

Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

13th October 2022

ASCOF annual report preparation

Report of the Director for Adults Health & Social Care

1. Purpose

To brief Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on the proposed content of the ASCOF annual report and to seek a steer on presentation and focus.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee receive a one-page summary of all measures annually; and a focus on those key measures that relate to change outcomes expected as part of the ASC Transformation programme.

3. For Information:

Background

- The Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) is a set of key measures collected for all Local Authorities' Adult Social Care departments in England, annually for most measures.
- Although there is some level of variability in the data collection, on the whole the framework serves as a sector benchmarking data set to compare performance against key outcome measures over time, and between LA's nationally, in core cities, and regionally.
- Prior to the covid pandemic plans were progressing to review the ASCOF framework at a national level, as this framework has been in place since before the Care Act; and over time practice across LA's has shifted, meaning for some measures it is known that data collection methods and practice will differ. This review work was not completed and currently the timescale for changes to the framework are not known.
- It is highly likely however that when CQC inspection is introduced (as per the Health and Care bill that received royal assent April this year) CQC inspectors will review an LA's performance against a range of measures, and will utilise all publicly available reports (including ASCOF) in their inspections.

4. Governance Interdependencies

Portfolio holdings to be briefed and this paper to be taken to CLT for a discussion on content of the report then the actual report annually.

5. Proposal or Issue

- To date, ASCOF performance has not been reported regularly outside of ALT in Nottingham.
- It is proposed that this forms an annual report to support the assurance process at a senior level in the organisation. The focus could be on how this regular

conversation can feed into strategic plans; seek a steer for prioritisation of action in some areas; seek support for improvements; and inform of areas of risk in the context of poor performance that could result in poor outcomes for citizens and will be picked up at CQC inspection.

- ASC have worked with A&I over the last few months to develop the presentation and content of the proposed report to seek maximum potential for added value in the discussions at ALT, PLT and CLT.
- This paper is a pre-annual report agenda item in order to develop the content for the annual report itself.
- The proposed content and options for presentation are outlined in appendix 1.

6. Financial Implications

None from this report in itself. Any financial implications of subsequent policy or strategic decisions would need to be scoped.

7. Legal Comments (if applicable)

NA

8. Procurement Comments (if applicable)

NA

9. Risk Management Considerations

Poor outcomes in the ASCOF set could indicate risks to individuals; financial risk; and reputational risk to the organisation, as well as the new risk of secretary of state intervention should CQC inspection identify areas of significant concern.

10. HR and EDI Considerations

This report requests a steer from the decision maker on presentation and focus for the ASCOF annual report. There are no direct HR or EDI implications as part of this report, however there could be indirect implications if the benchmarking data highlights areas where we could improve outcomes for our people. This may result in some intervention impacting elements of HR and EDI such as culture and behavioural shift/change, learning and development interventions, and changes to the operating model in Adult Health & Social Care, including possible tweaks to the way the division is structured.

The ASCOF annual report should feed into the way we develop and change our performance culture in Adult Health and Social Care as part of getting a firm grip on performance measures and how we compare with other LAs. This approach is supported by HR.

Management are advised to work with HR following the outcomes of the ASCOF annual report to assess what impacts there are / could be on the workforce and where improvements may need to be made.

Rachael Morris
HR Business Lead (People) – 16/8/22

11. Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Considerations

N/A

12. Input from Other Internal Departments

Highlight here what input if any has been sought and obtained from other relevant council teams such as Property, facilities management, IT etc

Report prepared by A&I (Emma Stowe) and Sara Storey Dir. Adult Health and Social Care.