Somerset County Council Scrutiny for Policies. Adults and Health Committee

- 11 October

Health and Social Care Joint Commissioning Proposal

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1. Summary

1.1. Through its Sustainability and Transformation Plan, health and social care leaders in Somerset have agreed to develop one Accountable Care System for the county by 2019. It has also been agreed that this will require joint commissioning arrangements to be developed.

Currently, the commissioning of health and social care services spans across three organisations: the Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Somerset County Council (SCC) and NHS England (NHSE).

Initial proposals for the development of joint commissioning were agreed by the CCG Governing Body and Somerset County Council Cabinet in July and August 2017 respectively. It has been agreed that a full business case should be developed for further consideration.

These proposals are at a very early stage, hence there is very little detail in this report. The item is coming to Adults and Health Scrutiny for initial discussion to inform the way ahead and for scrutiny to be able to raise any issues that they may wish to be considered in more detail as the business case is being drawn up.

1.2. This proposal is in line with, and contributes to, an increased integration between health and social care as highlighted in the County Plan, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Somerset Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

2.1. The proposals to undertake more joint commissioning for health and social care are at a very early stage of development. The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the high-level proposal to develop more joint commissioning and identify issues that, from the committee's perspective, need consideration during the development of a full business case

3. Background

The strength of a single vision achieved by a single robust commissioning 3.1. function could bring far greater focus to commissioning for the needs of the population both now and in the future. An integrated model offers the widest possible coordination of services across the whole Health and Wellbeing System, giving greater scope for a more preventative approach.

3.2. This proposal forms part of the overall sustainability of the health and social care system. Given increasing need and demand in the system, which is projected to continue to increase, the longer-term sustainability of the system requires a strong commissioning function which focusses on a population health and wellbeing system with a far greater emphasis on prevention, self-management and early intervention.

4. Consultations undertaken

4.1. The initial proposal has been developed jointly with Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and in discussion with NHS England.

The proposal has been discussed with the Sustainability and Transformation Plan Programme Executive Group, the CCG Clinical Operations Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

5. Implications

- **5.1.** There are significant differences between the three commissioning organisations with regards to organisational culture, financial and governance arrangements. These differences will need consideration and considerable organisational development will be required to develop an appreciation of each of the different system requirements and operating procedures.
- **5.2.** Collaboration between commissioners across the system is not new, the Better Care Fund and pre-existing pooled commissioning arrangements, such as the Joint Equipment Scheme for example are already in place. Learning from these will be drawn upon to develop the full business case.

6. Background papers

6.1. SCC Cabinet Paper, 16th August 2017 - Proposal for the development of a joint commissioning function

http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=354& Ver=4

The Kings Fund – Place-based systems of care. Particularly pages 35 to 38

https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/place-based-systemscare?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIreWpq9XU1gIVDeEbCh0OLgueEAAYASAAEgJ28 PD_BwE

The Kings Fund – Options for Integrated Commissioning – Beyond Barker. Particularly pages 39 to 55

https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/options-integrated-commissioning