

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**PUBLIC REPORT**

Report to:	CABINET
Report of:	Strategic Director for People
Date of Decision:	24th January 2017
SUBJECT:	BIRMINGHAM ADULT SOCIAL CARE PEER CHALLENGE 14th-16th NOVEMBER 2016
Key Decision: Yes	Relevant Forward Plan Ref: 002971/2017
If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)	Chief Executive approved <input type="checkbox"/> O&S Chairman approved <input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Paulette Hamilton - Health & Social Care
Relevant O&S Chairman:	Cllr John Cotton – Health, Wellbeing & the Environment
Wards affected:	All

1. Purpose of report:
1.1 This report details the findings arising from a West Midlands Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) Peer Challenge which took place in Birmingham from 14 th - 16 th November 2016, as part of a commitment that it should be available in public.

2. Decision(s) recommended:
That Cabinet:-
2.1 notes the findings of the November 2016 Peer Challenge and the proposed action plan.

Lead Contact Officer(s):	Peter Hay Strategic Director for People
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3.	Consultation
3.1	<p><u>Internal</u></p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Health and Well & Social Care, along with officers from Legal & Democratic Services, City Finance and Directorate for People Management Team have been consulted and involved in the preparation of this report.</p>
3.2	<p><u>External</u></p> <p>The action plan has been developed in conjunction with colleagues from West Midlands ADASS in response to their findings.</p>

4.	Compliance Issues:
4.1	<p><u>Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?</u></p> <p>Adult Social Care contributes to the Council of the Future theme of "Health – a great city to grow old in".</p>
4.2	<p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p>The Peer Challenge recognised the scale of the financial challenge facing Adult Social Care with a cumulative budget reduction of £152m since 2011 and the need for further savings to be delivered. The financial context and the ability of the Council to mitigate the risks that this poses to our ambitions was a key theme of the review.</p>
4.3	<p><u>Legal Implications</u></p> <p>The Care Act 2014 together with associated regulations and guidance gives the power and duty to provide services to meet assessed eligible need for care and support to individuals.</p>
4.4	<p><u>Public Sector Equality Duty</u></p> <p>An Equality Impact Assessment is not required; however the findings of the Peer Challenge may be used to inform other assessments as required.</p>

5.	Relevant background/chronology of key events:
5.1	<p>As part of the sector led approach to performance in adult social care, a process of peer review has been developed to ensure independent oversight and challenge of Council performance. The first use by the Council of a peer review in adult social care was undertaken by a Local Government Association (LGA) team in March 2013 (key decision 480996 refers).</p>
5.2	<p>Since then, the West Midlands Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) have developed regional peer review arrangements. This is the second WMADASS Peer Challenge (key decision 541989 refers to the first review undertaken in February 2015).</p>

- 5.3 The Peer Challenge team, led by the DASS from Wolverhampton and supported by a Cabinet Member and an expert by experience from Solihull together with an NHS colleague and Assistant Directors from a number of local authorities and a Programme Manager from ADASS were on-site from 14th – 16th November 2016. The programme included:
- Interviews and discussions with Councillors, officers and partners – over 90 people met with the peer challenge team in 30 separate sessions and 11 different locations in 3 days.
 - Focus groups with managers, practitioners, frontline staff, carers and people who use services.
 - A case file audit undertaken by principal social workers.
 - Visits to community facilities.
 - Reviewing documents provided by the Council, including a self-assessment of progress, strengths and areas for improvement (see Appendix 1).
- 5.4 The Peer Challenge considered the following scope:
- “As a Peer Challenge team we want to find out if Birmingham City Council have a clear understanding of where they are currently with the quality, management of risk, consistency and value for money of adult social care practice and delivery, to explore what the Directorate, City Council and local NHS partners can do to help them deliver more person-centred, asset-based approaches to help their adult citizens to remain independent, for longer.”
- 5.5 The Peer Challenge Team made many positive observations, including:
- A new city vision and plan that has Older People as one of the four priorities – “a great city to grow old in”
 - Clear programme management approach with political leadership for the Maximising Independence of Adults programme
 - Sustained strong performance and process in adult safeguarding
 - Work commenced to develop a framework for Adult Social Care provision
 - Aspiration to support a Birmingham Care Wage
 - Positive joint working in the last 12 months across Health and Social Care, good frontline working relationships and growing joint working on pathways and shared protocols between Health and Social Care
 - Staff that we met were positive, enthusiastic, knowledgeable in their field and open to scrutiny and challenge
 - Responsiveness of the Standard service
 - Use of telephone assessment
- 5.6 A number of areas for consideration were also identified:
- Financial grip – improve financial monitoring, deliver identified savings
 - Strengthen the relationship between commissioning and delivery and improve engagement with stakeholders including carers
 - Maximising Independence of Adults programme – increase the scale and pace of delivery
 - Health relationship/integration – translate initial thinking into a credible vision for an integrated place-based health and social care system in Birmingham

- Maximise the potential of an asset-based approach with the voluntary and community sector to transform model of social work – particularly in relation to prevention
- Strengthen the interface between Adult Social Care and the corporate centre to realise the ambition for Birmingham to become “a city that cares” and a “great city to grow old in”.

5.7 The Peer Challenge Team Feedback Letter can be found in Appendix 2. An Action Plan, in response to the findings can be found in Appendix 3.

6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):

6.1 Not applicable.

Signatures

Date

Councillor Paulette Hamilton
Cabinet Member for
Health and Social Care

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Peter Hay
Strategic Director for People

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List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:

1. Self -Assessment – BCC, October 2016
2. “Adult Social Care Peer Review” – BCC Cabinet, 16th March 2015

List of Appendices accompanying this Report (if any):

1. Self-Assessment
2. Peer Challenge Feedback Letter
3. Action Plan – To Follow

Report Version	V3	Dated	10/01/2017
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