

**CABINET RESPONSE TO ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE****Adult Social Care Budget 2013/14  
(considered by Select Committee on 5 September 2013)****SELECT COMMITTEE 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.

**RESPONSE**

The Select Committee expressed doubts about the realism of outturn forecasts, and requests that the adult social care budget be reviewed to reflect a more realistic financial position.

**1. 2013/14 Budget background**

- a. It is acknowledged that this budget does carry risks.
- b. In addition to the savings made over the last three years of £86m, a further savings target of £46m (of £64m for the total County) was passed down to the service for the current financial year.
- c. The Select Committee at the budget setting stage did express its concerns at the level of savings required, and the budget was increased by £11m compared with the previous MTFP assumption.

**2. Budget Objectives**

- a. To achieve the savings targets the budget had the following main saving initiatives:
  - i. successful negotiation with suppliers
  - ii. no increases in demand beyond those built into the budget (as did occur in 2012/13)
  - iii. minimal slippage in the established savings programs
  - iv. £15 million of savings through the new initiative making better use of social capital

**3. Current Status**

- a. It is expected that objectives i-iii above will be achieved assuming no new pressures or increase in demand arise.
- b. Objective iv, above is the main item at risk. It must be emphasised that this objective represents a radical change in the way that the service has approached assessment and is the main focus of the service.
- c. It is still believed that £8m of this target can be achieved by the year end. That would leave a gap in achievement of £7m which it is proposed be met this year from unused Whole Systems Funds but will also need to be funded going forward.

**4. Ongoing Actions**

- a. The service believes that the current management of the budget performance is adequate and in completing the outturn for the year, the full list of

- objectives in the comprehensive savings list is constantly monitored
- b. By the October reporting date to Adult Social Care select committee and Cabinet will provide the first viable indications of the extent to which that £8 million is likely to be delivered this year, and also some initial indication of the long-term deliverability of the program.

**Mr Mel Few**  
**Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care**  
**24 September 2013**