

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET - 13 OCTOBER 2008

GETTING A BETTER LIFE FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES: ALD STRATEGY

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR ADULT AND CONSUMER CARE

1.0 PURPOSE

This is the first three-year Integrated Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy that sets out the commissioning intentions of Telford and Wrekin Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Telford and Wrekin Council (T&WC) for 2008-2011 for adults with a learning disability. Its purpose is to provide a formal statement of the strategic plans for commissioning, securing, specifying and monitoring services for adults with learning disabilities in Telford and Wrekin, as well as for those who live out of the area. Its focus is primarily on health and social care issues relating to the 400+ current and future users of specialist services – however, this focus will be broadened over time.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- **Receive and approve the Strategy**

3.0 SUMMARY

3.1 The Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy sets out the commissioning intentions of T&WPCT and T&WC. The strategic themes are Service excellence, Value for money, Operational excellence and Organisational capability. Care First data from Telford and Wrekin Council identifies 443 adults with learning disabilities who access public services. However, it is anticipated, in line with national trends, that the numbers of people using services will increase, possibly by as much as 20% over the next few years.

3.2 In line with the estimates of future demand outlined in Section 3, it is reasonable to expect that there will be financial implications for the provision of adult learning disability services due to:

- Residual inflationary cost increases (based on historic patterns), despite efficiency savings
- Increased volume (potentially as many as 100 extra service users – representing an increase of just over 20%)
- Increased levels of need (individuals being assessed as needing more complex, personalised support)

- 3.3 There are a number of projects planned over the coming months which will provide greater clarity around projections for the longer-term funding requirements of adult learning disability services including: A review of Social Inclusion, mapping of employment services, a review of housing and accommodation and assessing the implications of the Mansell Report into people with complex needs and challenging behaviour.

4.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 4.1 Not applicable

5.0 INFORMATION

Introduction

This is the first three-year Integrated Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy that sets out the commissioning intentions of Telford and Wrekin Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Telford and Wrekin Council (T&WC) for 2008-2011 for adults with a learning disability. Its purpose is to provide a formal statement of the strategic plans for commissioning, securing, specifying and monitoring services for adults with learning disabilities in Telford and Wrekin, as well as for those who live out of the area.

The document:

- describes the vision for adult learning disability services in Telford and Wrekin;
- provides a framework to support the provision of high quality, responsive and equitable adult learning disability services to support us in meeting national and key local targets;
- identifies information on the levels of current and future need for adult learning disability services in Telford and Wrekin;
- sets out planned actions to achieve a shift towards targeted services that enhance independence and support community-based provision; and
- outlines the shared principles on which the services will be based.

The scope of the commissioning strategy

This strategy covers specialist services for adults with a learning disability in Telford and Wrekin commissioned, purchased or provided by T&WC and PCT either separately or jointly, or by the independent or voluntary sector as well as mainstream services provided by T&WC Leisure services and others, for example Telford College of Arts and Technology (TCAT). This strategy is a plan which will:-

- effect change in the configuration of learning disability services to meet the needs of the adult population of Telford and Wrekin;
- provide a statement of commitment about the way in which Commissioners intend to purchase services for this population in the future; and
- set out a clear direction of travel for providers of learning disability services.

The services

The strategy covers the commissioning intentions in respect of adult learning disability services in the following areas:

- Advocacy and the empowerment of service users;
- Support for pathways into further education, training and employment;
- Increased choice and control via Direct Payments and Personalised Budgets;
- Housing and accommodation arrangements;
- Daytime opportunities;
- Access to specialist and mainstream healthcare services; and
- Carers' support.

People who use services

The term 'adults with learning disabilities' applies to those individuals aged between 18 and 65+ and encompasses a wide spectrum of needs including people with characteristics often referred to as:

- learning disability (mild, moderate and severe);
- profound, intellectual and multiple disability (PIMD);
- challenging behaviour;
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder linked to learning disability; or
- adults with learning disabilities and additional mental health needs.

