

## Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health (DASS) November 2024

## **Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health**

As outlined in the last Statutory Officer update, I have been appointed as the new permanent Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health (and statutory DASS).

Prior to joining Nottingham, I had been the Service Director of Adult Social Care and Deputy DASS at the London Borough of Haringey, managing all social care operations, commissioning and integrated health.

## Adult Social Care Peer Review

During October, our Adult Social Care team were involved in a Peer Review led by an external independent review team from the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS).

The review provided invaluable feedback, recognising the dedication and passion of our staff in improving lives across the city. It highlighted the commitment of our teams. Staff members were described as passionate about their work, and Senior Practitioners were praised as "amazing" for their support to teams in what remains a challenging environment.

The review findings were structured into three key areas: what's working well, what's not, and opportunities for improvement. While the commitment of our staff is a clear strength, challenges were identified around the clarity of the service vision and priorities, and the effective coordination of change. Pathways for service users were noted as overly complex, and there was inconsistent use of performance data limiting effective decision-making.

The reviewers described Council staff as "change-ready," and looking forward to building on the good work already being done. Our priority next steps will include simplifying pathways, clarifying team roles, and improving the use of data to drive strategic decision-making and deliver better outcomes for the people of Nottingham. Thank you to everybody who supported the review process and will be taking forward the change and improvement.

## Council Collaboration with VCS Marks the Start of Future Service Planning

During October, representatives from Nottingham City Council and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) met to discuss the future of commissioning in the city. The event brought together organisations focused on delivering services to children and adults, with the goal of shaping more effective support systems for vulnerable communities.

Adult Social Care and Children's Integrated Services representatives were among the key voices engaging with VCS organisations. Their presence demonstrated the council's commitment to cross-departmental collaboration in shaping future services. Attendees were also able to engage directly with council commissioners.

This event was a significant milestone in our ongoing collaboration with the VCS. The diversity and commitment of the organisations in attendance showcased the strength of our community and its shared dedication to supporting Nottingham's most vulnerable residents. The insights gathered will play a crucial role in how we plan and commission services going forward.

Vicky Murphy

November 2024