

REVIEW OF THE CARE MARKET

Summary

1. The Director of Adult Services and Health will brief the Adult Care and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Panel on plans to carry out a review of the care market in Worcestershire.

Background

2. The Panel has held a number of discussions during 2014/15 around adult social care services, in particular care services for older people, and also the Council's monitoring of domiciliary care providers. Suggestions were made for greater weighting of service user issues/complaints as part of the risk analysis process.

3. The resilience and sustainability of the care market is part of the Panel's 2015 work programme, recently endorsed by the Council's overarching Scrutiny Board.

4. In parallel, the Directorate of Adult Services and Health plans to review the care market in Worcestershire, and a tender exercise is underway to appoint a suitable independent body to do this. The aim of the exercise is to gain a better understanding of a number of key areas:

- What does the market look like – especially in terms of resilience and sustainability?
- What demand pressures are falling on the market now and are likely to fall on the market in the future?
- Given the range of demand and current supply, how might the County begin to stimulate the market to deliver change?

5. The scope for the review includes adult social care services to older people, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems and physical disabilities, and extends to the market both for Council funded individuals and self-funders.

6. The Council's website contains information on the tender information for the review, which can be viewed at:

<https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/etendering/TenderDetails.aspx?id=1519>

Purpose of this Meeting

7. The Panel will be briefed on the Directorate of Adult Services and Health's plans to commission an independent review of the care market in Worcestershire.

Next Steps

8. As part of the discussion with the Director, members will have the opportunity to give initial thought to the Panel's own work on care provider market resilience and sustainability, and how best to add value to this area.

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following background papers relate to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of Adult Care and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 1 July 2014 and 22 January 2015

Tender document link: <https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/etendering/TenderDetails.aspx?id=1519>

The above documents can be found on the Council's website at: <http://worcestershire.moderngov.co.uk/uucoverpage.aspx?bcr=1>