

Report to: People Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19 September 2019

By: Chair of the Review Board

Title: Scrutiny Review - Changing Care Market: Adult Social Care Workforce

Purpose: To present the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review and make recommendations

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee is recommended to consider and endorse the report of the Review Board, and make recommendations to Cabinet for comment and County Council for approval.

1. Background

1.1 In June 2018 the People Scrutiny Committee established a Scoping Board to look into the range of challenges facing the local care market. Some of these were highlighted in the 2018 Care Quality Commission Local Area Review of East Sussex; others are well known locally and nationally and are linked to increased demand for services and resources which are declining in relative terms.

1.2 The Scoping Board held two meetings with a range of officers from Adult Social Care: firstly, in August 2018, to examine the current state of the market and the key challenges; and secondly, in September 2018, to focus on how the challenges are being addressed. The Scoping Board identified four key areas for further scrutiny:

- Public understanding and expectations of social care.
- Social care workforce challenges.
- Developing care markets – to be informed by a markets review due to be complete by mid-2019.
- Increasing community resilience, in particular addressing loneliness.

1.3 This review seeks to address aspects of the developing workforce challenges facing social care providers (the second bullet point above). More specifically, it was agreed that the review would focus on older people services within the independent care sector. It was also agreed to focus on the following two lines of enquiry:

- Is the Council working effectively in partnership with others (e.g. schools and colleges) with regard to future workforce needs?
- Could the Council do more to support recruitment and retention in the independent sector?

2. Supporting information

2.1 The Scrutiny Review Board is comprised of Councillors Charles Clark, Michael Ensor, John Ungar and Trevor Webb. Councillor Webb was appointed as the Chair of the Review Board.

2.2 The attached report (appendix 1) contains the findings and recommendations of the Review Board. Copies of evidence papers listed in the report and other supporting documentation are available on request from the contact officer.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The Committee is recommended to consider and endorse the Review Board's report for submission to Cabinet and County Council on 12 November and 3 December respectively.

Councillor Trevor Webb
Chair of the Review Board

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None