

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

REPORT BY HEAD OF COMMISSIONING, HOUSING AND ADULT SERVICES

AN INFORMATION REVOLUTION – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

13 SEPTEMBER 2011

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to present to the Board the findings from the Information Revolution Consultation and present the next steps in delivering the Information strategy.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 *An Information Revolution* (DH, July 2010) set out proposals to make the information people need to stay healthy, to take decisions about and exercise more control of their care, and to make the right choices for themselves and their families.
- 2.2 The Board agreed in November 2010 to submit a response to the consultation.

3. CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 3.1 Over 700 responses were received to the consultation. The main responses included:
- **Ensuring that the information revolution benefits everyone and does not increase inequalities** - recognising that some people will require support in accessing and using information
 - **Information for improved outcomes** - including patient and service user generated information;
 - **The need for information to be linked across health, social care and also public health** - with the NHS Number used to link a person's care record information wherever they receive care;
 - **Information for professionals** - information to help professionals deliver higher quality care, including the key role of informatics as a profession;
 - **People's control of and access to information held in their own care records** - with clear governance and consent models to ensure the balance between accessibility and data security for this very personal information;

- **The need for clear routes (or “channels”) to information** – including clear online signposting to information and online services, connecting to and signposting other services;
- **Information for patients, service users, carers and the public** - including information to support choice, to help people live healthier lives and to help patients to care for themselves;
- **Information for autonomy, accountability and democratic legitimacy** - covering a range of issues around transparency, including proposals for information ‘intermediaries’ and how information drives research; and
- **The need for clear information standards across health, public health and social care** - adhered to across the health and adult social care system, allowing information to move freely and meaningfully through the system whilst maintaining essential information governance and security standards, and also helping to inspire trust in the quality of information.

4.0 NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 The Information Strategy, to be published following on from the consultation, will form the Government’s formal response to this consultation and will draw on views expressed through the consultation process and through the subsequent listening exercise.
- 4.2 The NHS Future Forum will support the development of the Information Strategy - looking at how information can best be used by patients and service users, by carers, by the public and by care professionals to improve health, care and well-being. The NHS Future Forum is now considering how it can best inform development of the forthcoming Information Strategy, taking the responses to the Information Revolution consultation as the starting point for this further work.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Board are requested to receive this report for information: