

25 October 2011		ITEM 6
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Star Chamber growth proposals – Adult Social Care		
Report of: Roger Harris – Head of Commissioning		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision:	
Accountable Head of Service: Roger Harris – Head of Commissioning		
Accountable Director: Jo Olsson, Director of People Services		
This report is : Public		
Purpose of Report: To advise members of growth proposals for adult social care, agreed through the 2011 Star Chamber process		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The growth proposals in this report have been through a rigorous assessment via the Star Chamber process. The Star Chamber consists of senior members and Directors. This growth represents funding for externally commissioned placements which are a statutory responsibility. The figures are based on detailed analysis of previous trends, growth in the population – particularly for over 75s and young people coming through transition.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 That members explore the proposals, test the underlying assumptions and make recommendations to portfolio holders and Cabinet.**

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 2.1** The star chamber is a joint officer/member process; designed to rigorously examine the allocation of the whole council's resources. It is lead by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, supported by the Corporate Director of Finance and Corporate Governance. Directors and Heads of Service present a pack that includes an analysis of performance/spend in

previous years and proposals for growth and savings required to deliver the council's plans in the forthcoming period. The star chamber shapes, and is shaped by, the council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The adults service Star Chamber pack is included as Appendix one

3. ISSUES AND/OR OPTIONS:

3.1 The growth request from Adult Social Care for 2012/13 is £ 1m. This is approximately a 5% cash increase on a net budget of £ 20m on our commissioning / external placements budget (i.e. after income has been taken out).

3.2 We have undertaken a detailed analysis of the demand for ASC over the past four years. That can be summarised in the following table :

Client Group	2007/08 Numbers	2010/11 Numbers	2007/08 Spend	2010/11 Spend
Older people (Residential)	411 (placements)	423	£ 8.9m	£ 10.1m
Older people (Domiciliary care)	300,000 + (hours)	300,000+	£3.1m	£ 3.9m
Older people (Direct Payments)	23 (individuals)	81	£ 140k	£ 390k
Learning Disabilities (Residential)	138 (placements)	116	£ 6.4m	£ 6.8m
Learning Disabilities (Domiciliary care)	24,000 + (hours)	24,000+	£300k	£ 270k
Learning Disabilities (Direct Payments)	44 (individuals)	90	£ 240k	£ 800k
Mental Health (Residential)	17 (placements)	24	£ 460k	£ 1.17m
Mental Health (Domiciliary care)	25 (hours)	21,000	£ 300	£ 245k
Mental Health (Direct Payments)	5 (individuals)	14	£ 20k	£ 86k
Physical	30	24	£ 970k	£ 1.2m

disabilities (Residential)	(placements)			
Physical disabilities (Domiciliary care)	91,000 (hours)	52,000	£ 440k	£ 720k
Physical Disabilities (Direct Payments)	58 (individuals)	113	£ 434k	£ 1.16m
Total			£ 21,704k	£ 26,841k

The key highlights from this are :

- * Numbers presenting to social care are increasing due to demographic pressures but actual placements have been kept relatively stable over the past 4 years despite the growth in numbers of over 65s in Thurrock(see Star Chamber pack);
- * Expenditure has gone up significantly over this period – 23%. The main reason for this is not inflationary pressures – we have only given an uplift to our providers in one out of these four years – but cost pressures due to the increasing complexity of care needs;
- * This is particularly evident within the numbers of older people in residential care for example. Here the numbers of people with dementia or higher nursing needs has increased considerably and is forecast to continue to do so;
- * We have been very successful in keeping people in their own homes for longer – however, this does mean that by the time they require residential or nursing home care their needs are usually very high;
- * It also means that the cost of home care packages has gone up. We are now able to maintain people with high care needs in the community – however, this does mean that we have had to fund more double handed packages as people require more intensive support to allow them to stay at home;
- * The numbers of referrals of people with Autism has also gone up and these tend to be amongst our highest costs placements – up to £ 3,000 per week in some cases;
- * The number of mental health placements has also gone up. The exact reasons for this is not totally clear although over the past few years it has been the policy of health providers to move people out of hospital as quickly as possible;
- * The numbers of people taking up direct payments has gone up and this has been a clear demand pressure;

4. CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 4.1 Portfolios and star chamber have endorsed the growth proposals presented here

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 5.1 Much of the growth is designed to ensure statutory compliance. The growth will have a positive impact on delivering the council's statutory duties and top priorities

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Funké Nana**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652 451**
fnana@thurrock.gov.uk

This report outlines the growth proposal of £1m. The cost pressures currently being seen on the adult social care external placement are linked directly to increased demand related to demographic changes and to the increasing care and complex needs of those eligible for services as outlined in at para 3.2 . These factors will be prominent in future years and pressures need to be recognised in the 2012/13 budget and include provision for anticipated growth of new clients 2012/13.

6.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**
 Telephone and email: **01375.652087**
dlawson@thurrock.gov.uk

The local authority has a statutory duty to assess need and meet that need in accordance with its eligibility criteria. Significant changes in Adult Social Care are expected. Central government has said that a new White Paper proposing a new Adult Social Care Act will be published in the spring of 2012 with a new Act anticipated for 2013/14. This new Act will consolidate a number of existing Acts governing the provision of Adult Social Care. This report helps towards ensuring statutory compliance.

6.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Roger Harris**
 Telephone and email: rharris@thurrock.gov.uk
(01375.652192)

The provision of residential, nursing and home support is a statutory duty placed on the local authority for those clients that meet our eligibility criteria – Fair Access to Care Services. The services provided meet the needs of

vulnerable adults and in particular allow carers the support they need to maintain someone in their own home.

6.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

N/A

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 The exploration and testing of the underlying assumptions and professional judgements will strengthen democratic accountability in the allocation of resources

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

- Star Chamber Pack – See Appendix 1.

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