



Title: **Strategic Agreement Between Torbay NHS Care Trust and Torbay Council – Policy Framework**

Public Agenda Item: **Yes**

Wards Affected: **All**

To: **Council**

On: **1 February 2012**

Key Decision: **Yes – Ref. 1006357**

Change to Budget: **No**

Change to Policy Framework: **Yes**

Contact Officer: **Anthony Farnsworth**

☎ Telephone: **01803 210502**

✉ E.mail: **Anthony.farnsworth@nhs.net**

1. What we are trying to achieve and the impact on our customers

1.1 This is the Annual Agreement between Torbay Council who commissions services for Adult Care from the NHS. It sets out within the budget target the performance for Adult Care in the forthcoming financial year. It also refers to the broader context in which the agreement is framed and sets out roles and responsibilities for the forthcoming year. The Council is trying to achieve continuing good service in Adult Care for local citizens within the context of tight financial constraints, and preserving the principle integrated health and social care at the frontline.

2. Recommendation(s) for decision

2.1 That the Strategic Agreement between Torbay NHS Care Trust and Torbay Council set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

3. Key points and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The agreement sets out the strategic direction which is designed to maximise choice and independence for those requiring adult social care and support. At a national level the funding arrangements for adult social care are under review. The Dilnot report has been published but there is no immediate prospect of this review reporting in a timescale that would propose changes in 2012-14. The financial arrangements are based on what is known at present.

3.2 The agreement is in the context of the NHS White Paper and the NHS Policy of transforming community services. Since last year's agreement there has been a requirement for PCTs to separate out NHS commissioning and provider functions. This represents a significant change. The Council has supported in principle the development of a South Devon provider unit as an interim position for the period April 2011 to 2013 and more recently the Council has recognised and supported the change of status of the Care Trust to an NHS Trust as a way of preserving the integrated arrangements whilst accommodating the NHS requirements to separate commissioner and provider functions in the NHS. The Council remains committed to the frontline integration of adult social care and supports the ongoing developments of these arrangements. However the review of the current arrangements in the light of the above and financial changes have resulted in some changes to formal arrangements and from the 1 April 2012 the DASS role will be undertaken by Director of Torbay Council. The structures in governance within the Council and Torbay Care Trust (now Torbay and Southern Devon Care Trust) will be adjusted to reflect this change.

The agreement is structured on the four domains outlined on the adult social care outcomes framework. The majority of performance indicators associated with each domain will be measured monthly although several rely on annual or bi-annual surveys and they will be reported as national results become available.

For more detailed information on this proposal please refer to the supporting information attached.

**Anthony Farnsworth
Chief Executive – Torbay and Southern Devon Care Trust**

Supporting information to Report

A1. Introduction and history

A1.1 This is the annual agreement for finance and performance of adult social care as commissioned by the Council from the Torbay and Southern Devon Provider Trust (formerly Torbay Care Trust).

A2. Risk assessment of preferred option

A2.1 Outline of significant key risks

The agreement sets out performance within the tight financial constraints of the public sector and includes an ambitious programme of transforming services within adult social care in the forthcoming year in order to meet good outcomes for local people within available finance.

A2.2 Risks include agreement of inflationary pressures and containing this within commissioned agreements with residential and domiciliary care providers. This is mitigated through strong local partnerships and engagement with key partners, however the authority will be mindful of challenges elsewhere in the country.

A2.3 Risks include significant reductions to back office functions whilst undertaking a number of major transformations in service delivery. This will be mitigated through careful project management and monitoring through the year.

A2.4 Risks include continuing demand for services which will be mitigated through careful planning within the Bay's own predicted demographic growth.

A3. What impact will there be on equalities, environmental sustainability and crime and disorder?

A3.1 This agreement has been considered through the budget consultation process and included equality impact assessments for any proposed changes.

A4. Consultation and Customer Focus

A4.1 This agreement has been part of the budget consultation process however specific changes for groups of users or individuals will include detailed engagement and consultation as part of any proposed change.

A5. Are there any implications for other Business Units?

A5.1 No

Appendices

Appendix 1 Strategic Agreement between Torbay NHS Care Trust and Torbay Council

Documents available in members' rooms:

None

Background Papers:

None