

INDEPENDENCE, WELL-BEING AND CHOICE

Report By: Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To advise the Committee of the Department of Health Adult Social Care Green Paper - "Independence, Well-Being and Choice".

Financial Implications

2. None identified at this stage.

Considerations

3. The transformation proposed in the vision set out in the Green Paper, a copy of which is enclosed separately for Members of the Committee, has a strong connection to the direction of adult social care in Herefordshire and the restructuring rationale for Directorates in the Council.
4. The personalised budgets proposed are to be welcomed, in principle, but there is no additional investment highlighted nor change programme support as in "Every Child Matters".
5. How this direction is to be achieved and what legislative and policy changes are needed is not detailed which does give an opportunity to offer, in the consultation response, some key thoughts.
6. The opportunity to strengthen safeguarding adults (vulnerable adult protection) has not been taken in the document.
7. The ADSS/LGA/NHS Confederation document, also enclosed separately, was a significant contribution to the DoH thinking prior to publication, however, its recommendations were not all taken on board and may be a useful guide for comments from Social Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee considers whether it wishes to make any comments on the Green Paper for consideration by the Cabinet Member (Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing) in any formal response by Herefordshire Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Sue Fiennes, Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing on 01432 260039