

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET - 29 MARCH 2012

ADULT SOCIAL CARE LOCAL ACCOUNT

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: CARE AND SUPPORT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present the Adult Social Care Local Account 2010-2011: 'What Adult Care and Support are doing to improve people's lives in Telford and Wrekin'.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 **That the approach and principles of our Local Account are endorsed**

2.2 **Feedback is given on the content**

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The field of Adult Social Care has been heavily regulated and inspected in the past. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) have relied on intensive annual self assessments, inspections, performance indicators and reviews to produce a rating for the service.

3.2 The Coalition government have in effect abolished these layers of inspection and indicators, replacing them with a new regime which is encapsulated within 'Transparency in Outcomes: A Framework for Quality in Adult Social Care'

3.3 This framework for Adult Social Care proposes a more transparent and locally accountable system, anchored by an approach which places outcomes at the heart. A key part of the transparency to citizens is the introduction of a Local Account.

3.4 The Local Account is intended to be an annual statement on outcomes and priorities that :

- opens up information on adult social care,
- fosters a conversation between service providers, commissioners and users/citizens
- empowers citizens to challenge or commend local services.

3.5 The intention of Government is that the Local Account will be an entirely local product, there is not and will not be statutory guidance on content or format.

4. THE LOCAL ACCOUNT FOR 2010 - 2011

- 4.1 The is no requirement to produce a Local Account for 2010-2011, however it has been suggested that all Councils consider producing a short, accessible Local Account for that year.
- 4.2 The principles we decided on for the 2010-2011 Local Account were to:
- Adhere to the suggestion of producing an account for 2010-2011
 - Keep it short
 - Keep the public as the intended/primary audience
 - Not consult with the public or partners on the content of this version, but use it to focus discussions on the content of forthcoming versions
 - Include information within it which gives the reader a clear picture of Telford & Wrekin and adult social care, and assumes they know little about the subjects.
 - Use the 2010-11 adult social care priorities as a structure, detailing 'what are we doing well' and 'what are our priorities for improvement'

5. THE WAY FORWARD

- 5.1 The 2010-2011 Local Account will be published in March 2012. Prior to publication it has been endorsed by the Health & Wellbeing Board.
- 5.2 It will primarily be available on the Internet, with some hard copies printed.
- 5.3 Once published, a process of engagement will begin with the public, partners and other stakeholders. This will gain feedback on this version to directly influence the production of a 2011-2012 Local Account
- 5.4 The intention is to begin production of the 2011-2012 Local Account in the summer

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|---|
| Community Impact | Yes | The Local Account is intended to support transparency of Council services and help citizens feel empowered to challenge or commend local services. Council priorities: Improved lives for all and vulnerable children and adults are protected |
| Financial & Value for Money Impact | Yes | There are no additional financial implications for the Council arising from the recommendations in this report. The costs of the production and printing of the document will be minimal and can |

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| | | <p>be contained within the existing resources available.</p> <p>The Local Account is a public, outward facing document which is intended to provide a picture of how we are performing. This includes financial and VfM performance as appropriate. TS 7.2.12</p> |
| Legal Issues | Yes | Where Councils choose to publish annual local accounts, they are intended to set out the quality and outcome priorities which the Council has chosen, in consultation with its partners, and the progress it has made in achieving them during the past year. |
| Other impacts, risks and opportunities | Yes | Any other risks and opportunities will be appropriately managed and reported if necessary. |
| Environmental | No | |
| Impact on specific wards | Yes | Borough-wide impact. |

7. PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 None

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Report prepared by Helen Potter, Delivery & Planning Tel: (01952) 381118.