

**Promoting Independence in Devon – Annual Report  
Report of the Associate Director of Commissioning (Care and Health)**

**1. Recommendation**

- 1.1 Members of the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny are invited to comment on the annual report before its wider promotion.

**2. Purpose**

- 2.1 To present to Health and Adult Care Scrutiny a summary of the annual report (or 'local account') of the adult social care functions of Devon County Council which includes:

- A self-assessment;
- A range of evidence supporting the self-assessment;
- Links to further sources of external information.

- 2.2 Members should note that the full version of the annual report is designed to be read standalone and online as it contains internal and external links and is over 100 pages long. It will be published alongside our vision and plan: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/care-and-health/adults/policies-and-procedures/adult-care-and-health-vision-planning-and-report/>

**3. Background**

- 3.1 The adult social care commissioning and care management functions of local authorities are not subject to routine inspection.

- 3.2 Instead, we participate in a national and regional approach to sector-led improvement which includes:

- The publication of an annual report;
- An annual self-assessment with mutual challenge and support from other local authorities, this year structured around strength-based practice;
- The undertaking of mandatory returns covering a wide range of data and using insights gained from comparative analysis to inform improvement planning;
- Periodic peer review, the next planned being of arrangements for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults now scheduled for March 2020.

- 3.3 This process is facilitated nationally and regionally by the Local Government Association working with the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and is the context in which this annual report (or 'local account') is written.

- 3.4 The Department of Health and Social Care have trialled national dashboards and local area reviews to encourage the organisations across health and care systems to work more effectively together and future improvement activity is likely to have an increasingly whole system focus, as is our own performance reporting including Scrutiny reports.

- 3.5 Councils make a range of statutory returns to allow comparisons to be made between local authority areas covering:
- The views of service users and carers;
  - The outcomes they achieve;
  - Cost and spend;
  - Activity;
  - Safeguarding;
  - Workforce;
  - Service quality.
- 3.6 We signpost to the published data and tools at the end of the full version annual report which also includes more detailed charts and commentary. We highlight insights gained in the evidence section and use them in our self-assessment.

#### **4. Annual Report Contents**

- 4.1 Writing an annual report on adult social care in Devon gives us the opportunity to reflect on how well we are achieving our vision for helping adults in Devon find the support they need to stay healthy, happy and living safely at home, surrounded by their community and friends, where they can retain their independence for as long as possible.
- 4.2 The full version of this year's annual report includes:
- An introduction and narrative;
  - Links to our strategies and plans;
  - Our vision for adult social care in Devon and priorities as a health and care system;
  - A summary of our achievements and challenges;
  - Examples of feedback from people who use our services and their carers;
  - A new section on the national scene using material prepared for and by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services;
  - An extended 'key facts' section;
  - A performance summary with areas of strength, for improvement and priority actions;
  - Detailed charts and commentary on a range of performance indicators;
  - A summary of our change programme and progress made;
  - Links to internal and external reports, tools and other resources.
- 4.3 The summary version includes the key content and is appended below.

*Tim Golby*  
*Associate Director of Commissioning (Care and Health)*

**[Electoral Divisions: All]**

Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Health Services: Councillor Andrew Leadbetter

Chief Officer for Adult Care and Health: Jennie Stephens

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact for Enquiries: Damian Furniss (Policy, Performance and Involvement)  
Address: First Floor Annexe, County Hall  
Tel No: 01392 383000  
Email: damian.furniss@devon.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPER                      DATE                      FILE REFERENCE

Nil