

Hertfordshire County Council Adult Care Services Report for the Health in Dacorum Meeting of 3rd September 2019

A meeting of Herts. County Council's (HCC's) Adult Care and Health Panel was held on 6th June 2019.

The Panel discussed the Action Plan that resulted from the Local Government Association Peer Review. The updated Action Plan shows good progress against areas identified in the peer review. There is a strong evidence base to the progress made.

The Adult Social Care Performance Monitor for Quarter 4 of 2018/19 was considered. The downward trend in the number of delayed transfers of care due to social care reasons has continued, but the highest percentage (43%) occurred at West Herts. Hospitals Trust (WHHT).

There was an update on domestic abuse, after the Government launched the Domestic Abuse Bill in January 2019. In Hertfordshire the Domestic Abuse Partnership led by ACS Strategic Partnerships Team (SPT) is evaluating the potential impact of the Bill whilst awaiting the national Act. This will contribute to the Hertfordshire Strategy and therefore services to support those affected by domestic abuse.

The SPT is also evaluating the success of the current Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2016-19, identifying gaps and determining the next steps.

HCC's financial outlook was considered. It was recognised that there are significant funding challenges with how demand for HCC services is greater than the funding available to pay for them, and there is uncertainty with future funding levels. The increasing challenge of meeting the rising demand and costs of services is particularly true for social care services which serve a growing and ageing population, and people with more complex needs are living longer.

Therefore HCC agreed that Chief Officers be commissioned to work with Executive Members and their Cabinet Panels to develop options at the earliest possible opportunity for the delivery of substantial additional savings. The annual refresh of HCC's Integrated Plan commenced in May 2019.

C/Cllr Fiona Guest