
Heath and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

21 January 2022

Financial Assessments Improvement Programme

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

Following a review of the financial assessment process for people in receipt of adult social care and support in 2021, this Committee identified scrutiny of the resulting improvement programme as a priority. The review process generated a number of issues and concerns, including representations made on behalf of individuals and families by councillors, Healthwatch (the independent statutory body which acts as the health and social care champion), advocacy organisations and MPs.

The Committee is invited to consider the information provided by Healthwatch (at Appendix B) and the overview of the improvement programme put in place by the Council, including progress in responding to the issues and concerns raised (at Appendix A).

Focus for scrutiny

Key areas for scrutiny include:

1. Assessment of the effectiveness of the Financial Assessments Improvement Programme and future plans for improvement, including any feedback from customers and their families/carers
2. Whether the priorities of the Improvement Programme are appropriate? (see Appendix A, para 2.2)
3. Whether the issues and concerns raised by Healthwatch (and others) have been adequately addressed
4. To identify and comment upon any areas the Committee wishes to highlight to the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services on the current progress and the plans for improvement.
5. To consider any further scrutiny or monitoring required by this Committee

The Chairman will summarise the debate, which will then be shared with the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services.

1. Background and context

- 1.1 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached report including resource and risk implications and all factors taken into account.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Financial Assessments Improvement Programme, Report by West Sussex County Council

Appendix B: Report on Financial Assessment Process by Healthwatch West Sussex

Background Papers: None