

11 January 2016**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND
PUBLIC PROTECTION****REPORT ON NATIONAL CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES CONFERENCE,
14-16 OCTOBER 2015****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report informs the Committee about Member and officer attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference which took place in Bournemouth between 14th and 16th October 2015.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council's representatives attending the conference were Councillor Muriel Weisz, Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Committee, Councillor Liz Plant, Vice-Chair of the Children and Young People's Committee, Colin Pettigrew, Corporate Director of Children, Families and Cultural Services and David Pearson, Corporate Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection.
3. The report is supported by the speeches and presentations which are available on the [conference website](#), hosted by the Local Government Association (LGA).
4. A range of issues and priorities in adult social care were reflected in the conference agenda including some joint issues with children's services. Major topics covered were: implementation of the Care Act; integration with health including the interface with devolution; financial sustainability; and transforming care for people with learning disabilities. In relation to the latter, David Pearson, Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection, made a presentation to the conference as part of a sub-plenary on Transforming Care for people with learning disabilities. This focused on explaining the work of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire health and social care community as one of 5 'fast track' areas in the country. David Pearson also chaired a workshop on the social care workforce.
5. Various speakers referred to the challenge of rising need in the population for social care services, in the context of increasing pressures on the National Health Service (NHS). This included reference to the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) budget survey which demonstrated a 31% (£4.6bn) saving across adult social care services.
6. Examples of work that has been taking place across the country to make savings whilst ensuring quality were profiled. There were numerous references to the current challenges

in the social care market and ensuring that there is an appropriately skilled and trained workforce, compared with the current issues of very high levels of turnover and lack of capacity in many areas.

7. There was a strong service user contribution to the conference this year, helping to root many of the presentations in the reality of people's experience of and aspirations for social care services. This emphasised how crucial good quality social care services that help people to remain independent and provide choice and control are.
8. In relation to integration the conference included a plenary drawn from people across local government and the NHS, profiling the work of vanguards and integration pioneers. Whilst devolution is at an early stage there was a session which included a review of the interface between integration and devolution, and reflected on the plans and ambitions of areas such as Greater Manchester.
9. In his opening speech to the conference ADASS President Ray James recognised the performance of the Care Quality Commission (CQC), promoted and celebrated the role of co-production in social care and acknowledged frontline staff for their dedicated work. At the time of the lead-up to the 2015 Spending Review he reminded central government that ADASS had joined leading representatives of major charities, care providers and the NHS to publish a joint submission on the unquestionable need for a fair and sustainable funding settlement for adult social care.
10. He challenged colleagues to follow on with the successes of Making Safeguarding Personal, which he described as a 'national best practice model with independent evaluation and accreditation (which) has been co-produced and championed by leading experts and those who have experienced abuse'; and to ensure that everything that could be done to transform the opportunities available for people with learning disabilities in the aftermath of Winterbourne View was being done.
11. He also stressed the importance of integration, devolution and personalisation as three of the key developments which will dominate social care in the coming five years.
12. Unlike previous events the conference was not well-attended by leading politicians in the field, but the conference ended with a speech by Alistair Burt, Minister of State for Community and Social Care. He acknowledged the current challenges regarding the financial situation, stating that 'care is expensive, numbers are rising and there are limits to what can be achieved'. Since the autumn spending review statement was still awaited, he explained he was unable to say much more about social care funding. In the meantime, he encouraged authorities to share examples of best practice. He emphasised that adult social care is important not just because of its impact on the National Health Service but in its own right, because of what it can achieve for citizens.
13. Mr Burt spent some time talking about the importance of the social care workforce and the need to gain greater support from a wide range of people, including MPs, in championing these staff. He also has a particular responsibility for mental health services and talked about the need to raise the profile and standards of response in mental health across the country, as well as the additional government investment in this area.

Other Options Considered

14. The report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. The report is for noting only

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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

17. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Committee notes the report on attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference which took place in Bournemouth in October 2015.

David Pearson

Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Jennie Kennington

Senior Executive Officer

T: 0115 9774141

E: jennie.kennington@nottscg.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

18. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (KAS 08/12/15)

19. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 17 of the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

Report to Policy Committee, 17th June 2015 – National Children and Adult Services Conference 2015

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

ASCH360