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	<b>Executive</b> <b>13 February 2012</b>  <b>Report from</b> <b>Director of Adult Social Services</b>
Wards Affected: ALL	
<b>Adult Social Care Local Account 2010/11</b>	

## 1.0 Introduction

With the abolition of the Annual Performance Assessment, the publication of a single data set for local government and the development of outcomes frameworks for health and adult social care, the need for councils to report back to citizens and customers in a meaningful way has never been more acute.

These changes to the national performance frameworks represent a radical shift from the past, with councils now expected to take over responsibility for managing their own improvement. In May 2010 a 'Promoting Excellence in Councils' Adult Social Care Programme Board was set up with representatives from key stakeholders across the sector. The purpose of the Board is to collaborate and drive sector-led improvement.

In an effort to take collective responsibility for the performance of the Adult Social Care sector as a whole therefore, the Board recommended the publication of an annual council 'Local Account', as a means to demonstrate and describe local performance. The Board were purposefully non-prescriptive in terms of the design of the report, however they recommended it should be short, accessible and produced by December each year.

The concept of producing a local account is not a new idea, rather it builds on work that councils are already doing in relation to local quality assurance and safeguarding. It is also aligned with developments taking place around sector led improvement in children's services. Local accounts are also mentioned in the Department of Health's Transparency in Outcomes framework and are conducive to wider government agendas e.g. localism and transparency.

The purpose of Brent's Local Account is to communicate priorities and to provide Members, residents and service users with a key accountability mechanism by which self-regulation and improvement activities can be systematically monitored and reported.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

The Executive is asked to:

- a. Note the performance and contextual information contained in this report.
- b. Consider the current and future strategic risks associated with the information provided.
- c. Challenge progress with responsible officers as necessary.

## **3.0 Executive Summary**

3.1 There is increasing recognition at the national level of the critical importance of health and wellbeing to people's quality of life and long-term prosperity. National policy and the legislative framework sets out the coalition government's vision for transforming health and social care. This vision sets out two critical goals:

1. To create a more integrated approach to delivering health care services, which reaches beyond the treatment of illness to actually prevent the causes of ill-health and address the underlying social and economic determinants.
2. To provide services which are customer-focussed, personalised and sensitive to each individuals needs.

3.2 In response to this agenda, and findings and recommendations from Brent's most recent Care Quality Commission's Performance Assessment 2009/10, Adult Social Care embarked on an ambitious programme to modernise and transform its services in 2010/11. The attached report offers detailed insight into the context within which these changes continue to take place. It also highlights the key successes of the programme during 2010/11 and challenges facing the service during 2011/12.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

These are set out in Section 10 (page 25) of the report. The combined elements of reduced government funding, an ageing population, high cost transitions from the Children Service and rising customer demand continue to place the Adult Social Care budget under sustained pressure. However the service modernisation programme has already delivered efficiency savings and improved customer outcomes and is expected to deliver further benefits in 2011/12.

## **5.0 Legal implications**

The provisions enshrined in the Health and Social Care Bill 2011 reflect a number of changes to the public health system. These represent a radical policy shift and will have far reaching implications for how services are designed and delivered within the borough. Full details and the implications are not known at this time but chief officers will continue to work with key partners to ensure the best possible outcomes for the region.

## **6.0 Diversity implications**

This report has been subject to screening by officers and there are no direct diversity implications. However it should be noted that the service improvements achieved in 2010/11 have all undergone Equality Impact Assessments prior to implementation.

## **7.0 Contact officers**

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