

**COMMUNITY SERVICES STANDING SCRUTINY PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,  
5th June 2013 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors John Hampton (Chair), Ian Cavana, Kirsty Darwent, Hugh Hunter, Nan McFarlane, Brian McGinley and Corri Wilson.

Apology: Councillor Hywel Davies.

Attending: H. Garland, Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; K. Leinster, Head of Community Care and Housing; and D. Knight, Democratic Services Administrator.

**1. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

**2. Item for Call-in.**

The Panel noted that there had been no call-ins for this meeting.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting.**

**Decided:** to note the Minutes of the previous meeting of 27th February 2013 (issued) ([link attached](#)).

**4. Enablement – Roll Out Update.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of 12th September 2012 (Page 427, paragraph 5) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 23rd May 2013 ([link attached](#)) by the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing providing an update on the implementation of the Enablement model of practice across South Ayrshire and the costs associated with the roll out.

The Head of Community Care and Housing gave an update to the Panel on the roll out of the Enablement Service and highlighted that Enablement was a service targeted at older people with poor physical or mental health and was a time limited, focused, multi-agency approach that encouraged people to learn or re-learn the skills necessary for daily living at home.

In response to requests from Panel members for further clarification and explanation, the Reshaping Care for Older People Change Fund had provided £400,000 of funding to support a cultural shift from traditional home care to an enablement approach which one-off contribution had been used to support the provision of training to almost 400 Council staff and a similar number of staff from the private sector. The funds had allowed staff to be free to attend training whilst ensuring that home care services could continue to service users.

In relation to the savings that had been achieved as noted in the report, these savings would be placed in the Directorate's Budget or in the Council's Budget and it was noted that these savings were likely to level out in future.

In relation to Self Directed Support, the Head of Community Care and Housing advised that should there be a need for on-going support following six weeks of enablement, the person would receive a self-directed support plan, which would include an individual budget allocated to meet on-going need, details of how care needs would be met and achieved and the services chosen to meet these needs.

Problems were noted that had arisen in relation to multiple admissions and discharges to and from hospitals resulting in the need to redirect funding to more services and of the challenges being faced by local authorities. The Panel were given an explanation of how Enablement fitted in with other services such as Occupational Therapy and services delivered by NHS Ayrshire & Arran, the need for adaptations within homes, long term care, the need to have an Enablement Plan in place, ensuring that people who needed the service received it and the entry points for delivery of the service.

In relation to 97% of service users who rated the overall enablement service as being good to very good, 2% fair and 1% poor, verification of these figures was sought by Panel members, in particular was there provision for independent verification and how could the figures relating to the 3% of service users who had stated that the service was fair and poor, be improved.

The Panel indicated that training should continue to be developed for staff and suggested that progress with regard to the roll out of Enablement Service should be monitored and that a progress report should be submitted to a future meeting of this Panel in six months.

Clarification was sought about the post of Enablement Coordinator being temporary and the Panel was advised that the situation would be monitored with regard to this post.

The Panel having noted that the Enablement Service applied to people of 65 and over, were advised that a greater number of younger people required home care and the increased demands on the service in relation to people with dementia.

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the progress on the roll out of Enablement across the whole of South Ayrshire and the associated costs; and
- (2) to agree that the Executive Director – Care, Learning and Wellbeing submit a report on the progress being made in relation to the roll out of Enablement to the meeting of this Panel on 13th November 2013.

The meeting ended at 10.55 a.m.