

# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## AGENDA

### HEALTH AND HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PANEL

**Date:** Thursday, 11 September 2014

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**Members:**

Councillor Mrs M E Ellerton (Chairman)

Councillor D L Steadman (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors T G Knight  
Miss S M Bell  
N R Gregory  
Mrs K K Trott  
D M Whittingham

**Deputies:** P J Davies  
G Fazackarley



**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel meeting held on 17 July 2014.

**3. Chairman's Announcements**

**4. Declarations of Interest and Disclosures of Advice or Directions**

To receive any declarations of interest from members in accordance with Standing Orders and the Council's Code of Conduct and disclosures of advice or directions received from Group Leaders or Political Groups, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

**5. Deputations**

To receive any deputations of which notice has been lodged.

**6. Presentation on the Clinical Commissioning Group's 5 Year Plan**

To receive a presentation by the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group on the CCG's 5 Year Plan.

**7. Health Update**

To receive a verbal report by the Executive Member for Health and Housing on Local Strategic Health Issues.

**8. Disabled Facilities Grants 2014-16 (Pages 5 - 8)**

To consider a report by the Director of Community on the Disabled Facilities Grants for 2014-16.

**9. Supporting People - Changes to Budget and Commissioned Services (Pages 9 - 12)**

To consider a report by the Director of Community on Supporting People – Changes to Budget and Commissioned Services.

**10. Review of the Work Programme 2014/15 (Pages 13 - 16)**

To consider a report by the Director of Community, which invites the Panel to review the Work Programme for 2014/15.

P GRIMWOOD  
Chief Executive Officer

Civic Offices  
[www.fareham.gov.uk](http://www.fareham.gov.uk)  
3 September 2014

**For further information please contact:  
Democratic Services, Civic Offices, Fareham, PO16 7AZ  
Tel:01329 236100  
[democraticservices@fareham.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@fareham.gov.uk)**



# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

**Date:** Thursday, 17 July 2014

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs M E Ellerton (Chairman)

Councillor D L Steadman (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:** Miss S M Bell, Mrs K K Trott, D M Whittingham and P J Davies  
(deputising for T G Knight)

**Also Present:** Councillor B Bayford, Executive Member for Health and Housing  
(item 6)



**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor T G Knight.

**2. MINUTES**

It was AGREED that the minutes of Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel held on 13 March 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS**

There were no declarations of interest or disclosures of advice or direction made at this meeting.

**5. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

**6. HEALTH UPDATE**

The Panel received a verbal report by the Executive Member of Health and Housing on local strategic health issues. He informed that the Panel that he had recently attended a Health and Wellbeing Seminar on Healthy Ageing. He explained that it was an extremely informative seminar and thought that it would be of great interest to the Panel, and therefore he and the Director of Community would put together a presentation on this for the Panel at a future meeting.

He also attended the Friends of the Hospital AGM. During this meeting there was a presentation from a general practitioner which highlighted the management structure of the hospital, which consisted of 4 separate organisations, and how this management structure is confusing and suitable for the hospital whilst highlighting some of the issues that it is causing.

Councillor Trott proposed that the Panel write a letter to the Health Minister and send a copy to all other interested parties including the local MP and the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group, expressing the Council's concerns over the management and use of the hospital. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Whittingham, and having been put to the vote with 5 in favour and 1 against the proposal was accepted.

The Director of Community addressed the Panel to provide an update on a recent award of grant funding. He informed the Panel that the Council had received 335,000 in funding for the 'Clued Up 2 Go' Project as part of the

Fareham Park Project, which will provide young people with access to a Youth Centre, Health and Wellbeing Advice and a Counselling Service.

## **7. INTRODUCTION TO THE ROLE OF THE PANEL**

The Panel received a presentation by the Director of Community on an Introduction to the Role of the Panel.

The presentation outlined the role of the Panel, the services within the Health and Housing portfolio, the achievements made in the past year, and the priorities for 2014/15.

It was AGREED that the Director of Community be thanked for his presentation.

## **8. AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME 2015-18**

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on an update on the Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18.

