

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE, CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**29 JUNE 2015**

**Present:** Councillor McElligott (Chair)  
Councillors Ballsdon, Eden, D Edwards, Ennis, Gavin, Hoskin,  
Jones, O'Connell, Orton, Pearce, Stanford-Beale, Vickers, White  
and R Williams

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**2. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES**

The Minutes of the following meeting were submitted:

- Children's Trust Partnership Board, 1 April 2015.

**Resolved - That the Minutes be noted.**

**3. RAISING EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN READING - CONSULTATION UPDATE**

Further to Minute 40 of the last meeting, Kevin McDaniel, Head of Education, submitted a report providing the Committee with details of a consultation about a vision for education in Reading, the proposed establishment of The Reading First Education Partnership to oversee school to school support and a set of actions and commitments for the local authority and schools to achieve the vision in three years. A copy of the Educational Ambition and Achievement Strategy 2015-18 was attached to the report at Appendix 1, a copy of the Implementation Plan for Raising Standards was attached to the report at Appendix 2 and a consultation draft of the School Effectiveness Guide for the Academic Year 2015/16 was attached to the report at Appendix 3.

The report explained that since the last meeting the local authority had developed a proposed vision and approach to education in the Borough which would involve all schools. The proposals were based on international research of some of the best education systems, research from the Department for Education and national research on the role of the middle tier in government. This had suggested that strong collaboration among education leaders and practitioners that focused on teaching improvement for every child and organised school to school challenge and support was the most significant and common feature in the leading education systems for sustained improvement. There was a key role for the local authority as the middle tier to provide vision, drive, coordination of school improvement work and a range of services that supported education.

The following three draft documents appended to the report set out the vision:

**Reading First - Raising Attainment Strategy 2015-2018** - This paper set out the vision for education in the Borough, the ambition being that achievements by summer 2018 would place Reading within the top 25% of local authority areas for

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educational achievement of children and young people and for every school and early years setting to be good or outstanding.

**Reading First - Improvement Plan** - This paper described the activities and behaviours required to deliver the outcomes and underlined the principle that the most effective school improvement was through joint partnership with open relationships among schools, and with the Council, in which schools lead improvement of others. The Plan proposed the establishment of the Reading First Education Partnership which would include the local authority, schools and other key partners such as the university.

**Reading School Effectiveness Guide** - This document took the role of the Council's School Improvement Strategy and set out how individual schools would work with the school improvement service. The guide proposed an assessment of the position and trajectory for each school and setting to enable resources to be targeted early to ensure continual school improvement.

The report stated that the role of the Reading First Education Partnership would be crucial in assessing the needs and commissioning support in line with a defined categorisation.

The consultation process with schools had begun on 5 June 2015, closing on 17 July 2015, with a half day conference which had been attended by representatives of 93% of schools. The event had used voting pads to take a straw poll of schools at key points in the discussion and the following general observations were made:

- 95% were in favour of the collaborative process;
- 82% believed the aspiration was realistic to hold;
- 60% had felt it was achievable by summer 2018 which had risen to 80% by summer 2019;
- 66% were in favour of a common assessment approach with the others unsure.

The report explained that all schools had been invited to give individual feedback and a number of schools had invited the Head of Education to discuss the proposals in more detail during July 2015.

The Committee discussed the report and agreed that the consultation process should continue beyond 17 July 2015 and that an additional meeting of the Committee should take place at the beginning of September 2015 to look at the results of the consultation and consider the way forward.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the Raising Attainment Strategy 2015-2018, the Implementation Plan and the School Effectiveness Guide be noted;
- (2) That the consultation process and timetable, as set out in paragraphs 4.8 to 4.11 of the report, be noted subject to the consultation process continuing after 17 July 2015;

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- (3) That an extra meeting of the Committee be held at the beginning of September 2015 to look at the consultation results and to consider the way forward.

