

Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Monday 18 March 2024

Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group Report

Recommendation(s)

I recommend that the Committee:

- a. Receive the Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group Report.
- b. Consider and endorse the 14 recommendations within the report.

Local Member Interest:

N/A

Report of the Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group Chair, Councillor Richard Cox

Summary

What is the Overview and Scrutiny Committee being asked to do and why?

1. The paper presents the Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group Report to the Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration by the Committee.

Report

Background

2. The Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 31 July 2023 received a report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Care on Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance.
3. The Health and Care Act 2022 gave the Care Quality Commission (CQC) new regulatory powers to undertake independent assessment of local authorities' delivery of statutory duties set out in part 1 of the Care Act 2014.

4. The CQC had released a framework which they intended to use for assessment which comprises 4 themes and 9 quality statements:

4 Themes	9 Quality Statements		
Working With People	Assessing Needs	Supporting people to live healthier lives	Equity in experiences and outcomes
Providing support	Care Provision, Integration & Continuity		Partnership and Communities
Ensuring safety within the system	Safe Systems, Pathways & Transitions		Safeguarding
Leadership	Governance, Management and Sustainability		Learning Improvement & Innovation

5. The CQC will use four types of evidence to assess against each of the nine quality statements:

- Experience from people who receive care, unpaid carers and their representatives; this feedback may be from surveys or interviews.
- Feedback from staff and leaders and the Council's own self-assessment
- Feedback from partners including care providers, NHS organisation, Healthwatch and the voluntary sector.
- Processes including waiting times, audits, documents policies and strategies.

6. The Council had commenced preparations for Enhanced Assurance including a CQC readiness review. The Council has identified strengths and areas for development.

7. The CQC require the Council to identify 50 people in particular categories, of those 50 people, the CQC would select 6 people to provide evidence. The Council are currently developing a process for selecting service users and the Council are looking to have 50 people on a continuing rolling basis.

8. The Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish the Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group in order to provide overview and scrutiny of the Council's self-assessment to consider if we were sufficiently prepared and if the evidence supported the narrative, and the progression of areas of development.

9. Adjacent to this work, the Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee Members attended a series of workshops which will inform Members and feed into the system and process development.

Link to Strategic Plan

10. The report relates to the Council's Strategic Plan our strategic priorities Support Staffordshire's economy to grow, generating more and better jobs, whilst encouraging good health and wellbeing, resilience, and independence.

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity

11. The working group has taken into consideration any scrutiny undertaken by the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

12. Adult Social Care Enhanced Assurance Working Group Report.

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