Health and Social Care Update  
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The Spending Review and health and social care

The Spending Review made a number of announcements in relation to health and social care. A number of the key points are set out below, but you can access Action Hampshire’s full briefing paper on our website.

- the NHS still has to find £22bn efficiency savings
- an extra £3.8bn for the NHS in 2016-17, which represents a frontloading of the £8bn promised by 2020-21, for frontline services to help take forward the NHS Five Year Forward Vision and deliver a 24/7 service (however NHS trusts are already facing an estimated £2bn deficit by the end of this year)
- an extra £600m earmarked for mental health services up to 2020-21; this should mean more people will have access to talking therapies. NHS England’s Mental Health Taskforce will report in early 2016 and the government will work with them to set out ‘transformative’ plans, including for perinatal mental health and coverage of crisis care.
- a new social care "precept" in council tax of up to 2% to allow local councils to raise £2bn specifically for adult social care; for Hampshire County Council a 2% increase would raise in the region of £10m per annum. (There are concerns about this, not least that poorer areas are likely to have higher social care needs and may not be able to raise more income – it will also be these areas who are likely to struggle to benefit from more business rates revenue; also council tax is not based on people’s ability to pay in the same way as income tax, and there are already reports of increased activity by councils to go after unpaid council tax. On top of all that, no one seems to believe that £2bn is really going to plaster over the huge funding gap in social care.)
- the government says it remains committed to introducing the Dilnot reforms to social care, with funding to be provided in 2019-20 to cover the costs of local authorities preparing for these changes. The cap on reasonable care costs and extension of means tested support will then be introduced and funded from April 2020.
- from 2017 money for the Better Care Fund, which is to support integration of health and social care, is to be increased by £1.5bn
- by 2020 health and social care should be integrated. Every part of the country must have a plan for this in 2017, implemented by 2020. This is tied up with devolution, as areas will be able to graduate from the existing Better Care Fund programme management once they can demonstrate that they have moved beyond its requirements, meeting the government’s key criteria for devolution.
- a Childhood Obesity Strategy in 2016
- government still intends to make savings in local authority public health spending, although the ringfence on public health will be maintained in 2016-17 and 2017-18. However, there will be a consultation on options to fully fund local authorities’ public
health spending from their retained business rates receipts, as part of the move towards 100% business rate retention.

- new support for Social Impact Bonds (SIBs), investing £105m over this parliament to help deal with issues including homelessness, poor mental health and youth unemployment

**ADASS response to the 2015 spending review**

ADASS (Association of Directors of Adult Social Services) concludes that the extra money on offer risks being too little and coming too late to help growing numbers of older and disabled people needing care and support. It said the spending review appears to promise more than it delivers. The further £1.5 bn support through the Better Care Fund does not start until 2017 going through until 2020, and as yet there are no details about how it will be phased in, giving serious concerns about how care and support will be funded in the interim. All of this is set against reductions to local government grant and optimistic estimates of what council tax will raise to compensate.

**And what about the fate of local charities? Add your voice to help lobby**

Public service spending, particularly that of local authorities, is going to be squeezed significantly which, the NCVO says, will inevitably have implications for the 25% of the voluntary sector which receives government funding. Many organisations have contracts and grants which end in March 2016 and there is concern that a fair proportion of the sector’s current £13bn in grants and contracts could be at risk. The NCVO warns that protecting this funding means acting now.

#mycharitycanhelp

Charities that deliver great services can find themselves unable to bid because of the size of these contracts or because the price they would have to bid at would compromise their quality or principles.

NCVO’s advice is to speak to your local councillors, commissioners and MPs urgently. Tell them about the impact of your organisation and the outcomes it can help deliver locally. Then tell them about any of the commissioning issues that you are facing and ask how you can help to address them – it may be that you can provide useful examples or attend a relevant meeting.

They are also encouraging VCOs to join in the conversation on social media using hashtag #mycharitycanhelp, eg ‘#mycharitycanhelp elderly residents stay active and live independently in Essex @Essex_CC @halfon4harlowMP. Would you be interested in visiting us?’

**tell NCVO if you have a grant or contract about to end in March**

The NCVO wants to hear from you if you are facing this scenario so that they can use the information to help build a picture of what’s going on around the country and inform their influencing/lobbying work. They will treat the name of your organisation confidentially if you’d like them to – just pop ‘confidential’ in the email. publicservices@ncvo.org.uk

**News just in - Portsmouth Mind to close down**

Portsmouth Mind has begun the process of winding up following a unanimous decision of members at its recent AGM. The chairman has said this is particularly difficult and
emotional for them, especially coming at a time when mental health is now firmly on the social and political agenda and as Portsmouth Mind reached its 50th anniversary in 2015.