**4. SAFEGUARDING ACTIVITY REPORT & IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES - QUARTER 4**

Further to Minute 31 of the last meeting, Helen McMullen, Interim Director of Children, Education and Early Help Services submitted a report providing the Committee with an update of the key activity areas for Quarter 4 (January 2015 to March 2015) within Children's Social Care. A copy of the Children's Services Improvement Plan was attached to the report at Appendix 1 and a draft copy of the terms of reference for the Reading Children's Services Improvement Board was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

The report was a summary of Reading's performance since the report submitted to the last meeting and highlighted areas for priority and scrutiny. Based on the current provisional data it also considered key performance for Children in Need and Looked After Children (LAC) against the previous year's performance. The report explained that benchmarking against other authorities including Statistical Neighbours for 2014/15 year end performance would be possible once the data was published later in the year.

The report stated that the necessary improvements which had been identified and were listed in the Improvement Plan Priorities were based on the following six key themes:

1. Leadership and Governance
2. Partnership Working
3. Quality and Consistency of Practice
4. Workforce Development
5. Performance Management and Quality Assurance
6. Improving Services for Children Looked After and Achieving Permanence

The report explained that the Improvement Plan was a 'live' document and as priorities were identified it would be modified and prioritised. In addition, it had been proposed to establish a small Improvement Board to oversee the implementation and the outcomes and impact of the work that had been identified in the Plan. The Board would be chaired by an independent Chair who would report directly to the Leader of the Council and the Managing Director. The Lead Councillor for Children's Services and Families would be a member of the Board, as would senior officers in partner agencies. The Board would have a clear remit which would not duplicate the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) but it would scrutinise the development of the LSCB.

The Improvement Plan emphasised a number of things including the following:

- The completion of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH);
- Facilitating Step up/Step down work between Early Help Services and the MASH;

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- Implementation of a Sufficiency Strategy and associated adoption and fostering targets and commissioning activity;
- Work in Access and Assessment to improve timeliness and consistency of decision making and assessments;
- Further diagnostic work in the Adoption Service;
- Agreement of Strategy discussion minimum standards;
- A clear audit and supervision framework;
- A revision of the scheme of delegation in respect of decision making.

The Committee discussed the report and agreed that the Chair of the Improvement Board should attend the next meeting to report the on progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the report be noted
- (2) That the revised Children's Services Improvement Plan be approved;
- (3) That an Improvement Board to oversee the developments of the Service be established;
- (4) That the Chair of the Improvement Board attend the 5 November 2015 meeting to report on the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan.

**5. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN'S SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY 2015-2017**

Jean Ash, Service Manager, submitted a report presenting the Looked After Children's Sufficiency Strategy 2015-2017 that set out how the Council would fulfil its "sufficiency" responsibility to ensure, as far as was reasonably practicable, that the placement and accommodation needs of Reading's Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers were met locally. A copy of a Marketing Action Plan 2015/16 was attached to the report at Appendix 1, a table setting out a Fostering Needs Analysis and Targets for Fostering Placements was attached to the report at Appendix 2 and a table providing information on placements within 20 miles of the Borough was attached to the report at Appendix 3.

The report explained that the Strategy established ambitious and challenging targets to increase the recruitment of Council foster carers and adopters who could offer a wide range of placement types. It also outlined the staffing resource that would be required to meet these targets. Such activity needed to be managed in parallel with the delivery of high quality supervision and support plus training and development for existing Council carers in order to retain their services. This work was underpinned by a focus on achieving the best outcomes for children and the matching process, access to a range of local placements plus support to the child and the carers, all of which would ensure the stability of the placement. Stability would be ensured further by the opportunity to move in a timely fashion to

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permanent placements including via Special Guardianship and Adoption where it was not possible to return the child to their birth family/extended family.

The report explained that the 0-19 population from the 2011 census had shown high numbers of children in the 0-4 age range, children who were now in the 5-7 age range. New LAC starters in 2014 still reflected high numbers in the under one year age group and the rest of the new LAC in 2014 were fairly evenly spread across the age range.

The report provided details of projected need, the current provision of foster carers and adopters, current placement arrangements, support available to Council carers and staying put arrangements.

Analysis of the profile of LAC and placement trends had resulted in a number of areas being identified for future work including the following:

- A requirement to revisit the permanency plans for a group of 40 plus children/young people who had been placed historically in Independent Fostering Agency placements and had remained with these carers as foster placements;
- Extensive marketing activity and highly developed recruitment practice would be essential to compete to recruit carers;
- Achieving timely adoptive placements for a cohort of children which included those who were aged from 0-8 years of age, sibling groups and a small number who had special needs had also been particularly difficult;
- Developing a broader range of placement options for vulnerable 16+ year olds should be given priority.

