

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Department of Community and Children Services	September 2013
<b>Subject:</b> Report on the work of the Adult Advisory Group	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director Community and Children Services	<b>For Information</b>

### Summary

In June 2013, as part of the Grand Committee's review of its sub committees and allocation of Lead Members' responsibilities, it was agreed that the current Chairman of the Adults Advisory Group (AAG) , Deputy Billy Dove, would continue as its Chairman. The AAG meets on a quarterly basis and will report on its activity on an annual basis to the Grand Committee and the Health and Well Being Board.

The purpose of this report is to inform members about the work of the AAG including its Terms of Reference, membership, headline activity undertaken in 2012/13 and highlighting areas of work to be undertaken in 2013/2014.

The AAG plays a key role in facilitating opportunities for service users, carers, voluntary organisations, officers and Members to help collectively shape practice and policy in Adult Social Care through a process of consultation and co- production.

The report notes that when “co-production works best people who use services and carers are valued by organisations as equal partners, can share power and have influence over decisions made” (National Co-Production Advisory Group).

The report notes that through this process of co-production with residents, services, Members, the Voluntary Sector and Officers, the AAG is well placed to consider how key legislative and guidance changes across Adult Social Care might impact on residents in the City of London.

The Report highlights areas of work carried out by the AAG in the past 12 months, including;

- AAG members involved in the tendering of several contracts, including the Carers Strategy, Healthwatch and Dementia services.
- Providing feedback on a range of consultations from the Department of Health.
- Presenting service user experiences at a recent Care Agency Provider Forum

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

## Main Report

### Background

1. At the meeting of your Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013, it was agreed that Lead Members of specific areas would provide updates to the Committee on the work being undertaken in these areas, thereby extending the Committee's scrutiny role.
2. As part of the allocation of lead roles, your Committee agreed that the current Chairman of the AAG, Deputy Billy Dove would continue as Chairman. It was agreed that the AAG would review the frequency that it met and as such it has been agreed that it will meet on a quarterly basis and report on its activity on an annual basis to the Grand Committee and the Health and Well Being Board. If required, the Vice Chair of the AAG (Assistant Director People) will convene and Chair additional meetings of the AAG in order to facilitate the timely completion of specific pieces of work for example, commissioning or consultation activity.
3. The AAG plays a key role in facilitating opportunities for service users, voluntary organisations, officers and Members to help collectively shape practice and policy in Adult Social Care through a process of consultation and co-production. In doing so, the AAG is well placed to respond to key legislative and guidance changes across Adult Social Care, and how these changes might impact on residents in the City of London.
4. The focus of the AAG includes;
  - facilitating opportunities for co-produced policy and practice development;
  - updating members on the transformation of social care and the personalisation agenda;
  - updating members on consultations, guidance and legislative changes in respect of Adult Social Care at national and local level;
  - updating members on key issues in relation to safeguarding adults;
  - ensuring that adults and older people from socially and/or economically excluded groups are involved in the planning, development and review of services within the City of London Corporation;
  - providing opportunities for the representatives of key stakeholder groups to meet together to promote information exchange, networking and disseminate good practice for example representatives from the Safeguarding Adult Board, Older People Reference Group and Commissioning.
5. Membership is made up of the following:
  - Chairman - Member of Safeguarding Sub Committee
  - Member of the Court of Common Council
  - Vice Chair- Assistant Director People Services

- Older Peoples Reference Group representative
- Healthwatch representative
- Service User Representation from Barbican x 3, Golden Lane x 2 and Portsoken Ward x1
- Service Manager Adult Social Care
- Service Manager Commissioning
- Other Officers as required, invited for specific items

## Current Position

6. A key principle behind the work of the AAG is to promote and facilitate opportunities for co-production. There are many definitions of the term co-production and what this means in respect of public service planning and delivery.

In 'Joining the Dots' a paper commissioned by *Think Local Act Personal*, Lucie Stevens of the New Economics Foundation wrote:

*"Co-production is an assets-based approach which starts first and foremost with people's energy, skills, interests, and knowledge and life experience. By doing this co-production connects public services with valuable community-based resources and opens up opportunities for improving outcomes without increasing costs."*

The National Advisory Group defines co-production as follows;

*Co-production is not just a word, it is not just a concept, it is a meeting of minds coming together to find shared solutions. In practice, co-production involves people who use services being consulted, included and working together from the start to the end of any project that affects them. When co-production works best, people who use services and carers are valued by organisations as equal partners, can share power and have influence over decisions made. (National Co-production Advisory Group)*

During the past 12 months the AAG has contributed and / or been kept abreast of a range of consultations, policy development, tendering exercises and recruitment of staff.