The Panel were informed that since the report went to the Executive in April 2014, Palmerston Avenue and Coldeast Close have both been granted planning permission. Work is likely to start on Palmerston Avenue in the Autumn and work on Coldeast Close should start early 2015.

It was AGREED that the Panel notes:

- (a) the decisions taken by the Executive in April 14 to set budgets for all 'firm' schemes;
- (b) the nature of the bid which has been submitted to the HCA and the commitments that will be entered into should the bid be successful; and
- (c) the current status of the Council's Affordable Housing Programme.

## **9. COLLINGWOOD COURT UPDATE**

The Panel received a verbal update by the Director of Community on the progress made to date on the Collingwood Court development.

He informed the Panel that the development is progressing well, and that they are currently 4/5 weeks behind schedule due to the severe weather at the start of the year, but they are working hard to bring the project forward. They are currently on the 2<sup>nd</sup> storey, the roof structure will be placed onto the building by September 2014, and internal works have already begun. The Council is pleased with the progress and the quality of the work, and the contractor is working well with the local community and so far no issues have been reported.

He also informed the Board that the works have to be completed by 31 March 2015, and that an opening date for the new development should be known in the autumn.

It was AGREED that the Panel notes the progress made to date on the Collingwood Court development.

## **10. DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on development opportunities.

Councillor Davies enquired as to whether it was possible for a number of small sites to be identified and packaged together to make one contract. The Senior Housing Officer (Enabling) confirmed that it was possible but potentially challenging depending upon the nature of each site and the associated constraints.

It was AGREED that the content of the report be noted for future reference as the sites come forward.

## **11. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15**

The Panel received a report by the Director of Community on a Review of the Work Programme 2014/15.

The Director of Community addressed the Panel to confirm that the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group would be attending the meeting on 11 September, and that the Panel will be able to put any health questions to him.

He also addressed the panel regarding a proposal to set up an Officer/Member working group to look at the issue of rough sleeping/homelessness in the Borough, and to feedback to the Panel with proposals on how this can be tackled. He circulated a scoping document to members which contained suggested items for consideration. All members expressed an interest in being a part of the working group and it was decided that Councillors; Mrs Ellerton, Miss Bell, Mrs Trott and Steadman would be the members that would undertake this role.

Councillor Davies requested that an item on Supporting People be added to the work programme, as a result of the recent announcement that Hampshire County Council are looking to withdraw funding from this service. The Director of Community suggested that the item be added onto the work programme as an unallocated item until Hampshire County Council announces their plans for the funding of this service and the impact that these cuts will have on the services is fully known.

It was AGREED that the work programme, subject to the inclusion of the additional unallocated item on Supporting people, as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm  
and ended at 7.30 pm).



# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### **Report to Health and Housing Policy Development Review Panel**

**Date**                    **11 September 2014**

**Report of:**            **Director of Community**

**Subject:**              **DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT 2014-16**

#### **SUMMARY**

This report outlines the Council's achievement in the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants in 2013/14, the current position with this year's programme and the challenges for 2015/16 with changes to the way DFGs are funded under the Better Care Fund.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That members note the position with the regards to the Disabled Facilities Grants programme in 2013/14 and the challenges for the current financial year and beyond.

## INTRODUCTION

1. Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) are mandatory grants provided to enable a qualifying disabled person to remain in, or facilitate, living in their own homes as independently as possible. For example, a one off grant enabling the adaption of a bathroom into a level access shower room can negate the ongoing costs associated with providing an expensive personal care package. The potential cost savings to the Social Services budget is of particular importance now that the County Council will take on the responsibility for distributing funding for DFGs to Local Authorities.
2. This report describes the output for the last financial year 2013/14 and the current year's programme up to 31 July 2014. There is also an explanation of how the funding for DFGs will change from April 2015.

## CURRENT POSITION

3. In 2013/14 we completed 107 cases, the highest number ever achieved by FBC. The average time taken from initial enquiry to final payment was reduced to 22 weeks (although the majority of cases were completed within 18 weeks) with an average cost per case of £5,435.
4. The table below shows how this compares to previous years.

