

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19TH NOVEMBER 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on Carmarthenshire's Adult Social Care Services

To consider and comment on the following issues:

That the report is accepted, and that the immediate and longer-term impact of Covid-19 is considered.

Reasons:

To provide Scrutiny Committee with a position statement regarding how adult social care services have managed the first phase of the pandemic and highlight the service priorities going forward.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: **NO**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: -

Cllr. Jane Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)

Directorate	Designations:	Tel Nos./ E Mail Addresses:
Communities		
Jake Morgan	Director of Community Services	
Report Author		
Avril Bracey	Head of Adult Social Care	01267 242492
Alex Williams	Head of Integrated Services	Abracey@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Jonathan Morgan	Head of Homes and Safer Communities	
Chris Harrison	Head of Strategic Commissioning	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19TH NOVEMBER 2020

**Impact of COVID-19 on Carmarthenshire's Adult
Social Care Services**

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

This document is a position statement regarding the Covid-19 pandemic's impact on Adult Social Care and includes Integrated Services, and Commissioning.

The report describes how we managed the first phase of the pandemic, lessons learnt and how this is informing our priorities going forward.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Yes

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **Avril Bracey**

Head of Adult Social care

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

1. We must make sure that we learn from this unprecedented experience as we reintroduce our services and re-set our strategic and operational priorities. We must identify our key learning points at a service and organisational level.
2. We will need to align our vision and business plans with the revised corporate '*Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire 5 Year Plan*', *Corporate Strategy* and *Well-being Objectives*.
3. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to inevitable widespread changes to the way in which services are delivered by local authorities. We will need to reprioritise services and our resources in budget setting.
4. It is critical that Local Authorities involve those who use services and their carers and adhere to equality policies when resetting social care service priorities.

3. Finance

Initially we did see reduced demand for some services, but we are also now seeing an increased demand for some services and this will impact on the budget going forward. We have seen some challenges in achieving our predicted PBB this year. We are therefore reviewing our PBBs for the remainder of the year and into 2021/2022, so that we have realistic projections going forward.

4. ICT:

Digital solutions will play an ever-increasing role in shaping what we do. Technology and forms of virtual communication have been invaluable through this time

5. Staffing:

Staffing has remained relatively stable during the pandemic and staff have demonstrated remarkable resilience. The pandemic has required our workforce to be flexible and adaptive and this will need to continue in the long-term due to future uncertainties. A workforce strategy is currently being developed to determine future workforce requirements.

6. Physical Assets

Significant implications on current and future use of physical assets, with greater challenges for building based services including reduced capacity, enhanced infection control and safe working practices.

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Avril Bracey**

Head of Adult Social Care

1. Local Member(s)- N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Monthly meetings with trade unions ongoing. Corporate staff surveys informing service. Regular team meetings and briefing ongoing via Teams online.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED:**

YES

Cllr J. Tremlett, Executive Board Member for Social Care & Health has been kept up to date regarding how we have managed the pandemic, our recovery plans and priorities going forward. Cllr. Tremlett is fully supportive and thanks staff for their dedication during this challenging time.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

These are listed below.

Title of Document

Locations that the papers are available for public inspection

Impact of COVID-19 on Carmarthenshire Executive Board Report 19th October 2020

CCC Website