

FUTURE SOCIAL CARE NEEDS FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES IN HEREFORDSHIRE

Report By: Director of Adult and Community Services

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To consider the findings and recommendations of the review of future social care needs of older people and people with learning disabilities and the services needed to meet them.

Background

2. Herefordshire's adult social care services have been facing increasing financial pressures, against a background of continuously increasing user demand.
3. In order to understand the demographic pressures facing the County and the way the pressures might translate into service needs to vulnerable adults the Council, jointly with the Primary Care Trust (PCT), agreed to commission a detailed needs analysis looking at the demographic pressures and how these might translate into service needs.
4. A small project team led by the Council's Corporate Policy and Research Manager and involving the PCT, Adult Social Care and Finance staff has undertaken the needs analysis work. This work has been independently validated and has been benchmarked with high-performing authorities elsewhere in the country.
5. The attached report and appendices set out the analysis undertaken and summarise the conclusions both in terms of the demography and the way in which that demography will translate into increased service needs and budget pressures.
6. The reports also set out a strategy for the future based on a significant shift to a more preventative model of services, which will require a much greater contribution from the voluntary sector.
7. This new model of service would require some additional investment but not as much as would the current model of service. It would also enable the Council to improve significantly the quality of services available to the residents of Herefordshire.
8. Following consideration by Adult Social Care And Strategic Housing Scrutiny Committee, the report will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 14th December, 2006 and it is intended that a seminar will be organised so that the information in the report can be shared with all Members. This will be followed by a stakeholder seminar with key representatives of the voluntary sector, PCT and other stakeholders to agree the way forward.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the attached reports be considered and endorsed for consideration by Cabinet, subject to any comments the Committee wishes to make.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None