringey Council

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| Report for: | Cabinet 14 October 2014 | Item Number: | |
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| Title: | Scrutiny Review and Response: Mental Health and Accommodation |
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| Report Authorised by: | Beverley Tarka Interim Director of Adult Social Services beverley.tarka@haringey.gov.uk |
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| Lead Officer: | Beverley Tarka Interim Director of Adult Social Services beverley.tarka@haringey.gov.uk |
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| Ward(s) affected: All | Report for: Non Key Decision |
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1. Summary

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its four Panels undertook a number of projects in 2013/14, including Mental Health and Accommodation.
- 1.2 The final project report and recommendations were agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in April 2014 and referred to Cabinet for agreement of responses to recommendations.
- 1.3 The responses to recommendations are presented to Cabinet in this report. An update report on the implementation of recommendations is scheduled at Overview and Scrutiny in the first half of 2015.
- 1.4 This report incorporates the comments of the Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) and the Council to the recommendations of the Panel.



2. Cabinet Member introduction

- 2.1 The review of the Scrutiny Panel on Mental Health and Accommodation is welcomed as an important contribution to the transformational work underway to improve responses to people with mental health needs in the borough across health and social care.
- 2.2 A joint post has been established to identify the best use of the accommodation resources in the borough for those with mental ill health and implement new ways of working in this area.
- 2.3 The Better Care Fund is a single pooled budget to support health and social care services to work more closely together in local areas. It is noted that whilst the initial priority in Haringey is older people with frailty, the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group will introduce a focus on mental health services into the Better Care Fund Integration Plan for 2015/16. Whilst recognising that this is not new money, it will offer further opportunity to address the needs of people with poor mental health in a joined up way in the borough.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is asked to:
 - a. consider and respond to the recommendations made by Overview and Scrutiny;
 - b. adopt the responses set out in the tables attached at Appendix 1;
 - c. note that any proposals for change will be presented to Cabinet at a future date as necessary for adoption and agreement, after further work to identify resources, costs and identified risks.

4. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

- 4.1 The Council's Adults Services Directorate includes a budget of £9.3m for care, support and services for people with Mental Health Needs. The Mental Health Accommodation Strategy Commissioner referred to is a new post and is funded from the 14/15 ringfenced health funding in support of Social Care services (the Better Care Fund.)
- 4.2 There is no further additional funding for the recommendations outlined in this report; however the service has taken the level of available resource into account in its assessment of these recommendations. Those that have been accepted are mostly fairly low cost in nature and can be met from existing resources; any remaining additional costs from these recommendations will need to be found by reprioritisation (i.e shifting funding from other lower priority mental health services). However at this stage, this seems likely to be minimal.



5. Assistant Director of Corporate Governance Comments and legal implications

- 5.1 The Assistant Director Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report.
- 5.2 Under Section 9F Local Government Act 2000 (“LGA”), Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the powers to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any of Cabinet’s functions and make reports or recommendations to Cabinet with respect to the discharge of those functions. Overview and Scrutiny also have the powers to make reports or recommendations to Cabinet on matters which affect the Council’s area or the inhabitants of its area. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee report and recommendations on Mental Health and Accommodation is in pursuant to this power.
- 5.3 Under Section 9FE of the LGA, there is a duty on Cabinet to consider and respond to the recommendations indicating what if any action Cabinet proposes to take and to publish its response. The proposed Cabinet response to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee report and recommendations is in accordance with this duty.

6. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

- 6.1 This review sought to explore the issues faced by people with mental health needs in the borough with regard to accommodation and support. The differential outcomes for this cohort of people have been addressed through the recommendations and the work to take them forward will reduce the current inequalities faced by people with severe and enduring mental health needs.

7. Head of Procurement Comments

- 7.1 The Head of Procurement has been consulted and advises that the Corporate Procurement Unit works with the services in procuring services as required.

8. Policy Implication

- 8.1 The work being carried out to develop an Accommodation Pathway for people with mental health needs may lead to some policy challenges – across housing, social and health care and support – with a need to understand the policy implications of a change of approach in this area.

9. Reasons for Decision

- 9.1 The report sets out the proposed response to recommendations from the Scrutiny Panel as required under the Council’s Constitution’.



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10. Use of Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 contains the detailed responses to the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel.

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1 N/A.