

**REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**

**CARING FOR OUR FUTURE: SHARED AMBITIONS FOR CARE AND
SUPPORT – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONSULTATION**

Purpose of the Report

1. The report is to provide some background information relating to the above-named Department of Health consultation and Nottinghamshire County Council's response.

Information and Advice

2. On the 15th September, the Government launched Caring for our future: shared ambitions for care and support – an engagement exercise with people who use care and support services, carers, local councils, care providers and the voluntary sector about the priorities for improving the care and support system in the future. The consultation runs until December 2nd and the Government has signalled its intention to produce a White Paper in the Spring, as well a progress paper on funding reform.
3. Key leaders from the care and support community have been asked to help lead discussions on six broad areas, which have been identified as having the biggest potential to make improvements to the care and support system. These are: quality, personalisation of care, diverse and responsive care market, prevention and early intervention, integration and the role of financial services.
4. Together with the six key leaders from the care and support community, representatives from the Department of Health will be attending events, holding meetings, listening to the views of user organisations, carers' representatives, care providers, and local councils on what the priorities for improving care and support should be. They will use existing networks and events to hear the breadth of opinion on these issues. The Department of Health has also issued a resource pack to support local discussions on the key questions in the consultation.
5. The consultation is also asking for people's views on the recommendations made by the Commission on Funding of Care and Support and how these proposals should be assessed.
6. In Nottinghamshire, as part of the consultation exercise, William Vineall, Deputy Director, Social Policy, Department of Health visited County Hall on November 14th to meet with

micro provider organisations that have been supported by Nottinghamshire County Council. Mr Vineall focused on Personalisation and met with nine micro providers to discuss how more people could be helped to benefit from Personal Budgets and what support is needed to encourage this. The meeting was very constructive and Mr Vineall was grateful for the contribution to the overall consultation exercise.

7. The Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection department has co-ordinated a response to questions posed in the feedback form (Appendix 1). Staff in the department have been notified of the consultation process and encouraged to provide feedback for the organisational response, or to make their own individual responses. The feedback form has also been shared with informal carers via local carers' organisations to encourage them to respond.
8. The response will be submitted to the Department of Health by the required deadline with the proviso that it may be withdrawn or amended subject to approval by Cabinet.

Other Options Considered

9. Not applicable.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. The debate surrounding the motion discussed at Full Council on 3rd November reflected the importance of the issue of social care for older people and people with disabilities, and how it should be funded both now and in the future.
11. The amended motion supporting the national debate prompted by the Dilnot proposals on how to achieve a fair, affordable and sustainable system for funding adult social care, and asking Parliament to consider the Dilnot proposals carefully and fund local government properly in the context of the current public spending environment received a unanimous vote of support. This has been reflected in the feedback form to the Department of Health.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

13. Plans for social care reform changes to the funding of social care have obvious implications for service users. Since the consultation was launched we have made our staff aware of the consultation process and have also raised awareness via local carers' organisations. We have not received any direct feedback from service users or carers for consideration in our response but we hope we have encouraged people to make their own individual responses to the consultation.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Considers the consultation response and gives approval for this to be submitted to the Department of Health with the support of the Cabinet.

COUNCILLOR KEVIN ROSTANCE

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Jennie Kennington
Senior Executive Officer
Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection

Constitutional Comments (LMc 25/11/2011)

Cabinet has delegated authority under the Scheme of Delegation to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (RWK 25/11/2011)

None

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

CAB335