

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH

TO:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD		
DATE:	24 MARCH 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	6
TITLE:	CONNECTED CARE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	CLLR HOSKIN / CLLR EDEN	PORTFOLIO:	HEALTH / ADULT SOCIAL CARE
SERVICE:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH	WARDS:	ALL
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Connected Care programme.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing board are asked to note the general progress to date
- 2.2 To note the requirement to finalise work on the Reading Information Governance toolkit, and to support the recommendation to implement an officer led task and finish group to ensure that the toolkit is completed during May 2017.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 Data sharing and the use of the NHS number as the prime identifier remain important initiatives and are part of national policy regarding Integration. The sharing of data amongst front line professionals is a key enabler to integration allowing front line professionals to access information from both social care and health about people in a seamless way. This will lead to a greatly improved experience for people in need of Social care or health support.

4. CONNECTED CARE OVERVIEW

- 4.1 The Connected Care project will deliver a solution that will enable data sharing between the health and social care organisations in Berkshire and provide a single point of access for patients wanting to view their care information. The project will support delivery of the 10 universal capabilities as defined in the Berkshire West Local Digital Roadmap and enable service transformation as specified in the BCF.

4.2 The projects primary objectives are to:

- Enable information exchange between health and social care professionals.
- Support self-care by providing a person held (health and social care) record (PHR) for the citizens of Berkshire.
- Enable population health management by providing a health and social care dataset suitable for risk stratification analysis.

4.3 The benefits of the connected care project are:

Citizen

Citizens have choice and control, and better able to help themselves, more care can be based around home.

Operational

Resources are used efficiently and effectively, Comply with national directives, and enabler for service redesign

Staff

Enables capable, sustainable motivated teams, will lead to Improvements in safeguarding, and greatly increase coordination and collaboration across professionals.

Financial

Assists total system financial sustainability

4.4 There is a requirement for Reading to put in place a technical connection to the new Connected Care system. The connection will ensure the secure interconnectivity between PSN and the NHS N3 secure network. This in turn will provide the ability to link to NHS (Rio) and Social Care (Mosiatic) systems

4.5 Information, whether held in tacit, written or electronic formats should be treated as key assets of any organization. Information therefore requires corporate policy and governance controls to ensure it is used appropriately and in accordance with current legislation.

4.6 The most significant challenge for this project is around information governance, because our health partners need to be satisfied that appropriate standards are in place before any secure connection can be made.

4.7 The process of assessment is through the Information Governance (IG) Toolkit, an online system that allows NHS organisations and partners to assess themselves against Department of Health information governance policies and standards. Subsequent assessment takes place annually to ensure maintenance and development of information governance.

4.8 In order that Reading can meet the overall timescales of the Berkshire West Connected care programme it is necessary that the Information Governance Toolkit (as detailed in 4.7 above) is completed by May 2017. An information governance subgroup is in place to revise policy and data sharing agreements, as required, ensuring lawful handling and sharing of data. There is however a need to put in place an officer led task and finish group to accelerate work on the toolkit and to ensure that the first deadline of May 2017 is achieved.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 The Connected Care project contributes to the following strategic aims:

- To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all
- To remain financially sustainable

5.2 The Connected Care project supports the following council commitments:

- Ensuring that all vulnerable residents are protected and cared for
- Enabling people to live independently, and also providing support when needed to families
- Changing the Council's service offer to ensure core services are delivered within a reduced budget so that the council is financially sustainable and can continue to deliver services across the town

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 N/A - no new proposals or decisions recommended / requested.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Members are under a legal duty to comply with the public sector equality duties set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The relevant provisions are as set out below.

Section 149 (1) - A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Section 149 (7) - The relevant protected characteristics are:

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

In order to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty, Members must seek to prevent discrimination, and protect and promote the interests of vulnerable groups who may be adversely affected by the proposals. Members must be therefore give conscious and open minded consideration to the impact of the duty when reaching any decision in relation to the Better Care Fund and Integration programmes. The Public Sector Equality Duty (S.149) to pay 'due regard' to equalities duties is higher in cases where there is an obvious impact on protected groups. This duty, however, remains one of process and not outcome.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 N/A - no new proposals or decisions recommended / requested.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Funding has been agreed at the Berkshire West level, and Reading is not required to fund the project.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Connected Care presentation