

Adult Social Care and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) Board
21 December 2017

Attendees: Councillors Angharad Davies (Chair), Martin Clarke, Nigel Enever, Jim Sheppard, John Ungar and Trevor Webb (Vice-Chair)

Comments to Cabinet

The Board received a number of clarifications and assurances in relation to the identified savings and agreed to highlight the following key points to Cabinet:

- The scale of the challenge for ESCC and Adult Social Care is very significant and is recognised by the Board, as is the requirement for the Council as a whole to live within its means.
- It is no longer possible to continue to protect preventative services which impact on demand. This means that savings are likely to have impacts elsewhere in the system and / or in future years.
- The impacts of proposed savings are significant and opportunities for mitigation are now limited.
- Officers should be encouraged to continue to mitigate the impact of savings as far as possible through reprioritising and recommissioning services, taking any available opportunities to modernise and improve the way services work through this process.
- The Board has been assured that specific service changes will be subject to consultation, Equality Impact Assessment and further executive decision as appropriate in accordance with legal requirements, and that opportunities for mitigation will be examined thoroughly through this process.
- It will be essential for the Council to engage positively with the anticipated Green Paper on social care during 2018/19 to influence the longer term settlement for Adult Social Care.

The Board's overall conclusions were as follows:

- Cllrs M Clarke, Davies, Enever and Sheppard regretted that the Council is in the position of having to make the proposed savings. In that context, they were assured that process for identifying savings has been rigorous and that every effort had been made to minimise the impact on service users. They welcomed the approach being taken in relation to reshaping and recommissioning services and have been assured that back office savings are being achieved.
- Cllrs Ungar and Webb did not support the savings proposals as set out and expressed the view that savings should be examined more widely across the Council, including the proportion of savings allocated to Adult Social Care.
- Cllr Webb expressed particular concern in relation to savings in Supporting People services, carers' services and the Discretionary East Sussex Support Scheme.