Year	Cases	Average time weeks	Average cost per case	Total expenditure
2013/14	107	22	£5,435	£581,516
2012/13	92	26	£5,888	£541,760
2011/12	71	29	£5,854	£415,681
2010/11	64	30	£6,728	£430,601

5. The cost of DFG's in 2013/14 was funded as follows

Government Grant	£254,717
FBC contribution (from capital programme <sup>1</sup> )	£197,799
One-off additional Government Grant	£75,600
Underspend from 12/13 DFG budget	£53,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>£581,516</b>

---

<sup>1</sup> Annual budget of £170,000 increased by £27,516 to meet overspend. Met from underspend in Home Improvement Loan budget – see Executive report “Actual Capital Expenditure and Financing 2013/14” 7 July 2014

6. The DFG team work with the assistance of the Home Improvement Agency (HIA) which is provided under contract from Hampshire County Council's Supporting People programme. The HIA provide a case worker and surveyor services for customers helping them to complete forms, prepare plans and gather builders' estimates etc. The case worker also ensures that people are receiving any other assistance and benefits to which they are entitled.
7. The improved performance of the DFG team as shown in the table above has been achieved by revising procedures and ensuring that the Home Improvement Agency continues to perform as expected, maintaining a good working relationship with local contractors and reducing the time spent liaising with Occupational Therapists.

## **FUNDING**

8. The way that we receive government funding for DFGs is changing. Instead of the money coming direct from the Government (Communities and Local Government – CLG), in future it will come directly from Hampshire County Council (HCC) as part of the Better Care Fund. Funding for this year was provided by the CLG but from 2015/16 the County have been given indicative amounts that the CLG consider appropriate for award to each Borough/District. Crucially, these amounts are not 'ring fenced' and the County could choose to disregard the guidance. The legal responsibility however, to provide DFGs remains with the Boroughs/Districts. The indicative figure for Fareham for 2015/16 is £330,000, an increase of £65,829 on the CLG grant of £264,171 this year. The County have intimated that there is the potential for the amount to be increased based upon performance and evidence of savings made.
9. Officers have therefore, taken the lead in liaising with HCC to promote the importance of the disabled adaptation grant work that we, and the other boroughs/districts within Hampshire, undertake.
10. The main emphasis is to show the savings to the Social Services budget that can be made by providing adaptations to people's homes that enable them to live independently.

## **CURRENT YEAR PERFORMANCE TO DATE (2014-15)**

11. In 2014/15 the DFG programme has received a grant from CLG totalling £264,171, together with £170,000 from the Council's own capital programme. In July 2014, the Executive agreed to supplement the DFG programme further by transferring some of the 2013/14 Home Improvement Loan underspend resulting in a total amount available of £470,200.
12. As shown in the table below, as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2014, when the estimated cost of pending cases received up to this date are taken into account, the budget for this financial year is almost fully committed. This means that without additional funding we will be unable to fund any new cases we receive from the 1<sup>st</sup> of August until the new financial year. Without extra funding being made available there will be a backlog of cases with significantly increased waiting times.

Budget		£470,200
Expenditure to date (including 2013/14 approvals)	£182,917	
Committed expenditure for approved cases	£ 89,963	
Estimated value of pending cases	£199,000	
Total	£471,880	
Balance		(£1,680)

13. As things stand, we will only be able to complete approximately 77 cases this financial year resulting in a backlog of cases for 2015/16.

14. Although the average cost of a DFG in 2013/14 reduced slightly on the previous year, as the economy improves we do not expect this trend to continue due to contractors' prices increasing.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

15. There is a risk that if there are not sufficient resources available to meet the demand for DFGs, customers will have to wait longer for their adaptations to be carried out which will create a backlog and could give rise to complaints. This may give rise to an increase in demand on Social Services and NHS budgets as a result. In order to reduce the risk of complaints, officers are exploring a number of options to increase the funds available for DFG's. This includes requesting additional funding from CLG, HCC and exploring the option of additional "top up" funding from a virement from FBC's own resources.

