Health and Wellbeing Board

11 March 2015



Considerations and Implications of the Care Act 2014

Report of Lesley Jeavons, Head of Adult Care, Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of the forthcoming presentation on the Care Act 2014. Paul Copland, Strategic Manager –Care Act 2014 Implementation, will attend the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 11th March 2015 and deliver a presentation on the Care Act with a particular focus on the key areas of the Act that is relevant to Health and Wellbeing Board partners.

Background

- 2. At the meeting on 28th January 2015 the Health and Wellbeing Board received a detailed report on the duties and responsibilities contained in the Care Act 2014 and the preparatory work that Durham had undertaken.
- 3. As a number of the new duties and responsibilities come into force on 1st April 2015 this is an opportune time to provide further information to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Recommendations

- 4. The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:
 - Note the content of the forthcoming presentation at the HWB meeting on 11th March.
 - Note that the Safeguarding Adults Board will become a statutory function in April 2015.
 - Agree to receive a further update in relation to the implementation of the Care Act at a future meeting.

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Appendix 1 - Implications

Finance

There are concerns about the level of funding available to implement the Care Act.

Staffing

There will be implications for staffing arising from the Care Act and Better Care Fund which will be considered throughout implementation.

Risk

It is essential that DCC take a planned approach to address the requirement of the Care Act. Risks are managed through the Care Act Project Board.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

The Care Act proposals seek to promote equality and improve the quality of services and the provision of information people receive.

Accommodation

N/A

Crime and Disorder

New duties for local authorities in prisons are outlined in the Care Act.

Human Rights

N/A

Consultation

The Government will continue to consult with stakeholders and service users on provisions in the Care Act.

Procurement

A duty will be placed upon local authorities to promote diversity and quality in the provision of services.

Disability Issues

Considered as part of the Care Act implementation plans.

Legal Implications

The Care Act which received Royal Assent on 19th May, 2014 introduces a number of new statutory duties on the local authority and there will be implications if these are not implemented and managed effectively.