

## Health and Well-being Board

14 November 2012

### Adult Learning Disability: Health and Social Care Self Validation Frameworks

#### 1. Purpose of paper

This paper provides information to the Health and Wellbeing Board about two self assessments undertaken by Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) and NHS Telford and Wrekin (PCT) of services for adults with learning disabilities.

#### 2. Introduction

Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) and NHS Telford and Wrekin (PCT) have a long history of collaborative working to support adults with learning disabilities living in the Borough and those living out of area.

#### 3. Background

In 2001 the Department of Health (DH) launched a Strategy called Valuing People. The Programme was refreshed in 2009 in Valuing People Now. Valuing People/ Valuing People Now established core principles to underpin work with people with learning disabilities which are: civil rights, independence, choice and inclusion..

Part of the outcome of Valuing People was the establishment of the Learning Disability Partnership Board which still meets on a regular basis and is supported by Councillor Clare.

#### 4. Policy Context: national reports

In 2007 Mencap wrote a report called '*Death by Indifference*' which highlighted neglect of people with learning disabilities accessing NHS services and '*Death by Indifference: 74 deaths and counting*' (Mencap, 2012). Whilst many changes have taken place during the last decade, evidence continues to demonstrate failure by NHS services to provide equal treatment to individuals because the healthcare need is subsumed ("dumbed down") under the presenting learning disability.

In 2007 the DH published a revised version of a report by Professor Jim Mansell '*Services for people with learning disability and challenging behaviour or mental health needs*', known as "Mansell 2". This report provided advice to local authorities and NHS services on commissioning services which meet the needs of people with learning disabilities who may also present with behaviour which can challenge.

In 2006 a major report called *'The Cornwall Report'* highlighted serious neglect and abuse of adults with learning disabilities living in Cornwall. More recently, the *'Winterbourne View'* investigation undertaken by Panorama (BBC, 2011 and October 2012) highlighted systemic abuse of individuals with learning disabilities, including those on the autistic spectrum in a service provided by an independent provider (Castlebeck). The services provided by Castlebeck are high cost and mainly commissioned by NHS commissioners.

The culmination of the reports referenced above and the new focus provided by Valuing People Now was the development of two self validation frameworks for social care services via the Learning Disability Partnership Board and NHS services to examine local provision. This approach began in 2009. During 2012-13 work has taken place to implement the self assessments.

Overall, the DH expects that Health and Well-being Boards and CCGs will be aware and informed of locally commissioned services for adults with learning disabilities and the outcomes of the self assessments. Over the years there is clear evidence of a move towards a more holistic approach to this area of service, bringing together health (commissioned and provision), housing, education, leisure, employment and taking account of the views of those who use services and family carers. From 2013, the two processes will merge into one which will reduce duplication and increase efficiency, as well as giving more focus to personalisation and outcomes.

## **5. Current situation**

### **5.1. Learning Disability Partnership Board Self Assessment**

The Learning Disability Partnership Board Self Assessment was submitted on 7 September. The three main areas covered in the Self Assessment were Health, Housing and Employment. Progress is good in areas of housing and health, but not so good in relation to employment. Telford and Wrekin has not provided information in sufficient depth to demonstrate that it's JSNA specifically reflects the needs of people with learning disabilities. A draft version has been prepared to achieve this task and further discussions will take place to finalise the section. It will include:

- reference to taking forward the outcomes of the Health self Assessment, including data collection;
- working collaboratively with the Criminal Justice System to improve healthcare for people with learning disabilities linked to services;
- engagement with people with learning disabilities (with advocacy support) to inform strategic planning and commissioning by the Health and Well Being Board and CCGs; Safeguarding, (particularly following on from 'Winterbourne View') and including hate crime;
- community based health services, housing, employment and engagement with family carers.

As part of the validation process, assurance has been given about engagement with the (Shadow) Health and Well-being Board and the CCG on this area of work.

## **5.2. Health Self Assessment**

The Health Self Assessment has been submitted. The framework covers the main areas of access – particularly to primary care, supporting individuals with complex needs and safeguarding. The standards identified are classified as:

- Red – further action required to meet the standard;
- Amber – the Standard is being achieved, and
- Green - the standard is being exceeded.

A formal Validation visit will take place on the 3 December 2012. The visit will include visits to services in the morning and more detailed discussions about Telford and Wrekin's submission and evidence in the afternoon. The visits will be undertaken by colleagues from the SHA, the lead validation colleagues, people with learning disabilities supported by advocates and family carers. Attendance at the afternoon meeting will include a range of named individuals from across the NHS services (commissioning and Providers) and other organisations including Telford and Wrekin Council and the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector. A draft action plan has been prepared in response to areas classified as 'Red', including:

- improved working with the Criminal Justice System;
- Safeguarding;
- engagement with family carers and users of NHS services including to support recruitment and delivery of training;
- that Health and Well-being Boards and CCGs are assured about the quality and safety of services, and
- that the two Boards can demonstrate that any of their plans specifically include people with learning disabilities.

## **6. Future Self Assessments**

From 2013 the two self assessment frameworks will merge into a single document. This will increase efficiency, improve collaborative partnership working and remove duplication. It will enable Telford and Wrekin to consider issues of Quality and Safeguarding across all areas of public services from the respective perspectives of commissioning and service delivery. It is important that the following steps are taken to support future work:

- Identify the lead(s) to progress the next Self Assessment prior to April 2013
- Ensure a clear statement about learning disability is included in the JSNA
- The Learning Disability Strategy is refreshed and updated to reflect the new ways of working across health and social care and local priorities
- Submit an annual report to the Health and Well Being Board and the CCG,

## **7. Recommendation**

1. The Health and Well Being Board note the contents of this paper and agree the future steps, including receiving an annual report on progress after completion of the annual Self Assessment.

Kit Roberts

Group Specialist Commissioner

November 2012