



To - Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting - 13th February, 2018

Notes of - Committee Administrator

IMPROVING STANDARDS OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE – RECOMMISSIONING OF HOMECARE SERVICES

Background

1. The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel has been monitoring the recommissioning of homecare services being carried out by Lancashire County Council (LCC) since it first heard of the proposals in September 2014.
2. The last update submitted to the Panel was in October 2017 and detailed the providers that LCC intended to award contracts to in Pendle.
3. This included nine providers for older people/people with physical disabilities; five providers for people with learning disabilities; and five providers for people with mental health needs. (Total 19)
4. At that point in time, the timeline indicated that the new contracts would commence in November, 2017.

Current position

5. LCC advise –
 - that the new framework and contracts commenced on 13th November, 2017
 - contracts have been awarded to those providers listed in the October 2017 update
 - from then to now everything has gone smoothly and the market has responded well in Pendle as shown by the following –
 - 102 new home care packages have so far been successfully arranged through the framework for people living in Pendle
 - to date it has not had to source a single home care package outside the framework in Pendle i.e. from a provider that does not have a framework contract

- There are currently no delayed packages of care in Pendle – a delayed package of care occurs when it is struggling sourcing a home care package and the planned service start date has passed.

The situation is being monitored on a daily basis so that LCC can quickly respond if any difficulties arise.

The transfer of people who currently receive home care from a non-framework provider to a framework provider, or to a direct payment, is still expected to take place between February and December this year.

The Way Forward

6. The Panel is reminded that an invitation for officers of LCC to attend a meeting of this Panel was declined by the LCC Cabinet Member for Adult Services.
7. This was due to the time consuming process being undertaken and the need for officer resources to remain fully focussed on implementation of the framework.
8. Panel members agreed that the successful implementation of the framework was the priority and therefore extended the invitation to a later meeting, at a time when the contracts would be in place and the transfer of managed service users would have commenced.
9. A response is awaited.
10. The recommissioning of homecare services is clearly an ongoing process and the effect on service users is yet to be fully assessed.
11. The Panel may therefore feel that further monitoring is required.
12. However, a change in Pendle Council's governance arrangements, coming into effect from this year's Annual Council meeting, means that there will no longer be a Scrutiny Committee.
13. As a result, the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel will no longer operate in its current form.
14. It is however proposed to have a Standing Panel to look at health issues.
15. The Panel may therefore wish to recommend that, going forward, the Standing Panel continue to monitor the recommissioning of homecare services.

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