

Report of: Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

| Meeting of: | Date | Ward(s) |
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| Executive | 22 October 2015 | All |

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SUBJECT: SECTION 75 ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP REPORT – ISLINGTON COUNCIL AND WHITTINGTON HEALTH

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The London Borough of Islington and Whittington Health have an existing Section 75 (National Health Service Act 2006) Partnership Agreement, which supports effective partnership working.
- 1.2 There are three main drivers for partnership working to deliver health and social care:
- It makes sense for users – most vulnerable residents need elements of both, and the more integrated the response the better for them
 - It makes sense for staff – better understanding of, and access to, a wide range of health and social care services and advice enables them to provide a better service
 - It delivers better value for money – combining budgets and avoiding duplication makes for more effective use of public funds.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To note this annual report (Appendix 1) and endorse the achievements of the S75 Partnership working between London Borough of Islington Adult Social Services and Whittington Health for adults and older people.

3. Background

- 3.1 Islington has a long history of successful partnership working, with the first S31 (now S75) Partnership Agreement signed by the newly formed PCT and the Council in 2002. There has been significant structural change within the NHS and the S75 Partnership Agreements were updated in 2011 and that agreement, together with the Intermediate Care Integrated Provider Agreement, continues to have the following aims : -
- Support people to live independently for as long as possible

- Improve the services received by vulnerable people in the community, by integrating the service delivery and provider arrangements between health and social care. This will allow client focussed care to be developed and delivered to individuals in order to meet their needs in a more seamless and efficient manner.
- Enhance opportunities available to provide services to local people which meet their needs in an integrated, coordinated, sensitive and efficient manner
- Provide services to clients with fewer gaps and overlaps between different providers
- Provide communities with a single response from health and social care about how best to meet their needs
- Provide a richer pool of knowledge and experience for staff working within the partnership arrangements from which to draw upon in developing and delivering services
- Offer an improved infra-structure and management support for all staff working within the partnership arrangements
- Ensure policy, strategy and decision making takes place in whole system context
- Support the development of the joint strategic needs assessment and priority setting based in this
- Support the development of the Local Area Agreement and partnership activities to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for local people
- Achieve efficiency savings.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications

The Council and Whittington Health have a S75 partnership agreement that was set up in 2004 to assist with the access and delivery of equipment in the community. The total budget was £900k for 2014/15 and is the same for 2015/16. The Council and Whittington Health both make an equal contribution of £450k.

In 2014/15 the ICES (Integrated Community Equipment Store) pooled budget final position was £69k overspent which was then split on a 50/50 basis. At this time there are no additional expected pressures on these budgets for 2015/16. Any risks arising should be managed down in year in accordance with the agreements set out.

Please note that the Intermediate Care Pooled budget is held between Islington CCG and Islington Council.

4.2 Legal Implications

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 sets out the obligations on the health service in respect of its relationship with care and support services, including making it easier for health and social care services to work together. The relevant agreement between Whittington Health and the Council, made under section 75 of the National Health Services Act 2006, includes arrangements for pooling resources and delegating certain NHS and Council health-related functions to the other partner, where this leads to an improvement in the way those functions are exercised.

The Council has a duty under Section 3 of the Care Act 2014 to integrate care and support with those provided by the NHS and other health-related services. The duty will apply where the Council considers that integration of services would promote the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs (including carers), contribute to the prevention or delay of developing care needs, or improve the quality of care in Islington.

4.3 **Environmental Implications**

Islington Social Services has a relatively minor environmental impact, which is largely limited to travel (emissions and congestion) and office usage (energy and paper use). Joint working projects such as this partnership with Whittington Health have the potential to have a positive environmental impact, due to a reduction in the duplication of work. The increasing use of telecare also has a positive environmental impact, as it reduces travel demand.

4.4 **Equality Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

5. **Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

5.1 The strong history of partnership working between Islington Social Services and the health services that are now within Whittington Health NHS Trust provides a solid platform to further develop local and locality services that are truly 'joined up' and delivered in a way that offers integrated care and support, to the benefit of Islington residents. This has been effective to:

- Support people to stay in their own homes and be as independent as possible
- Avoid unnecessary stays in hospital
- Receive all necessary equipment that enables them to be safely cared for at home in a timely fashion
- Support integrated working with primary care to manage the care of people with complex needs or frailties more effectively.

It is important to preserve the benefits of integrated working, and to use the opportunities to develop further integration of front-line teams over the coming year, as this will provide a better coordinated service to vulnerable people, and ensures that opportunities to share expertise and specialist knowledge are maximised, and that any duplication of work is minimised.

The attached report details some of the key achievements and developments over the last year and outlines planned future developments.

Appendices

- Report on Section 75 (National Health Service Act 2006) Partnership Working between London Borough of Islington and Whittington Health NHS Trust

Final report clearance

Janet Burgess

Signed by: Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

Date: 7 October 2015

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