

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## REPORT TO: Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	10th March 2011
<b>Report of:</b>	Sue Crompton – Performance, Standards and Information Manager
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Government Proposals for 'Local Accounts'
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Cllr Roland Domleo

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The Government has announced changes to the way that council adult social care services are assessed. Previously, councils were assessed each year by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and through the council's performance against a list of national targets (the National Indicator Set) published annually. Both the Annual Performance Assessment by the CQC and the National Indicator Set are to end.

In their place, the government has put forward proposals to replace these with the following:

#### Local Account

This would be a document published by the council on how it believes it has made progress on achieving its goals for adult social care over the past year.

#### Outcome Measures

These will be published nationally each year on how each council has performed against a number of different measures so that both councils and local people can compare progress on outcomes that are being achieved. These would also be published within the Local Account.

The aim of these proposals is to support transparency at the local level by providing a means for councils and citizens to scrutinise progress against priorities and outcomes achieved.

- 1.2 The final proposals will be published by the Government in April 2011. Whilst there may be changes to the details of the proposals, it is highly likely that the framework for Local Accounts and Outcome Measures will be a part of the final proposals.

Therefore, implementation of Local Accounts and Outcome Measures within Cheshire East will be required. The key aim of local

implementation is to ensure that the Local Account and supporting measures reflect the priorities of local people in a way that is meaningful to them. This will be achieved through the involvement of local people, councillors and key partners in the planning and production of the Local Account.

## **2.0 Decision Requested**

- 2.1 The committee notes the proposals for Local Accounts and Outcome Measures and that final proposals from the Government are due to be published in April 2011.
- 2.2 The committee notes the proposals for local implementation of the Local Account and gives its views on how this should be taken forward.

## **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Local Account and Outcome Measures form part of proposals on Government requirements of councils with Adult Social Care responsibilities.
- 3.2 The Local Account and Outcome Measures will become a key means of local transparency and accountability of Health and Adult Social Care services.

## **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All wards

## **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 Council wide.

## **6.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health**

- 6.1 No implications for carbon reduction.
- 6.2 This report is relevant to Health as the Local Account and Outcome Measures will reflect integrated working and joint responsibility in these areas for the achievement of better outcomes for individuals.

## **7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

- 7.1

## **8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1

## **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 Any associated risks from the final proposals will be managed through the Local Account Steering Group.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 The proposals put forward by the government for **Local Accounts** are:

- They will be self-assessed and published by the council. They would be based on the progress it has made in achieving the quality and outcomes priorities during the past year;
- They might include a statement from the council's board, or the proposed Health and Wellbeing Board, on their quality and outcome priorities and how these have been taken forward over the year;
- They include a description of how the council is working with other partners locally in support of shared outcome priorities (for example, the NHS);
- A potential requirement that the account is signed off by the Local Involvement Network, or proposed HealthWatch. They might include a statement on their perspective on the council's progress and the extent to which local people have been actively engaged in prioritisation and planning; and,
- They include a selection of data and measures which demonstrate the objectives chosen locally, and the progress made during the past year.
- The first Local Account is expected to relate to 2011/12.
- Quality assurance of Local Accounts would be through a system of peer review whereby councils would review one another's accounts, challenge poor practice and share expertise. The Local Government Association and Local Government Improvement and Development (previously IDeA) are currently developing the peer review process. The Government is also considering whether the local HealthWatch could have a more formal role in assuring the Local Account or acting as a signatory.

- 10.2 The proposals put forward by the government on **Outcome Measures** are:

- Outcome Measures under four 'Outcome Domains' which align with the Outcome Frameworks for the NHS and Public Health:
  1. Promoting personalisation and enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs

2. Preventing deterioration, delaying dependency and supporting recovery
3. Ensuring a positive experience of care and support
4. Protecting from avoidable harm and caring in a safe environment

- There will be no national targets for these outcome measures
- They will be published annually
- Intended for councils to consider for benchmarking their results, and to help local people to judge progress.

Please see Annex A for the full list of proposed outcome measures.

### 10.3 Proposals for Local Implementation

A Local Account Steering Group is to be formed to oversee the planning and production of the Local Account which includes representation from the PCT. This group will look at the following areas:

- Engagement with key partners e.g. NHS, Local Involvement Network (LiNK), Third Sector;
- Review existing consultations and plan specific consultation with local people on the Local Account and Outcome Measures;
- Produce recommendations on the content and format of the Local Account to the Directorate Management Team and to Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee;
- Plan the production of the Local Account and develop associated procedures.

## 11.0 Access to Information

- 11.1 The Government proposals on Local Accounts and Outcome Measures are part of the Department of Health consultation document 'Transparency in Outcomes: a framework for adult social care':

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_121509](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_121509)

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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