



---

**To: Cabinet Member for Adult Services**

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024**

**Subject: Market Position Statement Refresh**

---

## **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet Member of the recommendations and comments from the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) following their consideration of the Market Position Statement at their meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) recommends:
  - 1) That the Cabinet Member approves the refreshed Market Position Statement for use with the Adult Social Care Market, with consideration made for encouraging local and not-for profit suppliers where appropriate.

## **3 Background and Information**

- 3.1 At their meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) considered a Cabinet Member report on the Market Position Refresh
- 3.2 Members of the committee were provided with a presentation that covered the key points in the report and appendices. The Cabinet Member for Adult Services shared that this was an exciting piece of work and demonstrates an interest in the best outcomes for the community whether delivered by internal or external providers.
- 3.3 Members of the committee made comments and asked questions on the following:
  - Whether local providers of services had been included in the assessment of the local market as the report referred to ethical employers to train mentor or re-employ displaced international recruits.
  - Whether the fees paid by the Council were at an appropriate level, both to ensure providers could cover costs, but also ensuring that excess profits were not being made by the private sector. On-going conversations with providers enabled those discussions to take place and there was a system in place to monitor return on profit.
  - Steps that had been taken to encourage micro-enterprises which are predominantly employee-owned services, as well as voluntary and community providers.

- Welcomed the reference to the Environmental Impact of potential providers, taking steps to the Council becoming a 'zero carbon city'.
- That although the report referred to learning disability and autism and not necessarily a wider definition of neurodiversity, assessments were based on needs of individuals rather than named diagnoses.
- Lack of clarification in the names of services and what that meant in practice. Officers offered to provide the Board with that information.

#### **4 Health Inequalities Impact**

4.1 A comprehensive Equality Impact Assessment was appended to the report, including the fact that Adult social care has a specific role to play in reducing inequalities through coordinating support across health and social care and in preventing the development of need. To directly combat health inequalities, the MPS gives specific direction to the market to:

- work in a promoting independence, reablement manner
- focus on prevention
- work with local communities to identify individuals who are at risk of preventable poor health e.g. loneliness and work with the community and third sector to remedy
- ensure quality of service delivery, supporting people to meet their outcomes
- healthy work environments which provide career opportunities.

4.2 Generally, a strengthened care market with increased choice, diversity and equality of access will actively improve the quality of life experienced by individuals.

Gennie Holmes  
 Scrutiny Co-ordinator  
 gennie.holmes@coventry.gov.uk