Finally, the report stated that the unpredictability of future demand despite best efforts to base projections on past trends and wider demographics remained a challenge when recruiting sufficient placements, as did recruiting sufficient numbers of Council carers to match the needs of the children requiring placements in a competitive local environment.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the Looked After Children's Sufficiency Strategy and targets for recruiting carers for children living in the Borough be agreed;
- (2) That the commitment of resources to achieve the proposed recruitment targets be agreed.

## **6. CREATING A SINGLE PATHWAY TO EARLY HELP SERVICES**

Helen McMullen, Interim Director of Children, Education and Early Help Services submitted a report asking the Committee to endorse the development of the access point and referral process for Early Help Services by creating a single pathway for this support.

The report explained that the "front door" for statutory services was provided by the MASH but there were a number of pathways for access for Early Help and a

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Business Case had been developed to streamline the access point and referral process for Early Help support by creating a single pathway. The aim was to improve the customer journey and ensure children and young people's needs were picked up appropriately and a number of workshops with partner agencies and services at the Council had been held in February 2015 to review the proposal and had confirmed that the proposal met the requirements of the referrers.

The report stated that there were a number of drivers to streamlining access point and referral processes to create a single pathway for requests for Early Help support including recommendations from the most recent Ofsted inspection in 2013, the need to target resources effectively in the context of improving outcomes for Troubled Families as part of the phase 2 programme, early identification and assessment of need being one of the key priorities in the Early Help Strategy 2013-2016 and feedback from partners.

The creation of a single pathway would be achieved through developing a single pathway and triage system to access Early Help Services, agreeing which services would be included in the single pathway, developing one form to request Early Help support that could be completed electronically, testing the new pathways using common scenarios and linking with the LSCB to review thresholds.

The report stated that there would be a number of benefits from the creation of a single pathway including reduced duplication and a simpler referral process, an increase in partnership/multi-agency working and access to a wider range of services, a less chaotic 'journey' for the family, more outcome focussed processes and a reduction in referrals that had escalated due to no early response.

**Resolved - That the development of the access point and referral process for Early Help Services by creating a single pathway for this support be endorsed.**

(Councillor Stanford-Beale declared an interest in this item. Nature of interest: Councillor Stanford-Beale was the Chair of Trustees of the Berkshire Autistic Society)

## **7. TROUBLED FAMILIES PROGRAMME**

Further to Minute 33 of the last meeting Nigel Denning, Interim Service Manager, submitted a report providing the Committee with an overview of the expansion of the Government's national programme from 2015-2020 and the implications for the Reading Troubled Families Programme and recommendations for the way the Payment By Results financial contribution from the Department for Communities and Local Government would be used to improve outcomes for families in Reading. A copy of the Troubled Families Outcome plan was attached to the report at Appendix 1 and an analysis of phase 1 was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

The report stated that the Council's approach to the Troubled Families programme had concluded with 93% of the Phase 1 families having achieved the outcomes by May 2015. Phase 2 would provide the Council with the opportunity to transform further the way the gap would be narrowed for vulnerable troubled families and would ensure that the best start was created for children. By 2020 the Troubled

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Families programme would have improved outcomes for a further 1,220 families who were being left behind and in order to deliver this the intention was that the Troubled Families Programme would provide a framework for delivery for the Council and its partners that would raise aspirations for individuals and their families. Each family would have a plan that would be focused on priorities to improve their lives and the right support to achieve lasting change. In order to achieve this it would require increased collaboration and a cohesive partnership between the Council, its partners and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The next phase of the programme would be a catalyst for change. An integrated delivery model would be created that would maximise resources across the partnership that met the needs of families in need of early help and protection and would build more capable communities whilst achieving savings. The approach to the programme was not about a single team but was a whole service delivery model whereby outcomes for the families could be measured which would narrow the gap and give children the best start in life.