In September the charity warned it would face closure unless funding was found by January. However, no significant funding has been secured since then. A news release issued by Portsmouth Mind shows that they followed the advice of NCVO reported above – contact with local MPs, and efforts to talk to the council. However, the focus in local government to deliver savings played its part in their problems. The charity said that Portsmouth will no longer have a dedicated charity for mental health care focused on the city’s needs; it is estimated around 1 in 4 Pompey residents would benefit from better support for their mental wellbeing from local services. However, talks are taking place with other mental health charities to see what can be arranged.

**Events & training**

**Learning Disability Residential Service Providers - briefing event**

10.00am – 12.30pm, 18 December, Winchester

HCC’s Learning Disabilities team is inviting all LD Residential Service Providers it currently procures with to a briefing on the transformation of learning disability services, with a specific focus on changes in residential support. The event will provide an overview of the council’s plans for LD services going forward with a greater focus on alternatives to residential care including Extra Care Housing, Supported Living and Shared Lives.

One briefing has already taken place on 2 December. If you would like to attend the 18 December event, please contact email local.service.advisor@hants.gov.uk

**Wheelchair services – do you have concerns?**

10.00am – 12 noon, 18 December

Velmore Centre, Falklands Road, Chandlers Ford, nr Winchester

Healthwatch Hampshire has been hearing many concerns about the current provision of wheelchair services. A meeting has been arranged with the service provider, Millbrook Healthcare, so that wheelchair users, their carers and others can talk to them about the services they provide across parts of Hampshire, and to answer any questions that people may have. For more details email Steve Taylor at Healthwatch or call 01962 857385.

**What is the NHS and how does it work?**

1.00-4.00pm, Wed 13 January

Chute House, Church Street, Basingstoke RG21 7QT

Healthwatch Hampshire is arranging this ‘training’ session about how the NHS works. You will hear about how services are arranged, how much money is spent, and how you can get involved in how things are managed. The session will look at the impact of politics, reducing budgets and the rising demand for health and social care. The event will specifically explore:

- information about the health needs of your local area
- commissioning: what this is and who does it
- provider organisations: what these are and who pays for them
- those who regulate and oversee things on the public’s behalf such as the CQC
- the role of Healthwatch and other ways for patients to have a voice

Spaces are on a first come, first served basis. To book a place, please email Liz Parkes at
Public Health Level 3 Sexual Health Service - provider engagement event
2.00-5.00pm, 27 January
Ashburton Hall, HCC, Winchester
This relates to the provision of comprehensive, confidential, open-access level 3 sexual health services, with services for: contraception (outside of the GP contract); sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing & treatment (outside of the GP contract); chlamydia screening as part of the national chlamydia screening programme; psychosexual counselling; specialist outreach services for young people; sexual health promotion and HIV prevention services. There will be a pre tender market engagement event for competent qualified organisations on Wednesday 27 January 2016. Bookings for the event can be made via In-Tend.

Can robots be care givers?
5.30pm to 7.00pm, Tues 9 February
Winchester Science Centre, Telegraph Way, Winchester SO21 1HZ
This is a chance to debate and discuss how the future of autonomous robotics could revolutionise the care system. The NHS and other care providers need more support than ever to meet the demand for care - could robots be the answer? On the other hand, can robots really show the compassion needed for human care?

This debate is part of a series of “Future Debates” events and is being organised by the Winchester Science Centre in collaboration with the British Science Association (BSA). Each year there is a different theme; this time it is robots and autonomous systems. It is hoped that VIMARS (Victory Institute for Minimal Access and Robotic Surgery) based in Portsmouth will also be taking part in the debate. You can book your free tickets here.

Importantly - would anyone be prepared to speak giving the perspective on the human side of care giving. If so, please email Christine Pattison so that we can pass on your contact details to the Winchester Science Centre.

Funding, finance & awards

Short Breaks grants – Southampton City Council
Voluntary and community groups supporting Southampton city residents can apply for up to £20,000 per year for a maximum of 2 years. The aim of this funding is to kickstart new short breaks schemes that would otherwise have difficulty starting because of the additional resources needed to support disabled children and young people. The council expects that the schemes will run in a similar way to schemes available for non-disabled children and that organisations will charge a nominal fee to attendees. The funding is only available for two years; therefore projects should be working towards financial sustainability so they are able to continue beyond the grants period. Applications have to be in by midday on 11 December.

