

## Portfolio Observations

### 1. Adult Care & Health

- *Older People*: Concerns over the proportion of self-funders (currently 60%) but reassured that this should remain relatively stable.
- *Adults with Disabilities*: Funding to voluntary organisations has been cut. This was justified by the development of the Connected Lives approach, through which communities are providing voluntary services in the way they support adults with disabilities. The increasing pressure on the adults with disabilities budget arises from increasing numbers and a generational shift and differing expectation of parents of college leavers. This expectation is being managed through offering different models of accommodation to support them (e.g. shared accommodation with one support worker).
- *NHS 10 year plan*: No local authorities or national social care body have been involved in the writing of the plan. It is not anticipated that the NHS 10 year plan will have a negative impact on the IP, however it was highlighted that if £4.5 billion were to go to primary and community care ACS would benefit.
- *Housing*: Members were reassured that this was a high priority and the Invest to Transform (ITT) bid is beginning to take form. The approach enables more people to stay in their homes for longer. Members were concerned that developing housing relied on the relationship with district and borough councils.
- A single STP (Strategic Transformation Partnership) management team will be in place by June 2019<sup>1</sup> across the three CCGs (Herts Valley, East Herts and West Essex). This may have an impact on Hertfordshire residents that are receiving services in West Essex, however as the two social care authorities have a similar approach and support one another the impact will be minimal.

### 2. Children, Young People & Families

- The commitment to partnership work and shared services is commended, but the directorate should further progress partnership working to deliver more cost-effective and holistic fostering, adoption and Children Looked After (CLA) services.
- Endorsed the directorate's approach to savings and non-statutory services. The directorate should continue this approach, despite continuing financial pressures, protecting front-line early intervention services.

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<sup>1</sup>The NHS Long Term Plan states the process is to commence 2019/20 and to be in place by 2021

- Endorse the direction of travel to in-house residential services for CLA to make significant savings. The trading potential for these residential homes should be considered.

### **3. Community Protection & Waste Management**

- When the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) is finalised this will inform future Community Protection plans and budgets

### **4. Highways & Environment**

- The management and monitoring of the Directorate's contractors and sub-contractors was discussed. Members would like to see strategies in place to improve the monitoring of contractors.
- Partnership working and relationships with contractors, sub-contractors, utility companies, and LPAs (Local Planning Authorities) was discussed. Members would like these to develop and help deliver efficiency savings through sharing data and working collaboratively to identify and resolve challenges.
- Concern was expressed at the lack of plans to deal with shortcomings in the footway network especially the lack of sufficient disability access on public footpaths.
- The impact of the Growth Agenda on Highways & Environment and the Directorate's strategies and proposals to respond to changes in Growth was discussed outlined plans were outlined to effectively facilitate and deliver the Growth Agenda.
- The distinction between capital and revenue spending was clarified and an overview provided of the interaction and relationship between them.

### **5. Public Health & Prevention**

- Regarding the ring-fence and efficiency savings, members heard that PHP is continuing to meet its objectives as well as achieving budget cuts. This has been achieved by switching treatments, restructuring services and identifying overlaps with other departments to ensure needs were met. While the situation around funding remains uncertain it emphasises the need for a greater focus on prevention. At future IPs greater clarification should be provided around Public Health's medium and long-term budget when the ring-fenced budget is withdrawn.
- There is a need to focus discussion on future funding to deliver initiatives with the NHS (including CCGs) and districts and boroughs.
- Members would like to see clearer information on Public Health outcomes and how effectiveness is measured. As well as being able to understand

how the county is performing, members are keen to understand the financials and savings to the NHS as a result of prevention work including comparisons of how the County Council is spending money vs the NHS.

- The Health and Wellbeing Board must be more vocal about the need for continuing and new investment into prevention and other services. Departments and external organisations need to understand responsibilities in county-wide partnerships so that multi-agency services are delivered effectively for residents.

## **6. Resources & Performance**

- There was concern expressed about the growing number of incorporated entities (with the public service mutual forthcoming) each with its own governance arrangements. Members agreed that there needed to be robust governance arrangements in place.