

Overview and Scrutiny Draft Scoping Paper Continuing Care for Older People in Buckinghamshire

Subject of the Review	The delivery of Continuing Care for older people (65 and over) in Buckinghamshire
Key Question	How is continuing care being provided for older people in Buckinghamshire?
Anticipated outcomes	<p>A comprehensive, evidence-based report that establishes a clear understanding of how continuing care is currently being provided for older people in the County.</p> <p>The review will make recommendations for addressing any areas that require improvement.</p>
Reasons for undertaking the review, including where the ideas have come from	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National research has identified a major under funding of continuing care, exacerbated by a demographic shift towards an elderly population • Buckinghamshire has an increasingly elderly population and is therefore likely to have an increasing demand for continuing care services • Continuing care is the responsibility of both the NHS and local authority and both are experiencing significant financial pressures • Members have been made aware of the concerns of public and practitioners about current and future provision of continuing care services
<p>What is the potential impact of the review on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of Buckinghamshire • Equality issues • Helping the council achieve its main priorities • Adding value to the organization 	<p>The review could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of life for vulnerable older people and their carers • Identify and make recommendations to improve partnership working between social services and health • Highlight any issues of particular or specific concern for residents from minority groups
Link to local priorities	<p>Buckinghamshire County Council's Corporate Plan objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4a In partnership, help adults and older people to maintain their independence and quality of life • 4b Assist those who need our support to have greater choice and control of their lives <p>The review links to the Sustainable Community Strategy, to local District Council Community Plans and to the PCT's Strategic plan due to be published in September 2007</p>
Key Issues for the review to address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the national framework and direction of travel for continuing care and how is this translated into the local picture? • Identify the drivers for change for the key groups of stakeholders ie:PCT, BCC and acute trust • How are the NHS and County Council working at the strategic level to plan for the provision of high

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	<p>quality continuing care services that will meet future demand?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do the NHS and County Council work at an operational level to provide continuing care? • What is the experience of patients (clients), carers and families who have received or are receiving continuing care?
Methodology	<p>The work will be undertaken by a working group of members drawn from the Adults' Services OSC and the Public Health OSC.</p> <p>Members will gather information to seek answers to the Key Issues through a series of meetings and visits across the County.</p> <p>The review will focus on gathering evidence that provides a clear picture of patient and carers experiences of the delivery of Continuing Care across the county.</p> <p>As this is a complex area it is recommended that the approach will focus on the main care settings highlighted in a paper published by the Alzheimer's Society (2004), namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The home environment • The hospital (acute) and community hospital environment • Nursing and residential care home environment <p>This will enable members to interview a range of health and social care professionals, patients and carers in each setting and form a clear picture of how continuing care is being delivered in the respective settings for people with differing and complex conditions.</p>
Background Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An information pack summarising guidance, key recent documentation and legislation will be circulated after initial meeting • New guidance from Department of Health due to be released June 2007 • Additional background research, statistical data etc may be identified during the evidence gathering process and will be circulated to members accordingly
Evidence Gathering	<p>National Picture: An overview of the national situation will be presented at 22/6 meeting from IDeA identified area of good practice. (Southwark)</p> <p>Local Framework: Judith Dean of the Buckinghamshire PCT and Rita Lally</p>

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	<p>of Buckinghamshire County Council will present how the national picture is translated into the local framework at the meeting on 16th July.</p> <p>Local Delivery in Practice: Evidence of the experiences of local people will be sought through targeted publicity and partner evidence such as through the Patient Forums. Letters to be sent to stakeholders to canvas views that could contribute to the review In addition, evidence will be gathered through meetings with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS officers from the PCT, Acute Trust and Mental Health Trust • BCC officers working in the area of continuing care • Voluntary Sector organisations ie: Age Concern, Help the Aged, Carers Bucks • GPs • Private care providers • Public sector providers ie: Fremantle Trust
Press & Publicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press release at beginning of review to encourage public to contribute • Use website and Bucks Times for updates • Explore use of voluntary sector and patient forums newsletters • Interim update to press • Final release interviews with chairman • Leaflets to be distributed post review • Scrutiny champions website
Timetable	<p>See Gantt Chart attached. Estimated date for report at Cabinet - February 2008</p>
Reporting mechanism	<p>Cabinet /NHS trusts board meetings (PCT, OBMH, BHT)</p>