16. Although we do not have any specific information at present, there is also a risk that HCC may not re-tender the Home Improvement Agency contract when it expires in March 2015. This is due to HCC conducting a fundamental review of the Supporting People programme and associated contracts. If the contract is not renewed we will lose the services of a surveyor and a case worker, potentially increasing the administration costs for FBC. Officers will continue to keep a watching brief on developments and dialogue with HCC is ongoing.

### **CONCLUSION**

17. Over the past year there have been significant improvements in the DFG 'customer journey' whilst also achieving a reduction in the overall cost of the adaptations. However, we expect an increase in referrals for DFGs, due in some part to the ageing population and greater awareness of the help available. Therefore, the pressure on the Council's budget is likely to continue with the added uncertainty of future funding from HCC. This could result in longer waiting times for an adaptation to be carried out and therefore reduced customer satisfaction.

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Giles Hearn. (Ext 4404)

# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Report to Health and Housing Policy Development Review Panel

**Date**                    **11 September 2014**

**Report of:**            **Director of Community**

**Subject:**              **SUPPORTING PEOPLE - CHANGES TO BUDGET AND  
COMMISSIONED SERVICES**

### **SUMMARY**

This report provides a summary of the proposed changes to the funding provided by Hampshire County Council via the Supporting People programme and the potential impacts on those residents living in Fareham who receive support.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the panel note the contents of the report.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Supporting People (SP) programme currently provides accommodation-based and community support services for approximately 17,000 people across the county. The programme meets the support needs of older people, people with disabilities and others who needed support but are not eligible for statutory services provided through the Adult Services department.
2. Following the national removal of the ring-fence on the SP budget in 2009, Hampshire County Council (HCC) has undertaken reviews of the services provided under the SP programme. Following these reviews, reductions in the SP budget for 2014/15 were agreed by HCC in February 2014 and that same report identified the potential for further reductions of £7.6 million in the 2015/16 budget. A report was taken to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health on 30 July 2014 setting out these proposals.
3. It has been agreed that across Hampshire, £3.3 million will be removed from the budget which supports older people, £1.6 million for that supporting people with disabilities and £2.7 million for socially excluded people.

## **IMPLICATIONS FOR FAREHAM RESIDENTS**

4. As we have no SP funded programmes for people with disabilities in Fareham, this report focuses on the potential impact on those people who are 'socially excluded' and our older residents in our sheltered housing schemes.
  - (a) Socially excluded (including homeless people, people with mental health problems and ex-offenders) – due to the complex nature of many of the services currently receiving funding, HCC have committed to undertake a comprehensive review and recommendations will be made during 2015. This could lead to a reduction in funding for the core services provided by Two Saints in the borough - the homeless hostel at 101 Gosport Road, the floating support service and Acton Lodge.
  - (b) Older people – a loss of approximately £300,000 funding for our sheltered housing service will affect over 470 residents. The table at appendix A sets out the impact and possible mitigation:

## **CONCLUSION**

5. Whilst the cuts in the SP budget are unwelcome, steps have already been taken to recoup some of the costs through the Housing Benefit scheme and further work in this area is on-going. A review of the Sheltered Housing Team structure and sheltered housing provision is also being undertaken. In the event that there is still a shortfall, there could be a requirement for the Council to absorb the costs within the HRA, resulting in a reduction in our future HRA capital spend.
6. The proposed budget cuts for support to the socially excluded group from April 2015 is of great concern, therefore although no decisions have yet been made, dialogue with HCC is ongoing. Representatives from Two Saints have met with officers and work is underway to identify potential savings and other funding opportunities.

