ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE

Item under consideration: ADULT SOCIAL CARE BUDGET 2013/14

Date Considered: 5 September 2013

- At its meeting of 5 September 2013, the Adult Social Care Select Committee considered a Budget Update report based on July 2013 figures prepared by Strategic Finance Manager, Paul Carey-Kent.
- The Committee noted the financial position as of July 2013. The Committee was informed that the Adult Social Care budget was complex, demand driven and required to meet significant saving challenges. It was highlighted that savings of £24 million for 2013/14 were still to be met.
- Members asked for clarification on the individual actions that would account for the savings related to social capital. The Cabinet Member explained that social capital was making use of resources both in the voluntary sector and community to meet need, and that part of the implementation of this would be to embed it within the assessment process. It was highlighted that the additional development of an IT portal linked to the Surrey Information Point would enable assessment teams to identify and access placements.
- The Cabinet Member expressed the view that of the overall saving target of £46 million in 2013/14, £5 million was at risk of not being achievable. The Committee challenged this view as optimistic, and commented that the projected budget should reflect a more realistic outcome.
- The Committee recognised the work done by the Adult Social Care Directorate, and Cabinet Member, to encourage the use of social capital and of Whole Systems funding to meet saving targets for this year but expressed the view that the budget position of the Directorate was still of serious concern, and that there should be recognition of the need to prioritise the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and older people.
- 6 The Committee has made the following recommendation:

That -- in light of the Committee's serious concerns about the possibility of budget overspend -- the Adult Social Care budget for this year be reviewed again to reflect increased demand on the services.

KEITH WITHAM Chairman of the Adult Social Care Committee

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