

## **E REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

### **The New Mental Health Trust**

- 1 The Secretary of State approved the creation of the new Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust from 2001. Shirley Williams has been appointed as Chairman and Keith Nieland as Chief Executive of the Trust.
- 2 The Trust has been set up to provide patient centred care, aiming to involve service users and their carers in how mental health services are planned and provided. The Trust will work to tackle inequalities in service provision and develop a fuller range of services.
- 3 The Trust will provide all mental health services for the majority of Buckinghamshire residents, bringing together the staff and services from the South Bucks Trust and Aylesbury Vale Community Trust and Social Services. Until the integration with Social Services in 2002, the new Trust will also manage learning disability services currently provided by the two Health Trusts.

### **Partnership Arrangements with Health**

- 4 In February the Buckinghamshire Health Economy Reconfiguration Board put forward a consultation document for the establishment of a local Modernisation Board in line with the NHS plan.
- 5 Discussions have taken place concerning the development of an executive group to ensure the progress of joint health and social care agenda. Consultation ends on 16 April.

### **New Homes for Learning Disability Residents**

- 6 New accommodation and support services are being developed for 94 people with learning disabilities currently living at Manor House Hospital in Aylesbury. The care needs of each Manor House resident have been assessed, and an individual person centred plan developed. A range of new services is being progressed on the basis of these plans. Three new care providers have been

selected to develop the services.

- 7 The project is led by the Health Authority in conjunction with Social Services, and Aylesbury Vale Healthcare Trust. An agreement has been signed for funding to be transferred from the Health Authority to Social Services, and Social Services will contract directly with providers for the provision of care services.

### **Heritage Care takes over Residential Provision**

- 8 As of 1 April the running of five residential homes for older people will be transferred to Heritage Care. This transfer has come about as a result of a partnership arrangement between Buckinghamshire County Council and two organisations, Heritage Care and English Churches Housing Association.
- 9 The English Churches Housing Association has purchased the properties and agreed to redevelop the buildings to meet new central government standards. This means that residential services for older people will be made available in more spacious and appropriate accommodation.
- 10 Heritage Care takes over responsibility for the provision of care, this includes the management of staff at the homes. Staff have been transferred to the new organisation under the same conditions and employment.
- 11 In setting up this arrangement over the past twelve months, the partner organisations were keen to ensure continuity, providing the same services but in better quality accommodation.

### **New General Manager**

- 12 The end of March heralded a change in General Manager for the portfolio. Sean Nolan led the Adult Social Care Services until the end of March when he became Director of Corporate Resources for East Sussex County Council. In his short time as General Manager he was energetic in promoting the work of the portfolio both within the Council and outside. David Jones took over from Sean as

General Manager and has joined the County Council on secondment from Milton Keynes Council until August.

### **Joint Review**

- 13 The date for the joint review has now been confirmed. It will take place in the autumn. The Position Statement has to be completed by 1 October 2001. The Joint Review Team will begin their fieldwork in November 2001. Before the Joint Review Team comes to Buckinghamshire they will look at Department of Health Statistics and Performance Indicators, CIPFA statistics, results of a user summary and 80 client files.

### **Services for Older People**

- 14 The portfolio has commissioned a review of residential care for older people.

### **Service Quality**

- 15 Progress is being made on developing measures to recruit and retain staff.

**HUGH CAREY**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE**