

# **HEATHER KIDD CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **Topics considered at the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010 Committee Meeting**

### **Common Assessment Framework (CAF)**

The Council were awarded over £1m in funding to deliver this project aimed at improving access to services and information for Learning Disability service users and their family carers. The project also incorporates sharing of key information between relevant agencies

Members received a presentation from “Together we can” who are young people with learning disabilities and physical disabilities who are going through or have recently gone through Transition from young people’s services into adult services. They also heard from a Learning Disability service user who has been employed through the CAF project, the support worker from ENABLE, as well as the Staff involved in the project.

The work of Together we can had been recognised by the Department of Health with “Together we can” being invited to and performing in Manchester and Birmingham and Liverpool.

Members were impressed with the impact of the presentation of “Together we can”, and the aims of the CAF project to improve sharing of information between key agencies and to support people who use services and their families and carers to find out about and access services more easily on their terms.

### **Progress with the themed audit of care homes**

At their meeting in December 2009 the Committee identified the priority areas for the themed inspections. The first audit was on Nutrition, and the other topics identified by the Committee are Creating community; Sharing decision making; and Creating a positive culture.

Members heard from the officer undertaking the audits and from Shropshire Partners in Care on progress and the impact to date.

Good progress had been made with the first audit looking at Nutrition in care homes for people (18-65) with Learning Disabilities, with the care homes involved had taken part actively. The next audit was expected to take forward Safeguarding, looking at staff safeguarding training and awareness as well as other relevant information and issues.

Members also heard about the work of CInCH (Community Involvement in Care and Health the Shropshire Local Involvement Network), who also undertake visits to care homes through their powers. The need to work together to ensure the best outcomes for service users was highlighted.

## **Work programme for the September 2010 Committee meeting**

### **Annual Safeguarding Report**

Safeguarding is a key area of responsibility for the Council. It is essential that systems and processes are correct and properly implemented and staff councillors and partners are aware and trained to the appropriate level for their responsibilities.

Community Services Scrutiny Committee have a role in ensuring that progress and planned developments are scrutinised and any emerging issues are followed up.

### **Adaptations – Progress report**

Adaptations to properties have a key role in enabling disabled people and their families to be independent. Becoming Shropshire Council has brought Housing Services and Adult Social Care together into one Directorate enabling progress and development.

Community Services Scrutiny Committee have a role in monitoring the progress and ensuring impacts and benefits are achieved for disabled Shropshire People who require adaptations to their home.

### **Report of the Meals and Wheel task and Finish Group**

The task and finish group will report back on their findings and recommendations to the committee before the report is presented to Cabinet later in September 2010.

### **Report of the Rights of Way Task and Finish Group**

This task and finish group have previously reported to the committee when they completed work against their original terms of reference. Through this work the Task and Finish Group highlighted further issues to explore. This report will pull together their findings and recommendations from their further work.

### **Other news**

- Meals on Wheels and Preventative Services Task and Finish Group is progressing with its consideration of services in Shropshire. There have been three meetings of the Task and Finish Group. During these meetings members:
  - set their terms of reference and discussed the issues at hand
  - heard from Officers of the Council about the provision of Meals on Wheels in Shropshire, considering the purpose of meals on wheels and how they fit with a package of care, how reviews are undertaken, what is involved in providing hot and cold meals, and what happens in other authorities,
  - received presentations from Age Concern, Coverage Care and Apetio who provide frozen meals in Shropshire through Wiltshire Farm Foods. The final meeting of the Task and Finish Group on the 26 July will include learning more about Telecare and other preventative approaches. The

Task and Finish Group aims to have completed its work by the end of July 2010 to report to the meeting of the Committee in September.