

Kent Adult Social Services

The vast majority of the work of the Kent Adult Social Services Directorate impacts on the health and wellbeing of the people that use their services. Much of this is detailed in the Improved health, care and wellbeing section of Towards 2010 (Targets 52 – 56). The KASS description of how they are addressing those targets is attached.

In addition there are a number of other points to highlight:

- Better Homes Active Lives, the PFI programme, has recently won an award in recognition of the sheer scale of what Kent has done in transforming accommodation for older people and those with disabilities.
- Telehealth/Telecare and the Whole Systems Demonstrator project.

The Kent Telehealth Pilot team was the winner of the Telehealth award at this year's Health Business Awards. Held at the Royal College of Physicians on 13 December, the awards, organised by Health Business Magazine and Public Sector Publishing, concentrate on innovation, dedication and teamwork and recognise and celebrate the significant contributions made each year by NHS Trusts and the individuals they employ. First, second and third places in all the other award categories went to NHS Trusts and teams, so it was a remarkable achievement for a team led by staff in Kent Adult Social Services to take first prize in its category.

- Brighter Futures Group (older people helping to support other older people, often in ways that promotes their health and wellbeing such as exercise classes) - this 'Invest to Save (ISB) budget funded programme supports older people living in their own homes in the districts of Ashford, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge & Malling and Tunbridge Wells. The programme is delivered via a range of volunteer services designed to reduce avoidable admission into hospital or long-term care, as well as keeping older people healthy, promoting social inclusion and independence and producing other benefits to the volunteers and their communities. There are currently over 170 dedicated volunteers working within seven projects. During the period April to June 2007, over 950 older people were supported to receive a service via these projects.
- Another initiative is IMCA - KASS is leading the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 across Health, Social Care, the Criminal Justice System and District & Borough Councils. We have

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established training strategies for ensuring all paid and professional workers work in accordance with the MCA. We have commissioned an Independent Mental Capacity Act service.

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – this is being considered as a process rather than a product. The PCTs and KCC worked well together on this, and are now involving Districts. The Adults JSNA has been approved by Cabinet and by the PCTs, and has already influenced business plans and commissioning strategies and is continuing to do so. The next step is to build up the information available from the Public Health Observatory so that commissioners have ever more sophisticated information (including MOSAIC) upon which to base their judgements about targeting resources.
- Considerable Section 106 developer contributions have been secured for community infrastructure