

1 December 2015		ITEM: 9
Health & Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Adult Social Care Local Account 2015		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: No	
Report of: Roger Harris – Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning		
Accountable Head of Service: Les Billingham – Head of Adult Social Care		
Accountable Director: Roger Harris – Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

The 2015 adult social care local account is our third such report. The report is aimed at the local community and describes how adult social care is performing in delivering our key priorities and the progress we have made on the actions we said we would take in our 2014 local account.

The local account includes examples of the achievements and positive progress made over the last 12 months against our 10 key priorities, but also includes examples of the things we need to do more work on. The report also provides the priorities for next year; for example, our Building Positive Futures programme, our work with health to provide joint services, and the retendering of our home care services.

A summary of Thurrock's performance on the performance indicators in the national adult social care outcomes framework is also provided.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That Scrutiny Committee consider and note the report

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Since 2011 and the abolition of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Annual Performance Assessment, there have been a number of changes made to the performance framework for adult social care. The key elements of the approach to assessing and reporting on adult social care performance are set

out in the Department of Health publication: 'Transparency in Outcomes: A Framework for Quality in Adult Social Care' (March 2011).

- 2.2 At the heart of this change is a strong emphasis on the development of effective sector-led improvement. The sector-led approach is led by a national 'Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care Programme' (TEASC) that includes the Department of Health, Care Quality Commission (CQC), Local Government Association (LGA) and the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADASS). Annual reports (known as local accounts) are seen as a central element of this model and this is a best practice requirement.
- 2.3 Local accounts are intended to be self-assessed and published by Councils. There is no National Government role in assurance and there is no specific guidance produced to cover the content of a local account.
- 2.4 Local accounts are expected to provide an account of the quality and outcome priorities which the council has agreed, and the progress it has made in achieving them during the past year. In short it aims to inform the public of what adult social care does, who it is for, and what the progress and priorities are.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 This report is Thurrock Council's third local account, with previous reports being published in March 2013 and February 2015. The principles we used to produce the local account were for it to be:
 - Aimed at the general public and service users and be as short as possible
 - Focussed on outcomes rather than outputs or excessive data
 - Focussed on our vision for the transformation of adult social care services
 - Based around our 10 key priorities agreed in last year's report
- 3.2 The local account aims to tell people how we help adults who may require care and support in Thurrock. The report describes:
 - How we spent our money
 - Our achievements and the things we need to improve
 - Our future plans and priorities
 - How the public can be involved and give their views

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recognised as best practice to provide and publish a local account for adult social care and for this to be consulted and commented on by the Council, including by overview and scrutiny committee.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 This report has been consulted on and agreed with the adult social care senior management team. The local account includes examples that demonstrate how adult social care has engaged with and worked in partnership with, other partners and stakeholders.
- 5.2 The local account will be published on the Council's corporate website and there will be an opportunity for the general public and/or service users to feedback comments and suggestions.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The adult social care local account directly contributes to the delivery and achievement of the Council's strategic priorities. In particular it provides a means of reporting back to local people on how the Council is performing in delivering priority 4 – 'Improve health and well-being'.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**
Strategic Resources Accountant

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report as this is just for members' information.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Dawn Pelle**
Adult Care Lawyer

There are no specific legal issues arising from the report as this is just for members' information.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**
Community Development and Equalities Manager

There are no specific diversity issues arising from this report as this is just for members' information. As the Local Account demonstrates, decisions are informed by considering the impact on equality groups.

- 7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None

8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- None

9. Appendices to the report

Appendix 1 - Adult Social Care Local Account 2015

Report Author:

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Contract Compliance Intelligence Officer

Adults, Health & Commissioning