

## **Scrutiny Annual Report: April 2013 to March 2014**

**Select Committee:** Safe and Healthy People

**Report of Chairman:** Councillor Patricia Stallard

### **Statutory Duties undertaken, In-depth Reviews / outcomes being monitored:**

*Crime and Disorder Scrutiny:* The Committee hold the responsibility for the scrutiny of 'Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships' (now termed as 'Community Safety Partnerships'), as per the Police and Justice Act 2006, and therefore invite representatives of the County Strategy Group annually to make reports on the work of such groups. In 2013/14, the Committee reviewed items relating to Domestic Abuse and the 'Supporting Troubled Families' programme in Hampshire, and received a briefing on Integrated Offender Management, which included information on national offender management reforms.

### **Light Touch Reviews undertaken / outcomes being monitored:**

*Safeguarding Adults:* The Committee received a biannual report from Adult Services on safeguarding matters and related issues. Members were regularly informed of the protocols that are in place to support the safeguarding of adults, and the monitoring of this topic has allowed Members to make comments and recommendations to key officers and the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health on any issues of concern.

### **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

*Outcome of the Consultation on the Future of Four Residential Care Homes and One Day Centre and Proposed Recommendations:* The Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed decision to be put before Cabinet to close three residential care homes and one day centre in Hampshire. The Committee received multiple deputations and comments from members of the public on the future of the homes and one day centre, and listened to presentations from officers before moving to questions and discussion. After significant debate, Members endorsed all of the recommendations to Cabinet, in addition to making their own recommendation on Bulmer House. Members will monitor the implementation of these recommendations in 2014/15.

**Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

**Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:** A cross-party group of Members continued to meet prior to Select Committee meetings in order to monitor the Department 'risk-list', and review efficiency saving programmes.

#### *Revenue and Capital Budget 2014/15:*

Members pre-scrutinised the revenue and capital budget for 2014/15 onwards at their January 2014 meeting. Following questions, Members agreed with the recommendations set out to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health in relation to both the revenue and capital budget.

**Policy Review:**

*Care Bill:* The Committee have formed a small cross-party Working Group to explore the impact of the Care Bill on the County Council, and to help review and shape the response by Adult Services to both the content of the Bill, and the implementation of the Bill when it becomes an Act. This group has met twice in 2013/14, in order to review the consultation on the funding elements of the Bill, and to comment on the draft wording of the proposed new eligibility criteria for service users and for carers. Further meetings will be arranged in 2014/15 to coincide with the release of more detailed information and guidance from Government.

**Questioning and Exploring Areas of Interest and Concern:**

- Better Care Fund – to understand the implications of the new Better Care Fund on the adult services department.
- Delayed Transfers of Care – to review delayed discharges in acute hospitals due to Hampshire patients with social care needs.
- Dementia in Hampshire – to understand work ongoing within the County prior to the Committee's overview of dementia friendly communities.
- Mental Health Joint Commissioning Strategy – to monitor the implementation of the mental health joint commissioning strategy.
- Village Agents Programme – to receive an overview of the progress of the village agents programme, which is funded by the Department.

**Upcoming Topics:**

- Community Nutrition Strategy (*monitoring*)
- Dementia Friendly Communities (*overview*)
- End of Life Care (*policy review*)
- Integrated Offender Management (*monitoring*)
- IT support to Adult Services (*overview*)
- Mental Health Joint Commissioning Strategy (*monitoring*)
- Older People's Day Services (*monitoring*)
- Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles (*scrutiny review*)
- Supporting People (*overview / pre-decision scrutiny*)
- Transformation of Reablement Services (*overview / pre-decision scrutiny*)
- Welfare Fund (*pre-decision scrutiny*)