**Background Papers:**

None

**Reference Papers:**

HCC Report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health 30/7/14  
"Supporting People: Changes to budget, Services Commissioned and Commissioning Responsibilities

**Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Martyn George. (Ext 4400 )

**APPENDIX A**

Older Person SP funded service	Value of contract	Total No. of residents in scheme	Total No. of residents receiving financial support	Impact	Comments/ mitigation
Community Alarm Service	£16,973	419	312	Due to the proposed cancellation of the contracts for community alarm systems from 1/10/14, the cost of an alarm service would need to be met by residents currently receiving Housing Benefit (HB). (NB funding will continue for those who meet 'social care eligibility' criteria)	Cost will be met through increased HB due to alignment of service charges with HB regulations. Implemented with effect from 1/4/14.
Downing Court	£56,438	40	33	Proposals to cancel existing contracts for support services from 1/4/15 and replace them with a new model consisting of two elements – a 'short-term intensive support service' and a 'community-based support service'.	The removal of our sheltered housing warden service would be extremely unpopular. Work is underway to establish what level of support is required and how this could be funded. Any arrangement would be topped up with the new services commissioned by HCC. Approx. 50% of the costs associated with the provision of support are already being met through HB wef 1/4/14. A full review of the sheltered housing service charges is currently being undertaken in order to maximise HB entitlement & thereby relieve pressure on residents and/or the Housing Revenue Account. The Vanguard review of HB Service and Housing Service could free up officer time to provide housing-related support. Full and thorough consultation would be required before re-modelling the service to avoid the risk of a legal challenge.
On-site wardens (former category 2 schemes*)	£117,312	170	133		
Community (floating) support. Mobile Wardens Service. (former category 1 schemes**)	£102,002	419	312		

\* Assheton Court, Barnfield Court, Collingwood Court, Crofton Court, Melvin Jones House

\*\* Norman Close, Hillson Drive, Nashe Way, Birchen Close, Beverley Close, Baytree Lodge, Holly Hill Mansions, Coniston Walk, King George Road, Lincoln Close, Garden Court, Spencer Court, Barnfield Court (mobile), Chapelside, Foster Close, Foy Gardens, Frosthole Close, Northmore Close, Robinson Court, Trafalgar Court, Western Court



# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### **Report to Health and Housing Policy Development Review Panel**

**Date**                    **11 September 2014**

**Report of:**            **Director of Community**

**Subject:**              **REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15**

#### **SUMMARY**

At its meeting on 17 July 2014, the Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel agreed the Work Programme for 2014/15.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Members are now invited to further review the Work Programme for 2014/15.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. At the last meeting of the Panel on 17 July 2014, members reviewed and agreed the Panel's Work Programme for 2014/15. Members are now invited to give further consideration to the Work Programme for the current year.

## **REVISIONS TO THE WORK PROGRAMME**

2. Members are requested to note the following additions to the Work Programme for this meeting:

(i) a report titled 'Supporting People – Changes to Budget and Commissioned Services' has been added to the work programme for this meeting.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

3. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report

## **CONCLUSION**

4. The Panel is now invited to review and confirm the programme of items as set out in the attached Appendix A.

**Appendix A** – Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel Draft Work Programme for 2014/15.

### **Background Papers:**

None

### **Reference Papers:**

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Martyn George. (Ext 4400)

**HEALTH AND HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PANEL  
PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15**

<b><u>MEETING DATES FOR 2013/14</u></b>	<b><u>ITEMS</u></b>
17 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Work Programme 2014/15</li> <li>• Health Update</li> <li>• Introduction to the Role of the Panel</li> <li>• Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18</li> <li>• Development Opportunities</li> <li>• Collingwood Court Update</li> </ul>
11 September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Work Programme 2014/15</li> <li>• Health Update</li> <li>• Disabled Facilities Grants 2014-16</li> <li>• Presentation by the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group on the CCG 5 Year Plan</li> <li>• Supporting People – Changes to Budget and Commissioned Services</li> </ul>
13 November 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Work Programme 2014/15</li> <li>• Health Update</li> <li>• Review of Homelessness</li> <li>• Welfare Reform Update</li> </ul>
15 January 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary Review of Work Programme 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme 2015/16</li> <li>• Health Update</li> <li>• Annual Review of Housing Waiting list &amp; Allocations Policy</li> <li>• Annual Review of Discretionary Housing Payments</li> </ul>
12 March 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Review of Work Programme 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme 2015/16</li> <li>• Health Update</li> <li>• Annual Review of Homelessness Action Plan</li> </ul>

**Unallocated Items:** Update on Rent Arrears  
Condition of Housing Stock

