HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2ND MAY 2024

SUBJECT: DOMICILIARY CARE PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Purpose:

To provide an update on the current position in relation to domiciliary care in the county.

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:

Review the current position on the basis of the data provided.

Reasons:

To seek assurance that Carmarthenshire residents are being appropriately supported within the current domiciliary care capacity that is available.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr Jane Tremlett, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Services

Directorate

Communities

Name of Head of Service:

Joanna Jones & Chris

Harrison

Report Author:

Joanna Jones

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Designations:

Head of Integrated Services & Head of Strategic Joint

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DOMICILIARY CARE STRATEGY UPDATE

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT:

At its meeting on 24th January 2023, the Committee considered the current position in relation to domiciliary care in the county and the ongoing challenges that the Council (similarly to all Local Authorities across both Wales and the UK) is facing with having sufficient capacity to meet demand. This is linked to the significant workforce challenges that the sector as a whole is facing, and the consequent difficulties in recruiting and retaining sufficient numbers of care workers. The Committee asked for a regular update on performance to provide assurance going forward.

It was consequently agreed that the key metrics would be reported into the Committee on a regular basis. The first update was provided at the meeting of 17th April 2023. This is the fourth update to be provided.

YES
123



IMPLICATIONS

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: Joanna Jones Head of Integrated Services

Chris Harrison Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning

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

2. Legal

Carmarthenshire County Council has a legal duty under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act to assess a person's need and provide appropriate care and support to meet an eligible need.

5. Risk Management Issues

Due to the significant workforce challenges in the domiciliary care sector, Carmarthenshire currently has more people assessed as needing care than care hours available. Therefore, Carmarthenshire is currently risk assessing all those waiting for care and prioritising the care that becomes available based on those with greatest need. If no care is available, all options are being explored to see whether needs can be safely met at home through other means, such as family support funded via a direct payment until a package of care becomes available, a step-down bed in a residential care setting and Delta Connect as a way to provide reassurance that help is at hand for families. Through this approach, nobody is discharged from hospital or left unsupported in the community unless arrangements are put in place to allow this to safely happen.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED	
YES	

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:				
Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection		
Domiciliary Care Strategy Update		Report.pdf (gov.wales)		
Domiciliary Care Performance Update		Report.pdf (gov.wales)		

