

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)

Date: 24 October 2012

Subject: Better Lives Explained – Leeds draft Local Account of Adult Social Care 2012/13

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Introduction

1. In 2011 the Government announced its intention to replace the Care Quality Commission's annual assessment of Adult Social Care from 2011/12 onwards – with local authorities becoming required to publish a local account of outcomes in social care and priorities for quality.
2. As part of learning process to prepare for the mandatory requirement to produce a Local Account of its Adult Social Care from 2012/13 onwards, Leeds City Council's first Local Account for the citizens of Leeds was presented to Executive Board in February 2012. This provided a user friendly description of the Council's social care activities, alongside the quality of adult social care services. It also provided an explanation of the Council's progress in achieving its objectives and outlined the major plans for Adult Social Care.
3. This report offers members of the Executive Board a highlighted summary of the main areas of achievement of Adult Social Care and indicates areas of service identified within the Leeds Local Account as requiring further development to sustain or improve performance.

Background information

4. In 2011 the Government announced its intention to replace the Care Quality Commission's annual assessment of Adult Social Care from 2011/12 onwards – with local authorities becoming required to publish a local account of outcomes in social care and priorities for quality.

5. Previously, until the end of 2009/10, the performance of each Council with Adult Social Care responsibilities was annually assessed by the Care Quality Commission. The final assessment of Adult Social Care in Leeds was published by the Care Quality Commission on the 25 November 2010 and considered by the Executive Board on 8 December 2010.
6. The requirement for Local Authorities to produce a Local Account has been established by Central Government policy and has replaced the Care Quality Commission's annual performance assessment of Adult Social Care.
7. Local accounts are intended to be self-assessed and published by Councils. There is no National Government role in assurance and there has been no specific guidance produced to cover the content of a local account. Local Accounts are expected to provide a report of the quality and outcome priorities which the council has agreed, in consultation with its partners, and the progress it has made in achieving them during the past year.

Leeds' Local Account of Adult Social Care 2012/13

8. A draft of Leeds City Council's local account of Adult Social Care 2012/13 – Better Lives Explained – is appended to this report for the Scrutiny Board's consideration and comment. It is intended to formally launch the finalised 2012/13 Local Account at the 'Better Lives' event scheduled for 14 December 2012.
9. The current draft has been co-produced with the support of a working group of service users and carers groups, with Leeds Local Involvement Network (LINK) having also provided input into the current draft.
10. At its meeting in February 2012, Executive Board resolved that the areas for improvement, as set out within the previous Local Account be referred to the Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) for oversight of performance. Considering the draft 2012/13 Local Account provides members of the Scrutiny Board with an opportunity to review performance, while reflecting on future plans.

Recommendations

11. The Scrutiny Board is recommended to:
 - a. Note and, where appropriate, comment on the content of 'Better Lives Explained' – Leeds draft Local Account of Adult Social Care 2012/13;
 - b. Identify any specific areas that require further and/or more detailed scrutiny; and,
 - c. Consider how and when the Board should consider progress against the plans identified in Leeds draft Local Account of Adult Social Care 2012/13.

Background documents¹

12. None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.