

INFORMATION ITEM: A

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD			
Report Title	Local Account for Adult Social Care, 2014-2015		
Contributors	Interim Head of Adult Assessment and Care Management	Information item:	A
Class	Part 1	Date:	20 January 2015
Strategic Context	Key strategic plans including the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Sustainable Communities Strategy are delivered in part through adult social care services.		
Pathway	None		

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Local Account 2014-2015, included as Appendix 1, to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. Recommendation/s

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the Local Account.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 The Department of Health has recommended that all local authorities publish an annual Local Account to explain the work undertaken by adult social care the previous year, outline current activity and plans for the following year. It supports a regular cycle of self-assessment, consultation and review to enable the Council to deliver high quality services to residents who have care or support needs.

- 3.2 Adult social care services support key priorities within Lewisham's [Sustainable Community Strategy](#):

- Safer: where people feel safe and are able to live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse
- Empowered and responsible: where people can be actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities
- Healthy, active and enjoyable: where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being

3.3 Adult social care services support key priorities within Lewisham's [Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#):

- Reducing the need for long term care and support
- Improving mental health and wellbeing
- Reducing emergency admissions for people with long term conditions

3.5 A range of tools, including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment are used to plan for the care and support needs of the local population. The JSNA can be found here: www.lewishamsna.org.uk

4. Background

4.1 The Local Account has replaced the Care Quality Commission performance monitoring process. This is the second Local Account produced under recent Department of Health guidelines.

4.2 Local accounts offer the opportunity for Councils to share a common approach with a more tailored local focus, responsive to the needs of people living in the local authority area.

4.3 The Local Account explains how much the Council spends, what it spends money on, what it is doing and how it plans to improve services in the future. The Local Account gives people an opportunity to read about the Council's achievements through the year and priorities going forward.

4.4 Promoting independence and supporting people using adult social care services, their families and carers to have more choice, control and control are among the Council's achievements and on-going priorities are outlined in the document.

6. Financial implications

6.1 The Local Account contains information about the Council's adult social care budget but there are no specific financial implications arising from the report.

7. Legal implications

7.1 Members of the Board are reminded that under Section 195 Health and Social Care Act 2012, Health and Wellbeing Boards are under a duty to encourage integrated working between the persons who arrange for health and social care services in the area. The Local Account highlights the activity to join up health and care services to date, outlines current activity within the Adult Integrated Care Programme and sets out plans to further integrate care and support in 2015/16.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

9. Equalities Implications

- 9.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

- 9.2 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 9.3 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

- 9.4 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-act-codes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>

- 9.5 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:

1. The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
2. Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making

3. Engagement and the equality duty
 4. Equality objectives and the equality duty
 5. Equality information and the equality duty
- 9.6 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>
- 9.7 Equalities implications are thoroughly considered in the planning and delivery of adult social care services. Specific Equality Analysis Assessments (EAAs) will be undertaken in relation to any proposed changes to future service delivery or any commissioning proposals.

10. Environmental Implications

- 10.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report.

11. Conclusion

- 11.1 The Local Account provides a comprehensive overview of Lewisham's adult social care services. It will improve transparency with local communities, stakeholders and partners and provide a mechanism for on going engagement.

Background Documents

None

If you have any difficulty in opening the links above or those within the body of the report, please contact Kalyan DasGupta: 020 8314 8378 / kalyan.dasgupta@lewisham.gov.uk who will assist.

If there are any queries on this report please contact Joan Hutton, Interim Head of Adult Assessment and Care Management, Lewisham Council: joan.hutton@lewisham.gov.uk or 0208 314 8364.