The strategic vision

To fulfil the mission of improving the quality of life for adults with learning disabilities, the vision is for:

All of us to work together in Telford and Wrekin to provide a high quality, affordable service which gives adults with learning disabilities better chances to:

- live healthier lives;
- make choices relevant to their lives;
- receive the care and support they need - when they need it; and
- become more involved in community life.

At the heart of this vision is Telford and Wrekin's commitment to:

- focusing on the person;
- independence and choice for adults with learning disabilities;
- dignity and respect;
- good quality services;
- an underpinning 'enabling approach'; and
- value for money linked to longer-term sustainability.

The underpinning principles

The principles which will underpin and inform the strategy are:

- a sense of urgency for change;
- focus on developing inclusion and fostering independence;
- put adults with a learning disability and their carers at the heart of planning and developing services;
- proactively promote positive health, aiming to enhance well-being and to avoid risk or crisis;
- increased self-management, choice and control;
- inclusion of adults with a learning disability in all aspects of community life;
- provision of a range of flexible, accessible, quality services to support adults with a learning disability in living fulfilling lives;
- adopt a person centred approach to service planning, exploring the range of issues that impact on adults with learning disabilities;
- financial investment to secure best quality of services within available resources;
- commitment to communicate effectively with all stakeholders; and
- genuine partnership working to build a whole-system approach, ensuring that a range of agencies and stakeholders are involved.

The strategic themes and high-level outcomes

In order to achieve the strategic vision the programmes of change have been grouped into four strategic themes covering:

- service excellence – service provision, development, quality and equality;
- value for money – sustainability, affordability and good governance;
- operational excellence – infrastructure, systems and processes; and
- organisational capability – employee engagement and competence.

Within each of the four themes a number of high-level outcomes have been identified:

Which strategic theme are we looking at?	What is the high-level outcome?	How will we work towards making that happen? We will:	What are our specific objectives?
<u>SERVICE EXCELLENCE</u>	The delivery of person-centred provision enables choice and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Optimise opportunities for individuals to make their own decisions wherever possible▪ Improve service delivery	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To increase the involvement of adults with a learning disability in civic and community life and speaking for themselves2. To increase the number of adults with a learning disability using Direct Payments or having

access to Personal Budgets

The provision of services to adults with learning disabilities supports them, and their carers, and allows them to access a range of life opportunities

- Develop housing and accommodation that meets the needs of all adults with learning disabilities
- Develop effective strategies to effectively engage mainstream healthcare professionals
- Improve access to transport, leisure, information, life long learning and support that promotes well-being.
- Improve the availability of advice and information in accessible formats.
- Optimise carer support and engagement

3. To increase the number of adults with a learning disability moving into paid/ voluntary full or part time employment
4. To increase the range of housing and accommodation provision allowing greater choice, increased independence and improved quality of life.
5. To develop a range of day, specialist and mainstream service provision in different areas of T&W to meet the needs of service users and carers, encouraging greater independence where possible.
6. To match the needs of learners with the services available, so as to achieve greater levels of skill and understanding, leading to increased inter and independence and preparation for employment.
7. To meet the health needs of adults with a learning disability within the community
8. To reduce and ultimately remove health inequalities
9. To improve support and engagement with carers

Which strategic theme are we looking at?

VALUE FOR MONEY

What is the high-level outcome?

The planning and funding of services delivery is affordable now and in the future

The services commissioned

How will we work towards making that happen? We will:

- Improve financial/asset management
- Improve partnership

What are our specific objectives?

10. To ensure equitable distribution of finite resources
11. To support adults

and contracted for are both high quality and financially robust

- Improve joint commissioning and contracting working

with a learning disability through comprehensive assessment, recording and working with all other relevant stakeholders, including carers

12. To improve the quality of commissioning and contracting of services for adults with a learning disability
13. To develop a systematic approach to improving the standard and quality of services for adults with a learning disability

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The externally-facing business processes are effective and efficient in supporting service delivery

- Improve the streamlining and alignment of transition
- Improve intelligence and data management
- Establish effective, high quality business processes
- Maximise and exploit the use of technology

14. To manage the transition of young, older & out of area individuals entering into services efficiently and effectively

15. To develop a comprehensive, robust operational and financial infrastructure across T&WC and PCT

The infrastructure systems and processes are high quality and fit for purpose

ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY

Employers recruit, develop and retain staff who are competent to deliver a high quality service to adults with a learning disability
Employees are engaged, motivated and highly skilled

- Improve employee attraction and retention
- Enhance the employee experience
- Increase employee expertise

16. To have a skilled and motivated workforce

Detailed actions and programmes are set out in the Commissioning Action Plan (CAP) in Section 6 of the Strategy.

