

Title of Report:	Annual Review of Performance in Social Care	Item 16
Report to be considered by:	Executive	
Forward Plan Ref:	EX0715	
Corporate Plan Priority:	<p>CP3 – Promoting independence for older people and people with disabilities</p> <p>CP4 – To achieve better and fairer outcomes for children and young people by delivering high quality integrated services through partnership</p> <p>D1 – Performance improvement</p> <p>D2 – Building capacity through partnership and innovation</p>	
<p>The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Corporate Plan priorities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continually improving social care delivery 		

Purpose of Report:

To report to the Executive on the improvements made in the Council's social care services during 2003/04, as judged by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI).

Recommended Action:

That the Executive note the report and the significantly improved performance achieved across both the Community Care and Housing and Children and Young People's directorates.

Reason for decision to be taken:

- The Council is required to formally receive the report from CSCI

List of other options considered:

- N/A

Key background documentation:

- Delivery and Improvement Statement May 2004
- Inspection of Children's Social Care services, July 2004

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Implications

Policy:	The improvements highlighted in the assessment report reflect the key corporate priority accorded to social care
Financial:	None arising from the report
Equalities:	Social care services play a key role in addressing disadvantage in communities within West Berkshire, thereby contributing to the Council's social inclusion and equalities agendas
Partnering:	All social care services are delivered in partnership with other agencies, and supported by the AWB partnership

Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 The Commission for Social Care Inspection reviews the performance of social care services in England annually. In doing so, evidence is drawn from a number of standard sources, which include:
- Published Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) performance indicators
 - Evidence agreed from quarterly monitoring meetings
 - Information from the Delivery and Improvement Statements (DIS) completed in spring and autumn
 - Information from service inspections
- 1.2 West Berkshire's performance has improved to such an extent that the Council is now rated as a Two Star authority, judged to be serving Most adults well, with Excellent prospects for improvement, and Most children well, with Promising prospects for improvement.
- 1.3 West Berkshire's social care services are now judged the best across the six Berkshire unitary Councils, and are the second best across the whole of the south east region.
- 1.4 Appendix 16(a) summarises the main areas of improvement made in adults and children's services, and makes recommendations for further development in the coming year. Key areas of progress include:
- Social care made a top corporate priority for the Council, with additional resources achieving significantly better outcomes for vulnerable adults and children;
 - Successful working with a range of different partners;
 - Innovative services for families and children, often leading the way nationally, including the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, good public information including website, preventive services for children, support for unaccompanied asylum seeking children, successful recruitment strategies and effective management and political oversight;
 - Imaginative services for adults, including a wide range of employment and arts/music/IT opportunities for people with disabilities and mental health problems, supported living opportunities, a doubling in home care hours and streamlined access to intermediate care services across health and social care.
- 1.5 Ongoing improvements in services supporting people at home, in developing new initiatives with health and other partners and involving users, carers and the voluntary sector in consultation and future service changes should ensure that the Council's improvement trajectory continues on its present upward path.

Appendices

Appendix 16(a) - Performance Review Report for West Berkshire Council Social Services 2004

Appendix 16(b) - Letter from Business Relationship Manager

Consultation Responses

Local Stakeholders: N/A

Officers Consulted: Richard Hubbard; Andy Couldrick; Jan Evans; Bev Searle; Teresa Bell

Trade Union: N/A