

**COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (SOCIAL WELL-BEING) PANEL  
1ST DECEMBER 2015**

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY (CHIA) SHARED SERVICE  
REVIEW & DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT BUDGET**

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) was informed of the following: the progress of the Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency (CHIA), the option to extend CHIA for a further two years and review the ongoing demand for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs). With regards to CHIA, Members noted the £18k surplus in 2014/15 and recognised the benefits of the shared service including cost savings, operational resilience and economies of scale.

The Panel identified that there was an opportunity with the Better Care Fund to alleviate pressure upon Social Care budgets however noted that the Fund can be difficult to access for social care and preventative treatments.

Members recognised the work of CHIA and agreed that the Cabinet should proceed with extending the shared service for a further two years. The Panel would like to see a greater use of the Better Care Fund for Social Care budgets however understand that it could be difficult to receive funding due to the demand on the limited budget of the Fund from a wide range of services.