

**Adults Well-being and Health
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

26th April 2010



Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older
People 2010 – 13

Report of Denise Elliott, Strategic Commissioning Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the current consultation process and contents of the proposed Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older People 2010 – 13
2. To enable members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee to contribute to the consultation process and influence the final strategy.

Background

3. Significant changes in our population profile are already being experienced in County Durham. Increases expected between 2007 – 26 across the whole County are:
 - 65 and over – 49.89%
 - 75 and over – 71.4%
 - 85 and over – 115.2% (JSNA 2009/10)
4. Pressure to use public money efficiently and still develop and drive up quality is more important than ever.
5. Increased pressure on current and future health and social care Services for older people in particular.
6. A wide range of national guidance has influenced the strategy development. Consistent key messages from this guidance include:
 - Care closer to home
 - Independence
 - Healthy, happy and active ageing
 - Mental and physical wellbeing for as long as possible
 - Choice and control – services and the finances that pay for them

7. The purpose of the strategy is to identify current provision and develop actions to address gaps and inequalities in service provision as well as drive up quality standards, ensuring efficiency of public funds.
8. The strategy states clear commissioning priorities for:
 - People aged 50 and over;
 - Older people who are becoming more frail;
 - Frail older people who may have complex health and social care needs.

Current Position

9. A detailed consultation process is currently underway and runs between 8th March 2010 to 28th May 2010.
10. The process includes:
 - Wide email circulation to staff in Durham County Council and NHS County Durham, other health organizations, voluntary sector and independent sector service providers, a wide range of groups and organisations with specific interest in older people's services eg LINKs
 - Articles in Carers Echo, Durham County News, staff newsletters, Northern Echo
 - Consultation pages on Durham County Council and NHS County Durham and Darlington websites
 - Three consultation events open to the public and staff
 - Age Concern – undertaking consultation with older people and minority groups on behalf of DCC and NHS

Future Proposals

11. The diagram below details key things that are often fed back from older people as important to their health and wellbeing. These were summarised during the feedback from the 'Keeping Healthy/Keeping Safe' workshop at the All Our Tomorrows event in October 2008 and have influenced the future strategic direction.



12. From the national guidance, local consultation responses and knowledge of current service provision key themes have emerged as being key to the future strategic direction of health and social care services for older people. These themes make up the key headings within the draft action plan and are as follows:

- Information, Involvement and Engagement
- Live at Home for Longer
- Maximising Independence
- Joined up Care Pathways
- Partnership
- Fair Access to Local Services
- Personalisation

The draft actions contain many aspects of prevention as a cross cutting theme.

13. Analysis of the current provision and performance of the main service types has highlighted some key issues for this strategy. These include:

- Substantial increases in the numbers of older people needing to access social care services are being experienced;
- People aged 85 and over have the highest level of need, with this age group having the most 'critical' level of social care need;
- There is inequity of provision for some service types including falls and osteoporosis and more research through undertaking service reviews is required to understand the detail and options for future commissioning;
- There is an over supply of residential care across the County though both Durham County Council's in-house and independent sector provision;
- Domiciliary care (home care) within the County does not specifically focus on re-ablement;

- There are challenges ahead to make sure all older people have access to housing options advice as well as the support to maintain their home in terms of quality and meeting their changing mobility needs as they grow older;
- The increase in numbers of people taking up Direct Payments needs to be capitalised on and older people given the support and confidence to be creative in how their needs are met through Individual Budgets and the choice and control to shape their own service delivery;
- Existing services need to be reviewed to make sure they continue to be cost effective, maintain a clear focus on excellent quality and continuous improvement and are able to continue to meet older people's future health and social care needs;
- We need to keep a focus on continuous improvement and driving up quality standards across all health and social care services.

14. There are a number of key areas of development identified from the analysis of current provision. These have been summarised into key areas below and form the structure of the strategy draft Action Plan.
15. **Appendix 2** details the draft Executive Summary and Action plan.

Recommendations

16. You are recommended to:
- (i) Provide feedback on the draft Joint Commissioning Strategy for Older People 2010 – 13 during the consultation period.

Contact: Anita Porter Commissioning Policy and Planning Officer
Tel: 0191 372 5495

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – For the Council the strategy will be delivered within existing resources

Staffing - N/A

Equality and Diversity – An Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment will be carried out during the consultation period.

Accommodation – N/A

Crime and Disorder- N/A

Sustainability – N/A

Human Rights – N/A

Localities – The strategy includes service elements that require review of current provision including any inequalities between access to services between localities

Young People – N/A

Consultation – The public consultation process is currently in process and runs from 8th March 2010 to 28th May 2010

Health - The strategy has been developed jointly with NHS County Durham and Darlington and sets agreed, joint priorities for older people's services for the next three years.

Personalisation – The strategy contains specific actions in relation to improving choice and control for older people

