

REPORT OF THE
Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
PART II

127. PUBLIC HEALTH – LIFESTYLE SERVICES PROCUREMENT AND APPROVED LIST OF PROVIDERS

1. On 27 January 2015, the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health gave approval to tender and procure Public Health Tobacco Control services, Weight Management services, Health Trainers Services and NHS Health Checks for up to five years (3+2). This results in a combined total contract term value for the Healthy Lifestyle category of up to £24,380,000.

2. The Tobacco Control services aims to reduce smoking prevalence with a focus on those at highest risk such as smoking in pregnancy and for people with established chronic diseases. This type of intervention is one of the most evidence based, cost effective ways to improve health and avoid the need for health and social care.

3. The aim of the Public Health commissioned weight reduction service is to provide a service to those unsuccessful at initial attempts at weight loss and who are clinically obese, and to support individuals to reduce their weight to a level that will improve their health and reduce their risk of obesity related ill-health in the future.

4. The Health Trainers Service is aimed at reducing health inequalities by directly addressing the needs of specific disadvantaged communities and groups and enabling behaviour change. This will improve take up and outcomes of a range of health/lifestyle services and wider services that impact health such as education, training and employment.

5. The local delivery of the nationally mandated programme of NHS Health Checks will offer a free health assessment to apparently healthy adults between 40 to 74 years of age once every 5 years.

128. ADVOCACY SERVICES

1. On 27 January 2015, the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health gave approval to take up a one year extension, plus a two month additional contract through a Single Tender for: Mental Health Advocacy, Independent Mental Health Advocacy, Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy and Paid Representative. These took effect from 1 February 2015. Additionally, approval was given to tender and award a twelve month contract for Care Act Advocacy which is a new requirement of the Care Act 2014, with effect from 1 April 2015 using an accelerated restricted process.

2. Hampshire County Council currently contracts with Solent MIND to provide General Mental Health Advocacy, Independent Mental Health Advocacy (under the Mental Health Act), Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy and Paid Representative (under the Mental Capacity Act). The previous Mental Health Advocacy contract ran from 1 February 2013 to 31 January 2015, with the option to extend for a further twelve months. In order to develop long term plans to cover all types of advocacy within a single contract, there was a need to take up the twelve month

extension and commission a further two months' contract through the Single Tender Approach to give an end date of 31 March 2016 in line with Care Act Advocacy.

3. From 1 April 2015, under the Care Act, the County Council will become responsible for the arrangement of an Independent Advocate for a service user or carer who has substantial difficulties in being fully involved in the following processes if they do not have another appropriate person to support them:

- Accessing information and advice
- Assessment
- Care planning
- Review of care plans
- Safeguarding

Care Act Advocacy is applicable to people living in the community, in hospital or care homes, and those in prison who are involved in the processes listed above. An Independent Advocate would have experience of providing advocacy or working with people who have substantial difficulties due to the nature of their illness or disability.

129. DEVELOPING EXTRA-CARE HOUSING FOR YOUNGER ADULTS

1. On 27 January 2015, the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health approved proposals to deliver Extra-Care Housing for Younger Adults which will offer high quality accommodation and support for individuals aged below 65 who will primarily have a learning disability, mental health problems or a physical disability.

2. Extra-Care Housing for Younger Adults will become part of a range of offerings to meet the housing and care needs of younger adults, and will sit alongside other supported living models, while providing an alternative to residential care. It will offer individuals the independence provided through having their own apartment, alongside the benefits of communal living areas and access to shared care and support. Providing communal space is key to the success of the Extra-Care scheme as it allows people the choice as to whether or not they seek out company or support, or to spend time in their own apartment.

3. Potential sites will be identified in a number of key areas across the County which have the highest demand for alternative services to residential care and are therefore priority areas for development of new supported housing services.

4. Evidence has highlighted that there will continue to be a significant rise in the number of individuals requiring social care support and many of those individuals will have increasingly complex needs, therefore it is likely that the development of Extra-Care Housing for Younger Adults will remain a strategic priority for the County Council in the future.

130. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARE ACT IN APRIL 2015

1. On 27 January 2015, the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health gave approval to a number of actions required to implement the first phase of the Care Act legislation from 1 April 2015. These include arrangements to facilitate the introduction of arrangement, administration and interest charges for self funders and for deferred payment agreements, as well as transitional arrangements for moving to the new scheme. Approval was given to continue assessing financial

resources and to charge for both residential and non-residential care on the same basis as prior to relevant provisions of the Care Act. Authority was delegated to the Director of Adult Services for the final sign-off of the fees to be charged, should further Department of Health guidance or more detailed analysis require any minor adjustments prior to April 2015.

2. The Care Act modernises existing social care law and brings a number of important new responsibilities for the County Council, some of which come into effect in 2015 and the remainder in 2016. The main themes of the Care Act focus on:

- Promoting wellbeing
- Keeping adults safe
- Supporting carers
- Advocacy
- Cap on Care Costs

The County Council have put into place a programme of work to ensure the changes are implemented in a timely and effective way, and that service users, local stakeholder groups and the public are kept informed and provided with information in the changes.

3. Under the Care Act, adult social care authorities must comply with a range of statutory obligations. However the Government allows discretion in some cases, giving local authorities a 'power' rather than a 'duty' to undertake certain activities.

Further details on these items can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Public Health – Healthy Lifestyle Services Procurement and Approved List of Providers (6325)
- Advocacy Services (6351)
- Developing Extra-Care Housing for Younger Adults (6354)
- Implementation of the Care Act in April 2015 (6406)

COUNCILLOR LIZ FAIRHURST
Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

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