

22nd July 2013**Agenda Item: 11****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****EXTENSION TO THE REVIEWING TEAMS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To recommend the proposal for the extension of the dedicated reviewing teams until March 2014.

Information and Advice

2. There is a legal requirement for local authorities to review everyone who receives a personal budget in accordance with the national guidance 'Fair Access to Care'.
3. The purpose of a review is to check whether a person's needs or circumstances have changed, or the needs of their carer; that a person is still eligible for long term social care; and their eligible outcomes are being met in the most cost effective way. It is an opportunity for the person to discuss the quality of their support and identify what is working well or what they would like to change.
4. The first review takes place up to three months from when the support was put in place and then there is a requirement to review people at least every year. Some people receive more frequent reviews because their needs have changed, they have complex needs or they are at risk.
5. The review can be face to face or via the telephone depending on the circumstances. There are currently 11,642 people in community based services and 2,889 in residential services who require an annual review of their personal budget each year.
6. In order to meet the national target of moving all people onto a personal budget in line with the national 'Think Local, Act Personal' agenda and achieve savings of £4.75 million, it was necessary to employ additional social care staff on a temporary basis to complete all the reviews.
7. The delegated decision AC/2010/00094 established the dedicated reviewing teams and subsequent reports extended the funding until 30 September 2013. Since April 2011, the reviewing teams have ensured 100% of eligible service users are on a personal budget and achieved over £5 million savings for the Council.

8. It is proposed that the dedicated reviewing teams are further extended until March 2014. By extending the teams the Council will be able to meet its responsibilities to provide an annual review of service users' needs and to ensure the Council meets people's eligible outcomes in the most cost effective way. For 2013/14 the team is on target to achieve a further £1 million saving.

Focus of the Reviewing Team

9. In total the number of people that need to have a review is 14,531. As a minimum people require an annual review, however depending on an individual's circumstances more frequent reviews are sometimes needed. Moving people on to personal budgets has initially led to a significant increase in work. As more people take their personal budget as a direct payment it is important that the Council regularly review people to ensure outcomes are being met.
10. In addition the social care teams are facing significant pressures caused by demographic change. Local hospitals are facing unprecedented demand and community based services are having to cope with large numbers of older people requiring care and support.
11. The Nottingham University Hospital Trust has seen a 2.6% increase in the number of emergency admissions via Accident and Emergency. This has led to a 60% increase in referrals compared to the highest figures from the previous year.
12. Every year there are an additional 130 younger people with learning disabilities who reach adulthood who need support from Nottinghamshire County Council.
13. Since the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub began to address safeguarding concerns about vulnerable adults there has been a 73% rise in the number of telephone calls to the MASH. Consequently there has been an increase in the number of adult safeguarding concerns being investigated. As a result of the pressures in demographic changes, hospitals and safeguarding the Reviewing Teams have assisted with safeguarding, undertaking assessments, arranging support plans and completing reviews.

Funding

14. The expenditure for the teams will be funded from the remaining Social Care Reform Grant Reserve for which the uncommitted balance is estimated at £253,000, with the balance of up to £547,000 from the NHS Support to Social Care money.
15. It is recommended funding is approved for:
 - a. 3 fte Team Managers (Reviewing), Pay Band D, scp 42-47 (£35,403 - £39,855) and the posts to carry approved car user status. Funding to be extended from October 2013 to 31 March 2014.
 - b. 40 fte (1480 hours) Community Care Officers (Reviewing), NJE Grade 5, scp 24-28 (£20,858 - £23,708) and the posts to carry approved car user status. Funding to be extended from October 2013 to 31 March 2014.

- c. 2 fte (74 hours) Business Support (Reviewing), NJE Grade 3, scp 14-18 (£15,725 - £17,161). Funding to be extended from October 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Other Options Considered

16. The younger adult and older adult care management teams do not have the capacity to undertake all the reviews required. The department is exploring alternative options on how to complete reviews through social care clinics and more telephone based reviews within existing resources. This will be subject to a further report.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

17. This report requests approval for the intended use of the remaining Social Care Reform Grant as part of Putting People First plus the Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection reserves to achieve further efficiencies for the Council through reviews of support packages and to ensure people needing long term support have eligible needs met in the most cost effective way.

Statutory and Policy Implications

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, 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.

Financial Implications

19. The total cost of extending the reviewing teams from 01 October 2013 to 31 March 2014 is £800,000.
20. The expenditure will be funded in the first instance from the remaining Social Care Reform Grant Reserve for which the uncommitted balance is estimated at £253,000 with the balance of up to £547,000 from the NHS Support to Social Care money.

Human Resources Implications

21. This report proposes to extend the following posts on a temporary basis until 31st March 2014:
- a) 3 fte Team Managers, Pay Band D, scp 42-47.
 - b) 40 fte Community Care Officers, Grade 5, scp 24-28
 - c) 2 fte Business Support, Grade 3, scp 14-18

22. The Trade Unions have been consulted and no comments have been received.

Ways of Working Implications

23. These posts are already established on a temporary basis and therefore are already accommodated within existing office resources.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the Adult Social Care and Health Committee:

- 1) Approves for the intended use of the remaining Social Care Reform Grant and departmental reserves to fund the temporary reviewing teams to meet national and departmental priorities.
- 2) Approves the extension of 3 fte Team Managers (Reviewing), Pay Band D, scp 42-47 (£35,403 - £39,855) until 31st March 2014. The posts to carry approved car user status.
- 3) Approves the extension of 40 fte (1480 hours) Community Care Officers (Reviewing), Grade 5, scp 24-28 (£20,858 - £23,708) until 31st March 2014. The posts to carry approved car user status.
- 4) Approves the extension of 2 fte (74 hours) Business Support (Reviewing), Grade 3, scp 14-18 (£15,725 - £17,161) until 31st March 2014.

PAUL MCKAY

Service Director for Promoting Independence and Public Protection

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Constitutional Comments (LM 21/06/13)

24. The Adult Social Care and Health Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (KAS 19/06/13)

25. The financial implications are contained within paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- a. [LAC \(DH\) \(2009\) 1 – Transforming Adult Social Care.](#)

- b. [Think Local Act Personal](#) – A sector-wide commitment to moving forward with personalisation and community-based support.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

ASCH130