

Report to: ADULT SERVICES PANEL
Date: 20TH JANUARY 2008
Subject: REABLEMENT SERVICE
Report of: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEALTH AND WELL BEING
Contact officer: JULIE JEFFERS EXT 2852

Purpose / summary: To brief members about the work and progress of the Reablement Team.

Alternative options considered and reason for selecting the one recommended: N/A.

Recommendation / decision: The Panel is asked to note the report.

Risks / Implications:

Financial:	None.
Staffing:	None.
Policy:	None
Equal Opportunities - Has a Diversity Impact Assessment been conducted?	No
Wards affected:	All

Property Implications – Does the proposal involve a reduction, addition or change to the Council’s asset base or its occupation?

No

If yes, have the property implications been agreed with the Corporate Property Officer?

Does this proposal have significant implications for the Council and the local population?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Does this proposal involve a new policy or procedure or significant changes to an existing policy or procedure?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Has the Service Director - Borough Solicitor confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution?

Yes / No *

Has the Service Director - Corporate Services confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget?

Yes / No *

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?

Yes / No *

* delete which applicable

For Cabinet reports only :

Categorisation of the report:	x
Discussion leading to a decision	
Monitoring	
Sharing for corporate understanding	

	x
Discussion	
Decision	
Information	

Tracking/Process:

	Consultation	Ward Members	Partners
Panel	Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet	Council
20.01.09.			

There are no Background Papers to this Report within the meaning of Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Proper Officer Bernard Walker

Date 17th December 2008

1. **BACKGROUND**

Many people referred for Home Care Services are referred at a time when they are experiencing particular difficulties whether it is as a result of a fall, for example, or following discharge from hospital. Quite often people recover from these incidents, but the services that have been arranged to help during the crisis period continue to be provided with a subsequent increase in dependency and a reduction in the person's confidence.

The Reablement Service aims to reduce this trend by reabling people so that they achieve their potential of a stable level of independence with the lowest appropriate level of on-going support or care.

Various examples from a number of Local Authorities have been reported whereby timely intervention from reablement services have prevented hospital admission, or post hospital transmission to long-term care, or have appropriately reduced the level of on-going home care support required.

The need to ensure that the best use is made of limited resources is always present within social care and health. In addition demographic projections indicate that increasing demands will be placed on social and health care provision, so an approach which results in the lowest level of intervention not only maximises independence, but also minimises the whole life cost of care.

2. **REABLEMENT TEAM**

In January 2008, the Reablement Team was established as part of the Council's in-house provider service.

The service is part of a range of intermediate care services which can be provided free for a maximum of 6 weeks, unlike the Home Care Service which is usually long term and subject to the Charging Policy.

Referrals have now increased from 14 per month at the start of the scheme to 39 in the month of November, but the aim is that everyone who requires a care package would be referred to the service.

We have taken an incremental approach to the development of the service to ensure we are learning as we progress and adjusting our approach so that the best outcomes are achieved for the individual and the Department. We also wanted to ensure that people understood that this was a completely separate service from Home Care and the two services were not interchangeable.

There are currently 20 staff appointed with the longer term aim to have approximately 75 staff within the team.

3. **EFFICIENCIES**

The Care Services Efficiency Delivery (CSED) Programme helps Councils identify and develop more efficient ways of delivering adult social care and have undertaken extensive research into the efficiency of the Reablement approach.

Findings thus far have been that Councils who have Reablement Teams see a reduction of up to 60% of people choosing to use longer term home care packages with further reductions between 11% and 28% in Home Care hours from those who still require on-going packages.

Initial findings from the use of Reablement in Wigan suggest similar findings.

4. **CURRENT OUTCOMES**

Outcome Achieved – No further service	-	98
Cancelled (during 6 week period)	-	21
Transferred to Home Care	-	26
Hospital/Respite/Other	-	5
Total		150

5. **COMMENTS FROM STAKEHOLDERS**

Feedback from people who have used the service has on the whole been extremely positive, likewise the feedback from social work staff who acknowledge that the approach is much more person centred and flexible than the regular home care package. This clearly fits into the personalisation agenda with people being supported to regain or maintain control of their own lives.