

Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 25th September 2012

Summary of Commissioning Intentions for Older People 2012-2015

Report by the Director for Social & Community Services

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This short report summarises the key elements of the County Councils Commissioning Intentions for Older People.

'Ageing Successfully' set the strategic direction for our approach to improving outcomes for older people in Oxfordshire in 2009 and this new commissioning intentions document outlines the areas that Oxfordshire County Council will focus on to support the delivery of Ageing Successfully. It summarises our vision for older people and outlines the approach we will take to commissioning services for people who are ageing and their carers over the next three years. The document has been developed in conjunction with a range of stakeholders but mostly with the support of older people and their carers.

2. Our Intentions

- 2.1 We celebrate our ageing population. We want all people as they age to lead lives that are healthy and personally and socially fulfilling. Our ambition for older people in Oxfordshire is:

To enable people to live independent and successful lives

- 2.2 To achieve this, we are intending to invest in a range of community services to support people to live independently and well at home and reduce the need for hospital and inappropriate residential care and ensuring quality of care in services.

The document explains the changing profile and increasing number of older people who will be living in Oxfordshire and identifies 7 priority areas that the Council working with its NHS Oxfordshire partners will be working on.

- 2.3 Key data from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment identifies that:
- The number of older people in Oxfordshire continues to grow as expected.
 - The growth in the number of older people is not uniform across the county. It is markedly higher in our more rural districts than in the urban areas.
 - Older people rightly demand and expect a flexible range of services built around their individual needs so that they can maintain independence and stay close to home for as long as possible.
 - An increasing number of people are engaged in caring for elderly friends and relatives and many more volunteer their help. Many of these people are elderly themselves.
 - There are a growing number of people with dementia in the County who require access to new emerging treatments.

- 2.4 New approaches to supporting and managing the care of older people are critical and must include:
- Working with older people to put their care into their own hands where it is possible to do so.
 - Preventing disease where possible in the middle decades of people's lives, investing in services backed by scientific evidence.
 - Minimising the impact of disease once it has begun through early detection programmes and expert patient approaches.
 - Balancing universal services for common conditions faced by the vast majority with specialist or targeted services for these with rarer conditions and commissioning these specialist services selectively and with care.
 - Balancing services which are closer to home while delivering modern, high quality services.
 - Creating a climate in which communities can draw on their own resources to help themselves

3. Seven Priority Areas

1. Ensure older people have access to a range of services that promote their independence and support them to keep well.
2. Ensure there are a range of day opportunities to support people to live independently and avoid isolation.
3. Increase the capacity, choice and range of high quality and safe providers for people to be supported at home.
4. Ensure that family carers are supported to continue their caring role.
5. Ensure there is a range of nursing and residential home provision with the right quality and at the right price and develop a range of alternatives.
6. Support the Delivery of the Appropriate Care for Everyone (ACE) programme to ensure that older people get the right service at the right time in the right place.
7. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the way we work. Including developing a true pooled budget for older people.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The joint commissioning team are delivering a range of service changes to support each of the priority areas and these will be monitored on a regular basis and checked against the health and well-being strategy targets.
- 4.2 The OCCG have also developed a commissioning intentions document that reflects and supports the delivery of the Councils intentions.
- 4.3 Officers from the Council and the OCCG are working with a group of key stakeholders including older people and carers to develop a joint commissioning strategy based on the two intentions documents. This will be the topic of the first Adults Board workshop and will be consulted on during November and December with the intention of being completed and ready for implementation in April 2013.

4.4 Work is underway to ensure that key work undertaken by the District Councils and the City Council are aligned with and supported by the joint commissioning strategy.

John Jackson
Director for Social & Community Services

Sara Livadeas
Deputy Director Joint Commissioning

September 2012