HIOW Community Foundation programmes opening on 4 January
- Business Supporting Older People Fund: set up by HCC’s Older People’s Wellbeing Team to enable businesses to assist older people to live independently in their own homes. It is managed by the Hampshire & IOW Community Fund. Local Hampshire
groups, whose members are over 55 years of age, can apply for a small grant of £500 towards their activity costs.

- **Comic Relief**: aims to empower local people, enabling them to create lasting change in their communities. Projects should be run by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and priority will be given to small, locally based groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community. Activities to advance people’s physical and mental health, wellbeing and safety are eligible. Grants are for £1,000 to £5,000.

- **Older People’s Small Grant Programme**: set up from funding provided by HCC Adult Services Team to support older vulnerable people in our communities to reduce isolation, improve wellbeing and provide transport to activities and trips. Grants of between £500 and £1,000 are available. The funding is to be used to cover or reduce the cost of transport to increase the participation of older people in community activities, in particular:
  o to encourage participation in community activities or trips
  o projects that support older people to remain independent in their own home.
  o projects that support vulnerable older people who are at risk of becoming or are victims of crime
  o projects that provide support and advice to older people

**Voices from the Frontline - grants to help women and girls gain freedom of choice and opportunities for success through advocacy**

Grants of between £500 and £2,000 are available from Rosa to support charitable advocacy work to help increase the voice of individual women at the frontline of grassroots work for gender equality in the UK. This is a new programme called Voices from the Frontline.

Rosa supports projects under four priority areas, namely:
1. Leadership & Representation (more women should hold positions of leadership and decision-making in the UK)
2. Safety (all women and girls have the right to live free from violence and the threat of violence)
3. Health & Wellbeing (all women and girls should feel good about themselves – and be able to get the help and healthcare they need)
4. Economic Justice

Rosa’s Voices from the Frontline Grants Programme is a new initiative designed to support women’s organisations to push ahead on the four priority areas and to promote their fight for gender equality in the UK through charitable advocacy work. It believes women’s organisations need more resources to advocate at local and national levels. They need the skills, confidence and connections to influence the change they want to see, and which everyone can benefit from. The sort of work which might be supported includes:
- coaching or travel costs for a service user to speak at an event or national conference
- presentation, media or lobbying training to support organisational advocacy strategies
- costs of creating campaign materials, such as posters, infographics or videos
- articulating the story of one woman to champion an organisation’s work
- making a case to local commissioners for the value of the group’s service
- meeting costs with local/national government representatives or for planning a campaign
They are now accepting video applications for Voices from the Frontline, which have to be in by 11 January 2016.

**Working with people experiencing disadvantage? Enable and Invest grants from Lloyds Bank Foundation**

Organisations can apply for Foundation funding through the following two programmes:

- **Invest** – provides longer term core or delivery funding for charities which are delivering clear outcomes for disadvantaged people. These grants are from £10,000 up to maximum of £25,000 per year for two or three years, with the opportunity for continuation funding for a further period – up to six years in total.

- **Enable** – grants are for up to £15,000 over two years. Grants are awarded to charities that have identified clear development areas which will support their growth. This funding aims to help the organisations deliver their mission more effectively.

Organisations are expected to be working with people experiencing multiple disadvantage at one of the critical points in their life. Applicants must be working with people who are 17 years or older and experiencing at least one of the following:

- have been abused or are at risk of abuse
- are victims of sexual exploitation
- are ex-offenders or those at risk of offending
- are long term unemployed
- are leaving care
- are homeless
- have learning disabilities
- have mental health and wellbeing issues
- have addictions
- are isolated and vulnerable
- have severe financial difficulty as a compounding disadvantage

The only exceptions are people aged under 17 who are:

- young parents
- looked after children and disabled young people moving into independent living

Round 2 will be open for enquiries from 4 January to 18 March 2016. For full information and to apply, go to the [Lloyds Bank Foundation](https://www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk).

