

Report



meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

date 18th January 2007

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH

KEY ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 I am pleased to present the key issues and activities as Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and Health since my last report to Council.

2. Key Issues and Activities

Leawood Manor Open Day – 7th December 2006

- 2.1 Leawood Manor is the seventh care home development built by the County Council and partners. Leawood Manor reflects the development of the older person strategy of care services and is part of the “mixed care” development. This brings together a range of ‘state of the art’ services for older people as part of the wider community.
- 2.2 Leawood Manor is a 32-bed care home, providing long-term care for older people in modern comfort, with spacious rooms, en-suite bathrooms and highly qualified and experienced staff. Short-term care is also provided for older people where this can help carers’ in their support and assist in the rehabilitation of older people to help them return home. The day centre will offer care throughout the week, providing stimulation, rehabilitation and social connections.
- 2.3 Also on the site are 62 apartments which will be occupied by older people. Facilities for this complex include a café, activity rooms and internet links. The apartments will help some people to live entirely independently of any care support; others will receive high levels of home care through the County Council. Over time some may move from the apartments into the care home part of the complex providing the level of care older people and their carers need, when they need it.
- 2.4 Together, the care home, the day centre, and apartments, and the facilities for the residents and other local people will make this a great place to live. The

official opening of the whole range of services on the site, with partners, Rushcliffe Homes, will happen in early 2007.

Presentation of Certificates to Supported Employment Workstep Participants and Service Users – 19th December 2006

- 2.5 In Nottinghamshire a mixed provision within supported employment has been developed offering choice to individuals as they begin to engage in the world of work.
- 2.6 The development of pathways enable individuals to meet national standards and qualifications within a variety of vocations including independent living, horticulture, food and drink manufacturing operations, literacy, numeracy and personal development.
- 2.7 The Supported Employment programme provides individuals with the opportunity and environment to promote learning and achievement leading to independent living and paid employment.
- 2.8 Individuals receiving certificates were represented from across the county accessing Supported Employment programme via County Horticulture and Working Training, County Enterprise Foods, Solutions4Data and Sherwood Industries.

Launch of Additional Services for Older People at Kingsway Community Project

- 2.9 The Forest Town Friends Resource Centre is the fourth resource centre funded both by the County Council and the government under “Invest to Save”. The other three centres are in Stapleford, Retford and Kirkby. The reason for setting up these centres is for people over 50 to have a local place to go where they can learn new skills, take part in activities and enjoy a cooked lunch at the same time. The centres are working well as they are run by local people for local people.

Nottinghamshire County Council Adult Placement Scheme - Commission for Social Care Inspections (CSCI) 2007

- 2.10 The Nottinghamshire County Council Adult Placement Scheme is registered to recruit, train and monitor carers who provide care and support to adults. It currently supports 50 carers. The Scheme is located at Sir John Robinson Way in Arnold but has satellite operations in Ashfield, Newark and Bassetlaw.
- 2.11 In preparation for the inspection, the Adult Placement Scheme team completed a Quality Assessment of how the 10 National Minimum Standards for Adult Placement Scheme’s were being met. This indicated what improvements had been made over the last 12 months, including achievements, future learning needs and any other factors.

- 2.12 There was a site visit to the Adult Placement Scheme, where records and documents and files were examined. During the inspection, the inspectors 'case tracked' 2 service users.
- 2.13 The inspectors found that the *'Adult Placement Scheme was well organised, with a committed staff team. They clearly have systems in place to operate an efficient service, and have undertaken a self-evaluation of this service, where it was identified within the pre-inspection questionnaire, where they feel that the service was doing well, around areas of communication ...'*.
- 2.14 From the four final CSCI inspection rating (Poor, Adequate, Good and Excellent) Nottinghamshire County Council's Adult Placement Scheme has been assessed as being 'Good'.

Re-naming of County Visual Communications

- 2.15 County Visual Communications was established in 1996. The purpose of the business was to transfer documents onto microfilm and provide a colour copying service.
- 2.16 Over recent years the portfolio of services has changed substantially. There is no longer a colour copying service, this ceased in 2003 and during the same year the Braille service was incorporated within CVC. Digital scanning was added to the business in 2005 with the ability to place all types of data onto CD's.
- 2.17 Marketing opportunities are therefore vital to ensure the business grows, with the internet being a pivotal part of this strategy. An appropriate website URL ('Uniform Resource Locator' i.e. a reference (an address) to a resource on the Internet) name is vital to the re-branding of the business.
- 2.18 The change of name has resulted because the name 'CVC' no longer reflects the service the business offers. In order to reflect the business needs and to maximise marketing potential, the new name for CVC is 'Solutions 4 Data'.
- 2.19 A competition was held with readers of the Adult Social Care and Health newsletter the 'Grapevine' to submit suggestions for a new name for County Visual Communications (CVC). This was also promoted on the Nottinghamshire County Council's Intranet. Forty suggestions were received in total.

Joint Commissioning Strategies

- 2.20 The Adult Social Care and Health Department is in the process of developing new commissioning strategies for all service areas. The strategies due to be launched in April 2007 will set the direction for the department for the next two years.
- 2.21 For the first time the department has a commitment from colleagues in the Primary Care Trust to develop a joint approach to the delivery of the

commissioning agenda which will reflect the vision set out in the councils corporate strategy and the outcomes required by the White Paper, "Our Health, Our Care, Our Say".

- 2.22 The department will be consulting on the strategies in the coming months which will include member consultation through the County Councils Departmental Briefing process.

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