

Sunderland Adults Partnership Board – 8th January 2018

What We Discussed	What We Decided
Welfare Reform	An update was given on the progress of the mitigating the impact of welfare reform project with the 3 focus areas of Digital Inclusion, Financial Inclusion and Crisis Support. There was also an update on the latest welfare reform changes including universal credit, housing allowance rates and Free School Meals consultation.
Learning Disability and Autism Homelessness Audit	<p>The Board heard the results of a recent audit into the mental health needs of homeless people. It highlighted that many people were identified as having learning disabilities in school but that the support wasn't continued into adulthood. The report contained a number of recommendations which were endorsed by the APB.</p> <p>It was agreed that the report be taken to the Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board for action and that the training needs of staff in hostels should be looked at.</p>
Mental Health Problems in older People	<p>Age UK presented a recent national report that highlighted the issue of isolation and loneliness in older people. In the discussion Public Health highlighted a current study about the role of pharmacists in addressing depression and low level mental health issues. Age UK highlighted that demand for support is higher than the number of volunteers.</p> <p>It was agreed that the opportunities for volunteers would be sent to elected members to send to their networks. Also it was agreed to invite the local pharmaceutical network to present to a future meeting on the potential role for pharmacies to impact on health and wellbeing.</p>
Care Home Life	<p>HealthWatch Sunderland provided a report highlighting that there was a gap in terms of providing information on the quality of life in care homes. Although CQC ratings gave a good indicator of technical matters, there was little information to help with patient and carer choice on a more personal level. HealthWatch Sunderland have committed to inspecting and reporting on every care home in Sunderland in 2018. 22 have been completed and 10 are available on the HealthWatch website and linked to on sunderland.gov.uk and wellbeinginfo.org</p> <p>It was suggested that the reviews need to be regular to ensure that the information stays update.</p>
<p>Next meeting – 13th March 2018 at 2.30pm</p>	