

**Recommendations of the Corporate Review Committee and Cabinet's response**

Comments and Recommendations of the Corporate Review Committee	Cabinet's Response
<p>We note that the cost of care in Staffordshire has increased and we <b>recommended Cabinet to look at budget provision in significant service areas in other authorities</b> and where they find distinct differences to Staffordshire, these budget areas should be subject to peer review.</p>	<p>The County Council participates in benchmarking exercises and has access to statistics that cover all local authorities. This recommendation will feed into the rolling MTFS process for 2017/18.</p>
<p>In terms of contract compliance monitoring within the County Council, we <b>urge the County Council's commissioners to improve service delivery and recommend that this be closely monitored by the Select Committees.</b></p>	<p>Cabinet agrees to forward this recommendation on to the appropriate Select Committees.</p>
<p>Cabinet has assured us that they have capacity and capability to deliver the MTFS and we <b>urge them to robustly challenge</b> the two major risk assumptions: SSOTP and BCF and <b>take remedial action, promptly and when necessary. We recommend that we should continue to meet as a working group</b> to focus on the financial aspects of key risk areas.</p>	<p>Risks will be managed carefully and monitored closely throughout the year and any issues will be reported to Cabinet.</p> <p>Cabinet agrees that it would be beneficial for the working group to continue its meetings.</p>
<p>The County Council is seriously exposed to risk around the care budget and must be vigilant in mitigating that risk. We welcome that the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing and the Head of Care are actively working through issues which affect the deliverability of SSOTP and BCF and <b>urge them to take every opportunity to influence ongoing negotiations with partners and that support be provided to the Cabinet Member.</b></p>	<p>Noted and the working group can be assured that the Cabinet Member and the Director of Health and Care will be negotiating carefully with partners to deliver outcomes.</p>
<p>The Cabinet Member and the Head of</p>	<p>The County Council does recognise the</p>

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<p>Care are agreed on the importance of the BCF and <b>we urge the County Council as Commissioner, to maintain an influencing space in negotiations.</b> The County Council must be absolutely clear about transfer costs, duplication and apportionment.</p>	<p>importance of the Better Care Fund and is committed to ensuring that the BCF functions well in Staffordshire. The BCF plan will be managed carefully and monitored closely to ensure the benefits of this joint working are released to all partners.</p>
<p>We asked the Interim Director for Public Health to demonstrate intervention which has lead to successful outcomes: a return on investment. Evidence of effective and efficient budget allocation will support the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing in his negotiations with the CCGs. <b>We welcome the opportunity for efficiency savings which might be achieved by Public Health and Social Care working more closely together.</b></p>	<p>Noted and the recent restructure of the Senior Leadership Team will ensure that Public Health is fully integrated with social care.</p>
<p>In terms of impact on MTFs, the County Council holds a 49% stake in Entrust and we <b>recommend</b> the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee be vigilant in monitoring whether that investment is delivering.</p>	<p>Noted and this recommendation will be referred on to the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee.</p>