

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Care Services
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee
11 November 2014**

Care Services Portfolio Plan Update 2014/15

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Members with the most recent update on progress against the actions contained within the Care Services Portfolio Plan (Appendix 1).

2. THE BRIEFING

2.1 Progress on the current Care Services Portfolio Plan

The 2014/15 Care Services Portfolio Plan details the four priority outcomes and supporting aims for the Care Services Portfolio as agreed in June 2014.

Outcome 1: Ensuring the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families, and enhancing quality of life for adults and older people with care and support needs

Outcome 2: Maximising independence and reducing the need for care and support

Outcome 3: Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support

Outcome 4: Ensuring children and young people are safe within the community, and adults and older people whose circumstances make them vulnerable are protected from avoidable harm

These four priority outcomes remain aligned to the national outcome areas covering housing, adults and children's social care and public health, and reflect the Government's outcome frameworks for these services. They take account of the new vision for adult social care services as defined by the Care Act 2014 which details the new approach to how the law on adult social care will work, prioritising wellbeing, highlighting the importance of prevention and postponement of the need of basic care and support, and putting people in control of their care and support

2.2 Progress on the 2014/15 Care Services Portfolio Plan

A summary report is attached as Appendix 1; it highlights the key areas of progress thus far. Of the 53 actions to be progressed during the year, 49 are on track with 4 actions requiring more work in the second half of the year.

Progress has been achieved across a range of areas and in terms of direct impact for our adult and children social care service users, the highlights are:

- 33 pupils enabled to become independent travellers opening up opportunities to participate in further and higher education, work experience/employment opportunities.
- The Tackling Troubled Families programme has supported three parents to secure paid employment with a fourth actively seeking employment.
- Hosted the second adult stakeholder conference; engaged with over 900 people through the use of an online survey; facilitated 13 face to face focus groups, to develop the Market Position statement.
- Published the Local Offer on Bromley MyLife, receiving 7,600 page views in the last six months.
- 10,964 eligible people received an NHS Health Check.
- Direct intervention prevented homelessness for 507 families in quarter one.

The volume of households approaching 'faced with homelessness' has risen dramatically during recent years, predominately in response to complex economic factors and the ensuing impact on housing markets. Significant work has been undertaken to prevent homelessness and find alternative housing options, diverting around 90% of initial approaches.

Close working continues with landlords to maximise access to the private rented sector to prevent or resolve homelessness. More than 90 families have been assisted this year, however the rising gap between housing benefit levels and market rents is reducing access to private rented accommodation for low income and benefit dependent households. A business case has been developed for refurbishment of a former residential home for use as temporary accommodation to meet increased demand.

Challenges remain to increase the number of in-house foster carers to a level that reflects the needs of all Bromley's children in care, including emergency, short-term and long-term placements, family and friends carers, children with disabilities and parent & child placements. Work continues to explore ways to continually attract new carers to Bromley, both to replace carers that have decided to retire from fostering and to meet the needs of children and young people requiring placements.

- 2.3 The PDS Committee and Executive have received a number of reports on areas covered within this report; the table below provides more details:

PDS Number	Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Report Title
CS 14004	22nd January 14	7b	Housing Services Priorities (Mid Year Update)
CS 14044	26th June 14	15	Housing Services 2014-15 Priorities
CS 14031	11th March 14	11	Tackling Troubled Families – Outcomes Update
CS 13032 (Exec)	11th September 13	8	Adoption Reform Grant (Part A) Drawdown
CS 14068	26th June 14	12g	Adoption Service Annual Report 2013/14
CS 14089 (Exec)	2nd October 14	8i	Adoption Grant Drawdown
CS 13021	3rd September 13	7b	Fostering Service Statement of Purpose
Briefing CS 13026	3rd September 13	1	Annual Fostering Panel Report 2012/13
CS 14052	26th June 14	12f	Fostering Service Annual Report 2013/14
CS 13022	3rd September 13	7c	Care Services Portfolio Budget Monitoring
CS 13043	29th October 13	7g	Care Services Portfolio Budget Monitoring
CS 14001	22nd January 14	9	Budget Monitoring 2013/14
CS 14025	11th March 14	7a	The Care Services Portfolio Budget Monitoring 2013/14
CS 14046	26th June 14	12c	Care Services Portfolio Budget Monitoring 2014/15
CS 14070	2nd October 14	8a	Care Services Portfolio Budget Monitoring 2014/15
CS 13028	3rd September 13	7e	Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities
CS 14055	26th June 14	16	Report on Consultation on Short Breaks for Disabled Children & Young People
CS 13036	29th October 13	7b	Tackling Troubled Families Grant Drawdown
CS 13045	29th October 13	9	Extra Care Housing Strategy Update
CS 13038	20th November 13	7d	Welfare Reform – Budget Pressures
	2nd October 14	8e	Homelessness and Welfare Reform Drawdown from Central Contingency
CS 14095	2nd October 14	6	Homelessness and Welfare Reform Draw-down from Central Contingency
CS13049 (Exec)	20th November 13	11	Impact of the Care Bill and future of NHS Funding
	2nd October 14	8c	Care Act 2014 Impact
CS 14048 (Exec)	26th June 14	13b 24	One Section 75 Agreement with Bromley CCG
CS 13054	15th January 14	8	Better Care Fund (BCF) – formerly the Integration Transformation Fund
ED 15060	16th July 14	30	Invest to Save – Training Statemented Pupils to Travel Independently
CS 14050	26 th June 14	12d	Adults Transport Policy