The expanded national programme would widen the eligibility to six criteria and a family would have to have two of the six headline problems to be deemed eligible. Guidance that had been issued by the DCLG had stipulated that local authorities had to produce a local Outcomes Plan for the expanded programme that had to show which families would be prioritised, what a significantly improved outcome was for all of the six headline family problems, what would be measured to establish that the outcome had been achieved and the timeframes against which the sustainability of the outcomes would be measured.

The Reading outcomes had been selected following consultation with partner agencies, consideration of local priorities, feedback from DCLG and learning from the early adopters of Phase 2. The Plan was a dynamic tool and could be refreshed during the life of the programme and had been designed to be a simple yet consistent way of tracking outcomes for families throughout their involvement with the programme. It was intended that every identified Troubled Family would have their own outcomes plan that would be reviewed and monitored by the identified lead worker for the family.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the Troubled Families Outcome Plan be agreed;**
- (2) That the Payment by Results funding be ring fenced and used for workforce development and the creation of a Troubled Families Innovation Fund.**

## **8. READING YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2015/16**

Nigel Denning, Interim Service Manager, submitted a report asking the Committee to agree the annual Youth Justice Plan. A copy of the Reading Youth Justice Plan 2015/16 was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The report explained that the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a duty on the local authority to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan and was a condition of the

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Youth Justice Board Effective Practice Grant. The production of the plan was overseen by the multi-agency Youth Justice Management Board chaired by the Local Policing Area Commander. The plan reported the performance of the Youth Offending Service for 2014/15 against the national and local performance indicators for reducing First Time Entrants into the criminal justice system, reducing reoffending and the number of young people going into custody. The plan also provided further analysis with regard to safeguarding, managing the risk of harm to others and other local performance indicators.

The report stated that overall the Youth Offending Service had performed strongly against the national and local measures but there was more work to be done to ensure that young people who offended accessed suitable education training and employment. Whilst the number of young people receiving youth justice disposals had continued to reduce, there was a higher concentration of young people with multiple and complex needs, many of whom were also vulnerable and in need of safeguarding services. The annual report had identified a number of priority areas for 2015/16 including reducing offending of prolific and persistent young offenders, improving education, training and employment performance, developing phase 2 of the Troubled Families programme and ensuring that transitions from Youth custody to adult services were robust and effective.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That the annual Youth Justice Plan be agreed;
- (2) That officers in the services be thanked for their hard work.

**9. READING CHILDREN'S TRUST: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2015-2018**

Esther Blake, Business Manager for Reading LSCB and Children's Trust Partnership submitted a report presenting for endorsement the latest Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) (2015-18) which set out the expectations the Trust had in priority areas that had been identified as issues for children and families in Reading. A copy of the Plan was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The report explained that the Children's Trust Board members had taken part in dedicated sessions in 2014 to review data from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, data from the last Children and Young People's Plan and the priorities from key strategies and plans from partner organisations. The results of these sessions had produced a range of areas of concern which were collated and grouped into three overarching priorities: Having the best start in life and throughout, Learning and Employment and Keeping Children Safe. These priorities formed the basis of the new CYPP.

**Resolved - That the Children's and Young People's Plan 2015-2018 be endorsed.**



10. REVIEW OF THE INTEGRATION OF ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN READING

Wendy Fabbro, Director of Adult Care and Health Services, submitted a report setting out the results of a review of the secondment of local authority Adults Mental Health staff into the Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, based on the findings of a review into resulting outcomes for service users/carers and budget impacts. A summary of the "Have Your Say" Conference was attached to the report at Appendix 1, a summary of the results from the Reading Mental Health Survey was attached to the report at Appendix 2, tables showing performance information for 2010-2014 were attached at Appendix 3 and the terms of reference of the Mental Health Strategy Group were attached to the report at Appendix 4.

The report explained that following approval by Cabinet at its meeting on 18 February 2013, Minute 125 refers, 40 Council staff working within the Council's Adult Mental Health Services had been seconded to Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (BHFT) with the aim of improving outcomes for service users and carers and delivering savings/efficiencies. By the end of September 2015 the secondment would have been in place for two years. At the outset legal advice was that this secondment should not continue beyond two years given the implications of a lengthier secondment acquiring the status of 'custom and practice'.

