

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE – No. 1/18

Date: 13/06/18

Briefing paper to: All Members of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Purpose:

This Briefing Note provides information requested by the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the following:

- a) The number of social workers employed by Medway and the staffing structure.
 - b) The number of NHS Continuing Healthcare Assessments that were outstanding.
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1.1. Adult Social Care Structure

- 1.2. An ASC Management/Integrated Practitioner Structure Chart is attached as Appendix A of this briefing note.
- 1.3. The Care Act 2014 requires local authorities to ‘consider the person’s own strengths and capabilities, and what support might be available from their wider support network or within the community to help’ in considering ‘what else other or alongside the provision of care and support might assist the person in meeting the outcomes they want to achieve’.
- 1.4. Medway Council’s Adult Social Care Service aims to deliver this through a strengths based approach in a way that allows the person to lead, and be in control of, an ordinary and independent day-to-day life as much as possible and to delay the development of further needs.
- 1.5. Adult Social Care incorporates an Early Help and Prevention service and a Long Term Support Service which work together across three localities, Rainham & Gillingham, Walderslade & Chatham and Strood, Rochester & Hoo.
- 1.6. The aim of the Early Help and Prevention team is to help people find solutions to their problems at an early stage, to maintain their independence for as long as possible and reduce and/or delay a persons need for social care support.

- 1.7. The aim of the Long Term Support Service is to provide ongoing intervention and active case management for individuals with long term needs whose circumstances may change and become more complex.
- 1.8. To support the delivery of the Early Help and Prevention and Long Term Support teams Adult Social Care employs Integrated Practitioners who are made up of social workers and qualified occupational therapists and nurses. The latest structure chart shows that there are 15 Practice Managers and 84 integrated Practitioners. Assistant Integrated Practitioners are unqualified staff who play an important role across the service. There are 39 Assistant Integrated Practitioners working in Adult Social Care.
- 1.9. The number of NHS Continuing Health Care Assessments that were outstanding
- 1.10. The national performance target is for CCGs to reach decisions regarding eligibility for Continuing Healthcare referrals within 28 days for 80% of patient cases.
- 1.11. Performance of the CCG Specialist Assessment and Placements Team (SAPT) has historically exceeded this “Good Practice” target.
- 1.12. During Quarter 3 of 2017/18 this target was achieved for 95% of referrals completed within the Quarter. In real terms the team completed 86 referrals within the quarter where 82 of those referrals were completed within 28 days.
- 1.13. Where eligibility decisions are not reached within 28 days the CCG review cases on an individual basis to understand what has led to the breach and where improvements can be implemented.
- 1.14. Upon receipt of a referral SAPT will make contact with patients either to arrange a Decision Support Tool assessment or alternatively to notify patients where they do not meet the eligibility criteria for such assessment. In this way it should never be the case that a patient is able to report having been referred but then not having been contacted by SAPT.
- 1.15. The SAPT team can be contacted via 03000 424 999 / nkccg.placements@nhs.net

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Appendices

Appendix A: ASC Management/Integrated Practitioner Structure Chart

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ASC Management/Integrated Practitioner Structure Chart