**Grants closing soon**

- **New First Steps Enterprise Fund loan-grant packages** – 11 December
- **Wallace and Gromit Children's Charity** – 11 December
- **Help for the Homeless** – 15 December
- **Impact Readiness Fund** – 8 January

**Tender opportunities with Portsmouth City Council**

- **Children's personalised care (Continuing Care)**: Lot 1 - Care and Support; Lot 2 - 3rd Party Budget Management; Lot 3 – Training. Documents can be requested until 7 January 2016.
Enter The Charity Awards 2016
Now in its 17th year, The Charity Awards provides charities of all shapes and sizes with a window to showcase their efforts and the impact they have made. You can apply under a number of categories, including:

• advice, support and advocacy
• children and youth
• disability
• healthcare and medical research
• social care and welfare

Your entry could be a project that demonstrates outstanding innovation and best practice, or a managed improvement in your organisation which may help other charities overcome similar problems. Charities are encouraged to submit applications for their projects with the most impact and which were the most effective. Entries close on 4 March.

Healthwatch Hampshire

Help Healthwatch improve
Healthwatch would like you to complete a brief survey which seeks to find out how you think they might improve and what things you think they should concentrate on next year. You can find the survey here and they say it won’t take longer than 10 minutes to complete. You could also win £50 worth of shopping vouchers by taking part.

Regulation and registration

#InvisibleConditions campaign
Nearly one in three people in England have a long term condition, and many of these conditions are ‘invisible’ or not easily noticeable to someone else. Conditions such as depression, diabetes, arthritis, heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) could all be considered invisible.

In its State of Care 2014/15 report, the CQC found that people with long term conditions – particularly people with mental health conditions – were less likely to report having a good experience of using services.

If you have an invisible or long term condition, the CQC wants to hear about the care you are receiving, good or bad. Its inspectors can’t be everywhere at once and your information will help them decide when, where and what to inspect. By telling the CQC about your experiences, you could stop poor care happening to someone else. Join the conversation on Twitter using the #InvisibleConditions hashtag, or tell the CQC about your care through its website.

Policy & practice

Community bed survey in south east Hampshire
Hampshire County Council, Fareham & Gosport and South Eastern Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) currently have 136 community beds providing a range of care in a range of settings. Community beds provide care for:

• patients who have been treated in an acute hospital and no longer need that level of care but are not ready to go home
• those who need extra support which cannot be provided in their own home
• those who need further assessment to determine their future care and where this should be provided
• those who need care at the end of their life
• older people to have a short term stay in a nursing home following a period in hospital, providing bed based reablement

Local people have consistently said they want more services closer to home and to be supported to remain in their own homes independently for as long as possible. The response has been developments such as:
• Integrated Care Teams
• Enhanced Recovery and Support at Home
• REACT (Reablement and Assessment of Care Team Service)
  - so that less people need to be cared for in a community bed.

They would like to work with local communities and clinicians to ensure that they provide the right number of community beds, in the right locations, providing the right services at the right time, and have published an online survey. The deadline for responses is Monday, 11 January.

If you run or are a member of a local group in the area covered, and you would like someone to attend a meeting to discuss the review, please send them an email, marking it Community Bed Review.

What’s new?

**Disabled people’s experiences of social care**

Disabled people under 65 are a third of all social care users, but too often social care is viewed as an issue that only affects older people. To understand how social care affects younger disabled people – and the impact of the funding crisis – national charity Scope spoke to 500 disabled people aged 18-64 who use social care.

They found that over half of disabled people using social care (55%) can’t get the support they need to live independently. Fewer than one in five disabled people (18%) get the right social care. People told them about having to wait 14 hours to go to the toilet, sleeping in their clothes, being unable to eat or wash and left socially isolated.

More than half of social care users under 35 want help with working or looking for work, but only 15% are currently getting support with working and only 13% are getting support looking for work.

Disabled social care users emphasise the importance of formal support to complete daily living tasks and to live independently, and the value of formal support as an alternative to support from parents, other family and friends. This is particularly important for younger social care users. The report is available on the Scope website.

**Sainsbury’s Local Food Partner scheme**

Sainsbury’s is continuing to expand their successful Local Food Donation programme. Partner charities can collect fresh food donated by Sainsbury’s and/or dry and tinned food
donated by customers. They are looking for registered charities to become local food partners across all parts of the UK. A Food Partner must be able to:

- collect food from their local store regularly – as a Food Partner you can nominate a day or days when you can collect food donations from store. These should be agreed with the store at the beginning of the partnership
- put in place effective procedures for the receipt, storage and security of food provided by Sainsbury’s
- ensure all staff involved in handling food are knowledgeable of food hygiene requirements
- comply with legally acceptable standards of hygiene in handling, storage, preparation and serving of meals and in accordance with manufacturers’ instructions where available

Visit their website to find out more about the programme and to complete an application form.