

## Social care: integration of services and need to close the funding gap

Barbara Keeley MP  
Member, Health Select Committee  
Chair, APPG Social Care

### Integration and funding

- Integration between health and social care has been a policy driver for many years . But still only a few examples of it working well
- Significant overlaps exist between funding streams for health, social care and housing services but systems that administer them not joined up
- Dilnot Report: Most people don't think about their future needs for care. Funding of care is complex and difficult to understand

## Health and Social Care 2012

- Driving policy for the integration of social care is affected by changes to NHS structures
- Abolition of PCTs: risks slowing progress due to disrupting and breaking up working relationships
- Majority of PCTs were co-terminous with local authorities. CCGs not necessarily co-terminous.
- Local Authorities may map onto multiple CCGs.
- Care Trusts had made progress with the integration of services but will lose commissioning powers

## Health Select Committee Report

- Law Commission's attempt to define social care and draw distinction between other services underlines the problem. Integration should be the objective
- Integrated service delivery cannot be built on a fragmented commissioning system. There should be a single commissioning process.
- Government should adopt a single outcomes framework for health and social care for elderly people

## Health Select Committee Report

- There is clear evidence of resource pressures on social care authorities
- Transfer of £2bn from NHS to Social Care welcome but insufficient to maintain service quality and efficiency and allows no progress on meeting unmet need
- Government should accept Dilnot's recommendations for capped care and living costs
- Financial stress causes focus on funding issues; should focus on quality and efficient care delivery

## Health Select Committee Report

- Informal carers must get a better deal
- GPs, social workers and others: failing to identify carers
- Need to find new, more effective ways to identify carers and ensure their needs are assessed and met
- New framework required to support integration of health, social care and housing

## Social care : the funding crisis

- Number of people with unmet needs for social care estimated at 800,000 in 2012, increasing due to cuts in social care budgets
- ADASS report cuts to council adult social care budgets: £1 billion since 2010 with another £1 billion of cuts expected this year
- 82% of local authorities now provide care only to those with substantial or critical needs
- Services have been cut to 24% of disabled adults with the same or increased needs
- Nearly half of local councils are making new charges or charging more for services

## Funding – Rising costs

- Two thirds of local councils are increasing fees for services such as meals on wheels, fees have increased by 13% over 2 years
- Average charge for an hour of home care has risen by 10% in past two years. Average annual bill for 10 hours care/week up by nearly £700 p.a.
- Four out of ten councils have abolished funding caps in the last two years with four out of ten increasing their cap
- Care homes have increased fees by average 5% on over last year. Fees £27,300 per year but average paid by councils only £23,500 , a gap of £3,800

## Funding - Affordability

- One in six councils have reduced personal budgets or care packages and 50% have frozen rates paid to care homes
- Older people and families have to absorb price increases. 55,000 families now pay top up fees for residential care
- A quarter of people have lifetime care costs of over £50,000 with one in ten paying over £100,000
- Every year, 20,000 people have to sell their homes to pay for care and numbers are increasing

## Funding – Impact on families, carers and economy

- One million carers have given up work or reduced their working hours in order to care. Two thirds of these are £10,000 a year worse off
- Carers UK found stress of financial hardship affects health of nearly half the carers surveyed. 45% were cutting back on basic necessities like heating or food
- An LSE report found it costs £1.3 billion annually in lost tax and NI revenue and extra in benefits when carers give up work to care.

## Identification of carers

- Carers not receiving adequate support, not being identified by GPs or social workers or having needs met in most cases
- NHS Information Centre data shows that the numbers of carers being assessed dropped by 3% between 2009/10 and 2010/11
- The numbers of carers receiving a service also declined by 2% in same period

## Social Care (Local Sufficiency) and Identification of Carers Bill 2012-13

- Introduced in June as a Private Members' Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading on September 7th 2012. Bill aims to:
  - Place duties on local authorities in relation to the sufficiency of provision of social care and related support
  - Place duties on health bodies in England in relation to the identification and support of carers
  - Place duties on local authorities, schools and higher and further education organisations to support the needs of young carers and their families