



Regulatory and Other Committee

Open Report on behalf of Glen Garrod, Executive Director of Adult Social Services

Report to:	Audit Committee
Date:	22 July 2013
Subject:	Assurance Status Report - Adult Care

Summary:

The aim of this report is to provide the Audit Committee with an insight on the assurances across all critical services and key risks in Adult Care

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee:

1. notes the current status of the Adult Care assurance regime and make recommendations on any further scrutiny required; and
2. provide feedback on any changes it may wish for future reports of this type.

Background

The first Adult Care combined assurance report was presented to the Committee in November 2012. The Committee requested that they be presented with an update on the assurances in place across the Adult Care critical activities – this is the purpose of this report.

Internal Audit have co-ordinated the assurance information available from management, our corporate functions / third parties and Internal Audit with the overall assurance opinion being determined by Glen Garrod (DASS).

The combined assurance gives an overview of assurance provided across the whole Council – not just those from Internal Audit – making it possible to identify where assurances are present, their source, and where there are potential assurance ‘unknowns or gaps’.

Internal Audit have triangulated information to help ensure that it ‘stacks up’ and applied some constructive challenge on the assurance opinions being given **but** as accountability rests with management it is senior managers views that have determined the overall assurance status. This is in line with a control environment that promotes a culture where we:

- take what we have been told on trust
- encourages accountability with those responsible for managing the service
- provide some independent challenge / insight where appropriate.

Directorates work well with Internal Audit, highlighting areas for review where independent challenge adds value and complements internal and external reviews.

Attached in Appendix A is the detailed report for consideration by the Committee.

Conclusion

The scale and pace of change in Adult Care is pronounced and unlikely to change in the medium term. Notwithstanding the transformation required their primary purpose is to work with the most vulnerable adults in our communities, to help them achieve more, stay at home and keep them safe from abuse. Adult Care understand the value of working together with the people who need their advice and support, their families, their wider community, statutory partners and organisations providing support. The resources Adult Care have including their people and money will be directed to achieving this. The 5 priorities for 2013/14 are:

1. A balanced budget out-turn
2. Improved performance
3. Integration with Health
4. Established plans for the delivery of key elements of Adult Care transformation
5. A set of quality indicators

The overall position for Adult Care has improved since October. However, continued vigilance is required to ensure momentum is maintained.

Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Combined Assurance Status Report - Adult Care

Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Glen Garrod, who can be contacted on 01522-550808 or glen.garrod@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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