A local review of the current Mental Health Social Care Staff and Service Arrangements in Reading had been underway since September 2014 and had been conducted in the context of developments in Mental Health provision. The review had captured the views of service users and carers, stakeholders from across the Council, CCGs and BHFT, Healthwatch, Reading Voluntary Action and other Mental Health Service providers. A "Have Your Say" Mental Health service user and carer conference had been held in December 2014 and further meetings with service user and carer groups had been held including a conference that had been arranged by BHFT to develop the support and understanding of faith and BME groups. The recommendations included an initial list of priorities for service users and a Mental Health Charter for working in partnership. The report set out in detail the findings of the review in terms of performance, commissioning budgets, Care Act implications, a Mental Health Strategy and social care staff.

The report stated that there had been a focus recently within the Reading context on achieving closer structural integration. However, going forward there needed to be greater emphasis on improving outcomes and a closer focus on benefit realisation. Neither legal advice nor staff feedback had favoured protracted secondment arrangements for Council staff and it was recommended that the secondment arrangements be suspended pending the development of a joint commissioning strategy which would articulate an outcomes focused approach that had been informed by the views of all stakeholders.

The report explained that a robust partnership arrangement might provide a much more integrated solution in joining up pathways and access to holistic support and pooling resources for mental health services under a Section 75 agreement could be a mechanism to establish a whole system which would reflect shared accountabilities, standards, duties, governance and priorities and which was

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responsive to and developed in the light of patient and carer experiences. Key financial and performance measures had to be included in a Section 75 agreement and although a joint information system was not available currently, agreement on streamlining performance indicators and how they were collated was being developed and could be included in the Section 75 agreement. A section 75 agreement would also provide an opportunity to clarify expectations and responsibilities so as to recognise the distinct values that all disciplines brought.

The report therefore proposed that the current secondment arrangement ceased in order to enable work to be carried out to ensure the 'right' service offer was established.

**Resolved -**

(1) That the following be noted:

- (a) The governance arrangements proposed for a multi-stakeholder Adults Mental Health Strategy Group to include people who used the service and their carers;
- (b) The (co-production) development of Adults Mental Health joint commissioning strategy to establish the priorities for improving Mental Health Services across Health, Social Care and wider support provision in Reading;
- (c) The setting out clearly of the Social Care vision, standards for which people who used services could hold the service providers accountable;
- (d) The development of a Section 75 (NHS Act 2006) agreement between the Council and Berkshire Health Foundation Trust to consider pooled resources for the future delivery of Adults Mental Health Services;

(2) That ending the current secondment arrangements of the Council's Mental Health Staff to Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust, pending the outcome of the joint strategic commissioning work, be agreed.

**11. INCREASE IN MENTALLY ILL ABSCONDERS - ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

Simon Hill and Richard Woodford, Scrutiny Officers, submitted a report recommending that the Committee, as the Council's health scrutiny body, set up a task and finish group to investigate the recently reported issue of an increase in mentally ill absconders from psychiatric hospitals and in particular from Prospect Park psychiatric hospital in Reading.

David Townsend, Director Berkshire NHS Healthcare Foundation Trust, attended the meeting and provided the Committee with a verbal report about the issue and answered questions. He informed the Committee that the figures that had been

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reported in the press had originated from incorrect information that had been provided following receipt of a Freedom of Information request. Under the Mental Health Act within the Mental Health Service someone would be reported as absence without leave if they had left hospital and had failed to return by an agreed time. Two definitions were used: people who absconded and those who had absconded without leave. There were various reasons why people left the ward such as boredom, fear, worrying about things at home, seeking alcohol or drugs or an angry response to treatment. People were admitted for a number of different reasons but the aim was to provide care in the least restrictive environment and ensuring there was a balance between patient safety and maintaining an environment conducive to the therapeutic work carried out at the hospital, it was not a custodial environment.

