

### CARE ACT IMPLEMENTATION

**This is the third series of newsletters aimed to help keep you up to date with the Care Act- the biggest change to adult social care law for 60 years.**

'The Council has been working hard to ensure that we are compliant with the changes which took effect on 1st April 2015 as well as preparing for the change to come in 2020. It is important that our Social Care staff and our partners have the knowledge and confidence to support local residents to fully understand the reforms'. **Linzi Roberts - Egan** (Deputy Chief Executive of Families).

The first two issues have focused specifically on activities within some of the work streams - Prevention, Information and Advice, Assessment, Eligibility Criteria, Paying & Charging for Care, Quality & Safeguarding, Care Markets and The Duty to Integrate. While the Care Act work continues it is important to recognise business improvement work that is happening across the Families Directorate.



We would like to welcome Jana Burton Interim Divisional Director of Adult Social Care who has the responsibility of overseeing this piece of work as well as the day to day management of Adult Social Care.



**Jana Burton**

Jana brings a wealth of experience as a Health and Social Care Integration, modernisation and service improvement specialist with sound financial management. Prior to Waltham Forest Council, Jana held the position of Executive Director, Adults, Health & Well Being at Peterborough City Council.

'I am looking forward to working with the talent that is Adult Social Care and building upon what has been achieved thus far to achieve Best in Class status in Service delivery'.

## Care Act Update

We are currently updating the content of the Adult Social Care website pages and an editorial board has been set up to facilitate this piece of work. Ensuring that the information is accurate, up to date, accessible as well as Care Act compliant is key.

An ASC staff online hub is now live on the intranet. The hub allows staff to have access to policies, procedures, ASC publications as well as links to ASC web pages, Quality Assurance, Framework i forms and workforce development information.

The Information, Advice and Advocacy service tender is now at award stage. It is recommended that Waltham Forest CAB be awarded the contract for an initial period of 3 years with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, with the option to extend for two consecutive periods of 12 months.

A Care Act compliant workflow has been produced with our colleagues in ICT which will align with the Face forms. A big thank you to staff who were involved in the RAS testing which will allow for a more accurate indicative budget which is a key enabler to the support planning process.

A comprehensive e-learning package will be rolled out to Adult Social Care Staff specifically tailored around practice.

Working in partnership to support the implementation of the Care Act in Local Authorities is the Department of Health, Directors of Adult Social Services (adass) and the Local Government Association. Every local authority, is required to submit a quarterly Care Act Stocktake Return. The purpose of which is to acquire a collective picture of progress nationally and locally. Double [Click here](#) for further information.

Please use your team meetings and 1:1 sessions to discuss the Care Act. You can also contact [Lola.Williams@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:Lola.Williams@walthamforest.gov.uk) for further information.

## Other News

### Visbuzz - video calling made simple

London Borough of Waltham Forest is one of a small number of London councils selected to take part in an Assistive Technology pilot project to reduce social isolation.

Similar to Face time and Skype, Visbuzz, as it's called, makes video calling simple and easy to use such that those vulnerable adults, who otherwise can't, don't or won't use computers can play a more inclusive part in their local communities, maintain their independence and improve their general wellbeing.

The pilot is due to run for one year and will involve up to 100 local residents who we are in the process of identifying to take part. The only stipulation is that they must not currently use or be able to use the internet. So if you know of anyone, do let us know.

We will keep you updated on progress here in Waltham Forest, in the meantime, if you would like to know more, please contact Wayne Haywood, Business and Transformation [wayne.haywood@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:wayne.haywood@walthamforest.gov.uk) or Ext 4493 for more information.



The Department of Health has written detailed regulations and guidance which give much more information on what the Care Act means please right click on the following links:

[The Care Act guidance](#)

[Local Authority Implementation](#)

[Factsheets on the Care Act](#)

[The Care Act: Easy Read Version](#)

[Supporting People at risk of abuse or neglect](#)

### **What do you know about the Better Care Fund?**

The purpose of the Better Care Fund (BCF) is to integrate health and social care services so that social care is protected and local residents experience a more personalised and holistic service that keeps them independent and living at home as much as possible.

We have jointly developed a BCF plan with the CCG, signed-off by the Health and Wellbeing Board, worth £18,597,000 this year (2015/16). It also involves all other health and social care providers in Waltham Forest such as Whipps Cross hospital, GPs and NELFT. The government has just announced that this will continue for at least another year.

The Better Care Together programme (visit the CCG's website for further information) is intended to provide linkage and oversight of all health and social care integration in Waltham Forest in order to get maximum value from the BCF investment; it reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board and is governed by a multi-agency board including the divisional director of Adult Social Care for LBWF. Further information is available from

[mchael.scorer@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:mchael.scorer@walthamforest.gov.uk)



Take part in our quiz and win a prize just in time for Christmas!

### **Care Act**

1. Which one or more of these elements of the Care Act has been delayed?

- A. The Cap on Care Costs -April 2020
- B. National Eligibility Thresholds
- C. The extensions to the Means Test Thresholds (April 2020)
- D. Market Position Statement

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2. Which one of the statements below is **true** and is an **Adult Safeguarding** requirement for a Local Authority.

- A. Market Position Statement
- B. Establish a PAQ Board
- C. Co-operate with each of its relevant partners (as set out in Section 6 of the Care Act) in order to protect the adult. In their turn each relevant partner must also co-operate with the Local Authority.
- D. Adhere to the 'No secrets' guidance.

Please email your answers to

[careact@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:careact@walthamforest.gov.uk)

## Adult Safeguarding and why it matters



Safeguarding is aimed at adults with care and support needs who, as a result of their care and support needs, are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect.

Local services must work together to safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live. Abuse and neglect can take on various forms and the Care Act identifies the following areas, the list which is not exhaustive includes; physical, sexual, psychological, financial, modern slavery, organisational, self-neglect, discriminatory and neglect and acts of omission.

The Care Act sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. Local authorities have new duties double [Click here](#) for more information.

- lead a multi-agency local adult safeguarding system that seeks to prevent abuse and neglect and stop it quickly when it happens.
- make enquiries, or request others to make them, when they think an adult with care and support needs may be at risk of abuse or neglect and they need to find out what action may be needed.
- establish Safeguarding Adults Boards, including the local authority, NHS and police, which will develop, share and implement a joint safeguarding strategy.
- carry out Safeguarding Adults Reviews when someone with care and support needs dies as a result of neglect or abuse and there is a concern that the local authority or its partners could have done more to protect them **arrange for an independent advocate** to represent and support a person who is the subject of a safeguarding enquiry or review, if required.
- Co-operate with each of its relevant partners (as set out in section 6 of the Care Act in order to protect the adult. In their turn each relevant partner must also co-operate with the local authority.

