

IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATIONS INTO HOME CARE AND SUPPORTED HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

Report By: Head of Social Care (Adults)

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To note the progress of the exploratory programme for in-depth investigations of home support for older people and supported housing for people with mental health problems.

Financial Implications

2. None identified at present.

Progress

3. Home Support for Older People
 - Members have had the opportunity of shadowing assessment staff and STARRS staff to gain insight into the assessment and re-ablement services.
 - The group has met three times to hear presentations by officers on the following topics:
 - How current funds are spent.
 - Government targets, eligibility for social care services and charging policies.
 - The National Service Framework for Older People.
 - The changes in home care, following the Best Value Review and the human resource challenges.
 - Support for informal carers.
 - Challenges for delivering services in a rural area.
 - Future plans for balance of services.

4. Housing and Support for People who Experience Mental Health Problems

- A further scoping day at Castle Green outlined four proposals to address issues around housing support for people with mental health problems. The desired outcomes were:
 - Understanding pathways into housing.
 - Best practice models.
 - Issues faced by mental health services.
- Four events were arranged, the detail of which is contained in Appendix 1:
 - Visit to the Stonebow unit to hear the point of view of Mark Hemming and his Mental Health colleagues, 4th November, 2004.
 - Exploring the User Perspective, 17th December, 2004.
 - Exploring the Provider Perspective, 17th December, 2004.
 - Developing supported housing and housing related support services, 3rd December, 2004.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the progress of the investigations be noted.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Social Care and Housing Committee report – 4th October, 2004.