

Decision Maker: **Adult and Community
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **29 March 2011**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE A&C PDS COMMITTEE

Contact Officers: Philippa Stone, Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 020 8313 4871 E-mail: Philippa.Stone@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services

Ward: Boroughwide

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 The annual report on Policy, Development and Scrutiny activity is to be considered by the Executive and Resources PDS Committee on 30 March 2011, before submission to full Council on 11 April 2011. The Committee is asked to consider the attached annual report for the Adult and Community People Policy Development and Scrutiny, to reflect the 2010/11 Council Year

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **The Committee is asked to consider the attached draft report, which reflects the work programme for the Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee over the 2010/11 Council Year, for inclusion in the annual report on the Council's Policy Development and Scrutiny activity.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: N/A
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No cost
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A
 3. Budget head/performance centre: N/A
 4. Total current budget for this head:
 5. Source of funding: N/A
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional) – N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours -
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No Statutory requirement:or Government Guidance
 2. Call in: Call-in is applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected) - All residents of the borough
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The Council's constitution requires that an annual report on Policy Development and Scrutiny activity be presented to full Council, and a report is being prepared for the meeting on 11 April 2011. The Executive and Resources Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee will consider a report encompassing the work of each Policy Development and Scrutiny on 30 March 2011.
- 3.2 The Chairman has prepared a draft annual report which reflects the Adult and Community PDS work programme and the pre-decision scrutiny of reports to the Portfolio Holder for Adult and Community during the 2010/11 Council Year.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Each Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee mirrors a Council Portfolio, including that concerned with Adult and Community. Policy Development and Scrutiny Committees have no decision-making powers, but play a major role in scrutinising the work of the Executive and individual Portfolio Holders. They advise Portfolio Holders, the Executive and Council on policies, budgets and service delivery.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Policy Development and Scrutiny Committees fulfil the functions conferred by sections 21 and 32 of the Local Government Act 2000.

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| Non-Applicable Sections: | Financial Implications Personnel Implications |
| Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer) | Minutes of the A&C Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee 2010/11. |

Adult & Community PDS Committee

Chairman: Cllr. Judi Ellis

Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Roger Charsley

Introduction

The services scrutinised by the Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee are both universal and targeted. They include Health provision in the Borough; domiciliary, day and residential care; housing, residential standards and advice and signposting advice on all of the above.

The provision of these services covers the complete spectrum from the NHS to a small voluntary charity providing a Luncheon Club.

The membership of the Committee apart from elected members reflects these community partners;

Bromley Primary Care Trust
Bromley Mental Health Forum
Learning Disability Forum
Bromley Council on Ageing
Disability Voice Bromley
Carers Bromley
Bromley Federation of Housing Associations

This broad spectrum enhances the knowledge and experience needed to influence policy development and undertake informed scrutiny.

There were six meetings in this Council year (May 2010 – April 2011) plus a joint meeting with the Public Protection Scrutiny Committee. We also held two Health Scrutiny Working Group meetings and have been involved in meetings to meet the challenges resulting from changes to the PCT and South London Health Care NHS Trust.

Councillors and co-opted members visited residential establishments throughout the year and attended partner provider AGMs and various meetings with Link, South London Health Care NHS Trust, Bromley Mencap, the PCT, Bromley College, Partnership Boards, forums and local Resident Groups.

Work of the Committee

The priorities are established by the Portfolio Holder following a planning day and the Committee monitor and review the various policies as they are progressed. We also monitor the key performance targets and the Budget.

This is a Service with increasing demands and highly successful partnership working. We have looked at the following in terms of scrutiny and policy development;

- Security at Bethlam Royal Hospital
- Supporting Independence in Bromley – regular updates including; Personal budgets, Direct payments, Assistive technology and equipment generally, and reablement.
- Portfolio Plan
- Commissioning arrangement for supported living for people with learning disabilities.
- Empty Property Strategy
- Thyme Out Update
- Health care commissioning
- Safeguarding Adults Annual Report
- Contract Reviews
- Regular Budget Monitoring Reports
- A picture of Health {NHS reorganisation}
- Age concern Bromley Brokerage
- Residential Care
- Day care
- Domiciliary care
- Blue badge provision
- South East London Health Trust
- Beckenham Beacon
- Dentistry
- Cardiac and Stroke care provision

Public Questions

We have had a large number of questions from the public this year and would like to thank the questioners for their continued interest in and support for the work of the Committee.

Conclusion

My thanks go to all Elected Members and Co-opted Members for their dedication and commitment in the last year. This has been a challenging year, with changes in budget provision across the Council necessitating a substantial review of all services and an increased emphasis on preventative measures to enable more residents to continue to enjoy living in their

own home, whether private or managed by a Housing Association or specialist provider. This has been through contracts with partners as well as fresh in-house initiatives and in the case of Extra care Housing New build.

The Committee is directly supported by Anne Watts, Assistant Director, Strategic Development and Philippa Stone, Democratic Services Officer. The Committee continues to receive good quality and timely reports and this has been appreciated by the Members of the Committee. Our thanks go to Anne and Philippa and to all the officers who write the reports and attend the meetings.

The remit of the Adult and Community PDS Committee probably affects every family in the Borough and it is very important that the users voice is included at all stages of policy development and Scrutiny. We would like to thank all the volunteers who sit on sub-groups, Boards and Forums for their involvement and support.

Cllr. Judi Ellis

Chairman, Adult & Community PDS Committee