Counsel & Care conference

‘Transforming Social Care: towards a new care and support system’

Thursday 20 November, 9.50am – 4.10pm

Session one: the policy context

Cllr Gareth Barnard, Shaping Future Services for People in Need

Introduction

- Role of the LGA and the LGA Community Wellbeing Board
- Why the future of adult social care and support is a priority
- Topics covered in the presentation
    - The problems facing the current system of adult social care
    - The transformation of social care
    - The funding of social care
    - The ‘postcode lottery’
    - A vision for the future

Problems facing the current system

- Underfunded
    - CSR07 the worst for local government in 10 years
    - Funding not keeping pace with the numbers needing care and support
- Unfair
    - Tightening eligibility criteria
    - ‘Rationing’ because of tight budget considerations
- Unclear
    - Confusing and inefficient

Transformation of social care

- Philosophy of personalisation
    - An important opportunity
    - Redefining the debate
    - Why councils are best placed
    - The need for pooling local resources and integrating ways of working
    - Central government must 'let go'
- Practicalities of personalisation
    - An ambiguous term and an over-emphasis on personal budgets?
    - Considering our frontline staff

Funding social care

- The funding reality – social care is not free
    - Determining the individual's contribution: eligibility and the financial means test
    - CSCI's FACS review
    - Local government's contribution to social care spend – the role of council tax
- Making best use of resources
    - Prevention and early intervention
    - Reablement
    - Technology

The 'postcode lottery'

- Why the issue is at the fore
- What we need to do – the importance of effective communication
- Addressing the 'portability' issue

A vision for the future

- A broader definition
- Choice and control
- What the universal offer should cover
- A role for eligibility?
- Budgets and funding