Absconsions were monitored on a risk register and were reported by ward, status of patient and means by which the patient had left the ward. The numbers were reviewed on a weekly basis, monitored by the Director each month and reviewed within the team at the hospital each quarter. An in depth analysis was also carried out annually and reported in the annual accounts. The number of absconsions in the previous four years were as follows:

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 2010/11 | 173 |
| 2011/12 | 181 |
| 2012/13 | 112 |
| 2013/14 | 94  |
| 2014/15 | 140 |

A patient's status could change and they could be recorded in many ways, for example, in the previous year one patient had absconded 21 times. However, what was more important was the risk profile. There had been a slight increase in the number of absconders in the previous year and the Trust had been reviewing the reasons for this increase, one of which had been the higher level of bed occupancy, simply having more patients in the hospital and more detained patients. The other reason could have been the reduction in the height of fences around the hospital, the 'toppers' having been removed as they had been considered a 'ligature risk'.

An improvement plan had been put in place and training and awareness had been increased. The signing in and signing out process had been increased and improved, safe word initiatives had been introduced, conflict resolution strategies had been put in place, a review of the environment had been carried out, the fire alarm testing procedure had been changed and there had been an increased level of activity on the wards. Work was also being carried out with the police over the use of police cells as a place of safety.

**Resolved -**

- (1) That a task and finish group be set up to investigate the issues behind the increase in the number of mentally ill patients absconding from psychiatric hospitals and in particular from Prospect Park Hospital in Reading;

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- (2) That the Chair and membership of the task and finish group be as follows:  
  
Councillors Hoskin (Chair), Eden and Stanford-Beale;
- (3) That Councillors O'Connell and White inform the Chair who would be taking a place on the task and finish group;
- (4) That the task and finish group submit a report to the November 2015 meeting on the findings of their investigation.

**12. CARE ACT IMPLEMENTATION - UPDATE**

Wendy Fabbro, Director of Adult Care and Health Services, submitted a report providing the Committee with a summary of the new duties set out in the Care Act 2014 and Reading's Adult Social Care Service response and performance against them in relation to those parts of the Act which had come into effect from April 2015. An analysis of the Funding Reform requirements as set out in the draft regulations was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The report explained that where the local authority had been given discretionary powers under the Care Act local policies had been prepared or refreshed to describe how these would be used. These local policies had been developed in the light of feedback that had been gathered through a public consultation on the local implementation of the Act and on Equality Impact Assessment of the proposed approaches.

The report also summarised the proposed Funding Reform changes that were to be implemented in April 2016 as part of the Act and the Council's planning so far in relation to these and a significant element of the Care Act Programme Office work for the remainder of 2015 would be preparing for the 2016 changes.

**Resolved - That the report be noted.**

**13. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BETTER CARE FUND**

Wendy Fabbro, Director of Adult Care and Health Services, submitted a report informing the Committee about the progress to date on the Better Care Fund. A table incorporating details for the workstreams with the Better Care Fund was attached to the report at Appendix 1, a Governance chart for the Better Care Integration Programme was attached to the report at Appendix 2 and a draft Equality Impact Assessment was attached to the report at Appendix 3.

The report summarised the next steps that included reviewing the progress to date and governance arrangements for the whole programme, reviewing the programme against a corporate and departmental business case for the Council, agreeing the priorities of the programme once reviews had taken place and carrying out a stakeholder evaluation event during the summer to determine what was working well, what lessons could be learnt and what integration opportunities there were going forward.

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**Resolved - That the report be noted.**

**14. DELAYED TRANSFER OF CARE**

Wendy Fabbro, Director of Adult Care and Health Services, submitted a report providing the Committee with an update of Reading's performance relating to Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOC) from the acute hospital setting. A copy of the Underperforming Indicator Action Plan was attached to the report at Appendix 1 and a series of graphs and tables providing information on delayed transfers was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

The report stated that performance had reduced creating an increase in the number of delays and an increase in the number of people being admitted to hospital had had a material impact on performance. For the North West Reading Clinical Commissioning Group there had been a 7% increase in admissions into hospital and for the South Reading Clinical Commissioning Group there had been an increase of 11%. The performance data had identified the main reason for the increase in delays; those attributable to Adult Social Care had been due to the timely availability of residential and nursing home placements. Those attributable to health were due to non-acute NHS Care.

An Action Plan had been developed to improve performance locally and was being monitored via the Adult Social Care Performance Board and the system wide Urgent Care Network.

**Resolved - That the current performance relating to Delayed Transfers of Care and the Action Plan in place to improve performance be noted.**

(The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and closed at 8.25 pm).