

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 30 NOVEMBER 2021

SELECT COMMITTEE: ADULTS & HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: SCRUTINY OF 2021-2030 OLDER PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONING STRATEGY



Note: This paper should be read in conjunction with the 2021-2030 Older People's Commissioning Strategy report (Item 14, Cabinet, 30 November 2021).

INTRODUCTION:

1. On 4 October 2021 and 8 November 2021, members of the Adults & Health Select Committee took part in two private scrutiny sessions at which they reviewed and commented on draft versions of the 2021-2030 Older People's Commissioning Strategy, which is subject to a Cabinet decision on 30 November 2021.
2. At the first scrutiny session held on 4 October 2021, the Select Committee discussed the Strategy with the following Cabinet Member and officers:
 - Sinead Mooney – Cabinet Member for Adults and Health
 - Liz Uliasz – Deputy Director, Adult Social Care
 - Jon Lillistone – Assistant Director for Commissioning, Adult Social Care
 - Dan Stoneman – Head of Commissioning (Older Persons), Adult Social Care
 - Katie Newton – Senior Commissioning Manager, Adult Social Care
 - Michelle Head – Area Director (North West Surrey & Surrey Heath), Adult Social Care
3. All members of the Select Committee were invited to attend the first scrutiny session and were provided with copies of the draft Strategy and a cover report outlining the background to the Strategy, information on its development, the recommendations to be presented to Cabinet, and the next steps in its implementation.
4. Following the initial scrutiny session, it was agreed that a follow-up meeting involving the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Select Committee would take place so officers could present an updated version of the Strategy that incorporated comments made by Members.

5. The second scrutiny session subsequently took place on 8 November 2021 and involved the following Cabinet Member and officers:

- Sinead Mooney – Cabinet Member for Adults and Health
- Jon Lillistone – Assistant Director for Commissioning, Adult Social Care
- Dan Stoneman – Head of Commissioning (Older Persons), Adult Social Care
- Katie Newton – Senior Commissioning Manager, Adult Social Care

KEY AREAS OF DISCUSSION:

6. The Select Committee sought assurance that sufficient engagement had taken place with key stakeholders during the production of the Strategy and was provided with evidence of the consultation and engagement that had formed part of this work. The Select Committee was also informed that stakeholder engagement would continue throughout the implementation of the Strategy, and Members emphasised how important it was that this remained a key priority.
7. Members asked several questions relating to how committed partners were to working closely with Surrey County Council and the ways in which this partnership working would continue throughout the life of the Strategy, as its success would largely be a result of the involvement and buy in of key stakeholders. The Select Committee heard that work had been, and would continue to be, undertaken with partners such as the NHS and 11 district and borough councils to help provide services that worked together seamlessly and provided a sense of community. It also heard that the Strategy's main priorities fell within the domain of Adult Social Care, allowing it to take a leading role in its continued design and delivery.
8. Further to this, the Select Committee sought assurance that all partners involved, whether large or small, would be appropriately accommodated, and that they would receive the support needed to help deliver the Strategy's aims.
9. Whilst understanding that the Strategy represented a high-level starting point and that it was not its intention to fully set out every detail, the Select Committee nonetheless felt there were certain assumptions that could be made clearer in the final version. In response, officers agreed to take away the comments made by the Select Committee and incorporate them into an updated version of the Strategy, which was subsequently reviewed, alongside further information on the consultation and engagement that had taken place during the production of the Strategy, by the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen at the second scrutiny session. The Chairman was pleased to see that the Select Committee's comments had been taken on board and areas where

Members had asked for more information and clarity to be provided had been added into the final version of the Strategy.

10. One of the main areas of initial concern for the Select Committee was how the delivery of the Strategy was to be monitored going forward and the ways in which stakeholders were to be held to account. Members were pleased to receive assurance that the performance of partners would be monitored and that officers were committed to working closely with key stakeholders to ensure the effective delivery of the Strategy. The Chairman reiterated in the second scrutiny session how important it was for regular performance monitoring to take place and how the Select Committee would like to see evidence of this going forward.

CONCLUSIONS:

11. The Select Committee welcomes the priorities and intentions laid out in the Strategy and thanks the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health and officers for taking the time to engage with Members during its production.
12. Going forward, the Select Committee would like to see evidence of how stakeholder performance is being monitored, as well as the ways in which partners, service users and carers are being engaged with and associated timelines for delivery, to ensure that the Strategy is delivering on its aims and providing the best possible support for Surrey residents.
13. The Select Committee looks forward to reviewing the progress made in implementing the Strategy and undertaking further scrutiny at the appropriate time.

Bernie Muir
Chairman of the Adults & Health Select Committee

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