Summary:
The Shared Lives Scheme currently has a network of over 30 carers throughout Sutton that provide 33 long term placements, 5 day time support arrangements, and respite care services for 14 people. The Scheme originally developed out of the Boroughs learning disabilities strategy and in recent years has started to broaden the provision of Shared Lives arrangements to include people with complex needs, mental health needs, and dementia.

The service is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) under the Health and Social Care Act 2008, which also states that registered providers will be regularly inspected. The CQC completed an unannounced inspection of the Shared Lives Scheme in April. Although the Shared Lives Scheme shares a location with the Supported Living Team (SLT) the inspection focussed on the Shared lives Scheme. (N.B. the SLT no longer provides personal care and is being de-registered).

This report confirms the outcome of the CQC inspection of the service, which was assessed as compliant with the majority of national standards with one minor exception relating to record keeping. This report also explains the actions being taken to ensure full compliance against all standards.

Recommendations:
The Committee is recommended to note the outcome of the inspection of the Shared Lives Scheme, and the actions being taken to ensure full compliance with all standards.

Signed:

Dr Adi Cooper  
Strategic Director Adult Social Services Housing and Health  

Date: 10th May 2013
1. **Background**

1.1 The London Borough of Sutton has been providing an in house Shared Lives Scheme (formerly Adult Family Placement Scheme) for over 20 years. The staff team comprises of 1.5 FTE Shared Lives Support Workers and it shares a Team Manager with the in-house Supported Living Team.

1.2 The Shared Lives Scheme currently has a network of over 30 carers throughout Sutton who provide long term accommodation and support for 33 people, as well as daytime support for 5 people, and respite care for 14 people.

1.3 Originally the service focussed on providing long term accommodation and support for people with moderate learning disabilities. Over recent years the Shared Lives Scheme has expanded the range of support arrangements it provides as well as the range of people to which Shared Lives arrangements are offered. The Scheme now provides Shared Lives arrangements for people with complex needs, mental health needs, and dementia, and work is underway to expand the service further.

1.4 The registered manager for the Supported Living and Shared Lives Teams is Alison Steinmetz and the responsible person is Dr Adi Cooper (Strategic Director of Adult Social Services, Housing and Health). These are both roles required for registration of any provider service by the Care Quality Commission.

1.5 The Supported Living Team and the Shared Lives Scheme currently share a location under CQC registration. The Supported Living Team is undergoing strategic change and no longer provides personal care. This service is being deregistered and the inspection focussed on the Shared Lives Scheme only.

2. **Issues**

2.1 The service is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) under the Health and Social Care Act 2008, which also states that registered providers will be regularly inspected. The service was subject to a routine unannounced inspection April 2013 against the seven CQC standards (see Appendix 1).

2.2 The Shared Lives Scheme was assessed against seven standards:

- Respecting and involving people who use services
- Care and welfare of people who use services
- Safeguarding people who use services from abuse
- Requirements relating to workers
- Supporting workers
- Assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision
- Records

2.3 The Scheme was judged as fully meeting the requirements on six of the standards, but not fully meeting the standard required for record keeping. This was assessed to have a minor impact on people that use the service and the inspector has asked the Scheme to take appropriate action to improve record keeping procedures relating to carers and people receiving support from carers.

An action plan has been developed to improve record keeping relating to carers and people receiving support from carers. This has been agreed with CQC.
3. Options Considered

3.1 This report confirms the outcome of the April 2013 CQC inspection of the Shared Lives Scheme, and the actions being taken to improve record keeping to ensure full compliance against all CQC standards for the Scheme.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Committee to note the outcome of the CQC inspection of the Shared Lives Scheme and the actions being taken to improve record keeping to ensure full compliance against all CQC standards for the Scheme.

5. Impacts and Implications:

Financial

5.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

Legal

5.2 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

Community

5.3 The Shared Lives Scheme provides accommodation and support, daytime support, and respite care for adults with learning disabilities, complex needs, mental health needs and dementia. People who use the service are protected from the risk of abuse as staff and carers are appropriately vetted and trained.

6. Implementation

6.1 The implementation of the action plan will be monitored through Promoting Independence and Prevention Services Senior Management Team. Progress will be reported to the Adult Social Services, Housing and Health Departmental Management Team meeting and the CQC.

7. Appendices

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