5.5 Equality and Diversity

The 2005 report *Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People* (HM Government). It found that, compared with non-disabled people, disabled people are:

- **more likely to live in poverty** – the income of disabled people is, on average, less than half of that earned by non-disabled people
- **less likely to have educational qualifications** – disabled people are more likely to have no educational qualifications
- **more likely to be economically inactive** – only one in two disabled people of working age are currently in employment, compared with four out of five non-disabled people
- **more likely to experience problems with hate crime or harassment** – a quarter of all disabled people say that they have experienced hate crime or harassment, and this number rises to 47% of people with mental health conditions
- **more likely to experience problems with housing** – nine out of ten families with disabled children have problems with their housing
- **more likely to experience problems with transport** – the issue given most often by disabled people as their biggest challenge.

This Strategy seeks to address some of these issues.

5.6 Environmental Impact

5.6.1 There are no implications.

5.7 Legal Comment

5.7.1 The Government's White Paper "Valuing People: A new strategy for learning disability in the 21st century" was published on 20th March 2001. Its four key principles were rights, independence, choice and inclusion. The main drivers for the implementation of "Valuing People" are the Learning Disability Partnership Boards, which were required to be established by 31st October 2001. Guidance upon the implementation of person centred planning, including the role of the Boards, was issued on 28th January 2002

5.7.2 The Learning Disability Development Fund was introduced in April 2002 to support priorities for service change, with capital and revenue being deployed as part of pooled budgets between Local Authorities and NHS bodies under Section 31 Health Act 1999 and supporting regulations. Section 31 has subsequently been replaced from 1/3/07 by Section 75 National Health Service Act 2006. The procurement and subsequent contracting for the provision of services has to be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and equivalent PCT standing orders.

5.7.3 The Department of Health published a consultation paper upon Valuing People now between December 2007 and March 2008 and sought views on priorities for the learning disability agenda over the next 3 years.

5.8 Links with Corporate Priorities

5.8.1 The strategy includes references to support from Community Services as adults with learning disabilities have access to mainstream leisure services.

5.9 Opportunities and Risks

5.9.1 There is financial risk identified in funding services to adults with learning disabilities. Further research is currently taking place to inform future planning for this area of service. More detailed reports will be considered within the PCT and Adult & Consumer Care.

5.10 Financial Implications

5.10.1 The actions proposed in the strategy are in response to various drivers for change arising from Government commissioned reports and local responses to improve the quality of life for Adults with Learning Disabilities in the Borough.

The strategy also highlights the growing demand for services and makes reference to increasing costs which have arisen from demand for services and an increasing cost base in the procurement of services.

In 2007/08 the service disciplines providing care for adults with learning disabilities overspent the budgetary provision by around £470k against a net budget of £8 million. In the Council's forecast of costs for the three years 2008-2011, the expectation is that costs will escalate due to increasing demand and the realisation that costs of purchased care will rise in excess of inflation across all Adult Social Services. This is a trend being forecast by the majority of Social Care authorities in England. The Council is therefore taking account of these issues as part of its medium term financial planning and, in the meantime, clear controls have been put in place to ensure that resources are deployed effectively.

The majority of actions proposed in the strategy will be met from within existing resources held by the Council or the PCT. Any actions that sit outwith existing resources will need to be considered as part of the budget setting processes for the PCT and the Council. The Department of Health expects that responsibilities for commissioning of some ALD services and functions delivered by the PCT will transfer to Councils from 2009/10. Negotiations to agree the functions and funding (around £4.5m together with some property assets) will be held over the next couple of months and agreement will hopefully be met in line with Department of Health expectation by 1st December 2008. A further report will need to be presented to Cabinet on this issue.

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