7. Work undertaken by the AAG in the past 12 months has included the following;

### **Co-produced initiatives:**

Members of the AAG provided detailed feedback and reshaped content and lay out of the following reports/guides;

- The Adult Social Care Annual Report (also known as the Local Account): Several versions of the report were shared with AAG and

members also met on an individual basis with the Department to provide feedback on the content of the report. This was the first report of its kind for the City of London Adult Social Care Department. It was subsequently presented to Grand Committee and then made available to the public. The report provides an account of Adult Social Care activity across the City of London and helps promote awareness raising in respect of strategic objectives and performance.

- The Safeguarding Annual Report: As above but with a specific emphasis upon Adult Safeguarding.
- The Services Directory: This was a detailed piece of work that AAG were involved in developing and has resulted in the production of a Services Directory for Adults and Older People that enables potential service users to identify and commission their own services directly. This tool supports the City's objective of promoting user choice through the personalisation agenda. It is available on the website and also in a ring binder folder, as suggested by AAG members.
- Toynbee Hall 50+ service: Representatives of the Toynbee Hall 50+ service gave a presentation to AAG on a new advice service. As a result of the presentation, AAG members made suggestions regarding how the service could be better promoted. As a result, the printing of future leaflets will be changed to reflect the feedback provided.

### ***Commissioning and Recruitment Activity***

Members of the AAG were also involved with officers and Members in the following activities;

- Engagement in the Carers Strategy tender process which resulted in the awarding of the Carers Support Contract to Elder Voice. Elder Voice have subsequently presented to AAG members who will also contract feedback as part of on-going monitoring arrangements.
- Engagement in the Healthwatch tender process resulted in the awarding of the contract to Age UK who are now equal partners on the AAG.
- Engagement in the Rough Sleepers Outreach tender process involved the Chairman of the AAG meeting with the potential provider at the final stage of the tender process. The contract was awarded to Broadway who subsequently gave a presentation to the Grand Committee.
- Engagement in the tender process for dementia community based services involved 2 members of AAG meeting with Officers and providers to help scope the specification for a new Dementia Café service, as well as being part of the selection process, which is on-going.
- Members of the AAG were also part of the recruitment process for the AD People Services.

### ***Policy consultation***

Finally, during 2012/13 members of the AAG were invited to feedback in respect of the following local and /or national policy and practice initiatives;

- Health and Social Care Act
- Time credits
- Website development
- Portsoken Early Intervention Review
- Supported Living Review
- Fire prevention strategy
- Welfare Reform

In respect of the fire prevention strategy, AAG were informed of the work being undertaken with residents by the Fire Brigade and Adult Social Care to help identify vulnerable adults who might require support in respect of fire prevention. Feedback from AAG helped shape the methodology used to identify the group of residents this work targeted.

8. Areas of work that the AAG will be considering in the next 12 months will include;

- Integrated care developments
- Implementation of the Care and Support Bill 2014
- Implementation of safeguarding arrangements across health and social care
- Review of Carers Strategy
- Review of Personalisation agenda
- Dementia Strategy

These areas will be key to the City of London Adult Social Care Service realising its ambitions in relation to promoting choice and independence for service users. The AAG will receive relevant presentations on some of these areas which will help shape the direction of travel. For example, future plans in relation to increased integration with health will require feedback from a resident and service use perspective. The AAG will be invited to receive update reports on this specific area of work which in turn will be reported into the Health and Wellbeing Board.

In respect of the Dementia Strategy, a member of the AAG will be invited to join the Dementia Strategy Implementation Group when this is launched in October 2013.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications relating to this report.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the report has informed Members of the work of the AAG and how the principles of co-production have served as a key driver in the work of the Group. The Group will continue to meet on a quarterly basis but, will meet over and above this in response to any service planning, consultation and commissioning requirements.

## **Appendices**

Not applicable

## **Background Papers:**

Not applicable

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