

Briefing Note: Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2025

Since the Scrutiny Committee meetings in October and November 2024, Adult Social Care (ASC) has faced a number of challenges. However, the directorate is moving forward and, under the leadership of the Executive Member and Corporate Director, is addressing a range of key operational and financial challenges. The Directors of Adult Social Care and Commissioning and Partnerships, together with their teams, will lead on ensuring effective partnership working with Housing colleagues and other stakeholders. The main areas of progress to strengthen partnership working across ASC and housing include:

- The development of a draft terms of reference for the newly established Complex Cases Board (attached as Appendix 1). The first meeting of the Board is scheduled for 29 January 2025.
- The appointment of a Head of Service to work exclusively between Housing, ASC and Children's Services to ensure that the right volume and types of housing options are available to meet demand.
- The recruitment of a Social Worker to work across the directorates is underway.
- Supported Living providers are being identified as 'key strategic partners', ensuring priority discussions are put in hand as part of meeting the emerging commissioning intentions in this area.
- Urgent work is taking place to review co-production activity to ensure that refreshed commissioning intentions are informed, influenced and driven through effective co-production arrangements.
- Communication arrangements will be urgently reviewed for citizens receiving services to ensure everyone is well informed about process and escalation arrangements where necessary.

In addition to the above actions, work is underway through senior management to ensure all 'business as usual' is predicated on robust, visible partnership working driven by the principle of citizens first and informed by available resources. This will include ASC practice, commissioned services and joint arrangements with the Housing team and all key stakeholders.