

## **PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH ROCHFORD PRIMARY CARE GROUP**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report suggests that proposals to form a joint Partnership Board with Rochford Primary Care Group (PCG) be developed.

### **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Health and Social Care Services are of great importance to many residents, and the need for the Council to work in partnership, and have influence with, health and care agencies continues to grow in importance.
- 2.2 Members will recall that representatives from Rochford PCG and Essex Social Services have previously attended a Partnership Sub Committee, at which proposals to form a joint Partnership Board were outlined.
- 2.3 Further development of this proposal was put on hold whilst the unsuccessful bid for Primary Care Trust status was being considered.
- 2.4 Discussions have recently taken place between Officers from the Council and PCG and it is felt that further work should now be undertaken.
- 2.5 The terms of reference, composition and functions of the proposed board need to be considered by the partners, however, it would:-
- Help deliver the duty placed on the health service and local authorities to co-operate.
  - Provide a forum where representatives from the Council can discuss and participate in decision making on a wide range of health and care policy and service delivery areas.
  - Provide an opportunity for Member representatives to be better briefed on important health and care developments, and how they relate to Rochford residents.
  - Receive feedback on the progress of local health and care projects.
  - Once established, provide a forum to consider joint working on specific projects.
- 2.6 The Acting Chief Executive and Chairman of the PCG have offered to attend the next meeting of this Committee on 2 October to make a

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short presentation and discuss with Members how this concept might be developed.

### **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Some Member and Officer time will be involved if a Partnership Board is formed, but this has to be balanced against the increased opportunity to influence health and social care service provision in the District.
- 3.2 Some joint funded schemes already exist. There may be further opportunities for such schemes, but the arrangements would need to be agreed by Council.

### **4 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To invite the Chairman and Acting Chief Executive of Rochford PCG and a Social Services representative to the next meeting of this Committee to consider possible Partnership Board arrangements. (HHHCC)

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