

VALUING PEOPLE NOW: A THREE YEAR STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING FRAMEWORK FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES IN WIRRAL

Executive Summary

This involves a key decision which was first identified in the Forward Plan dated August 2009 and sets out a new strategy for Learning Disability Services in Wirral. The Strategy builds on “Valuing People Now” and involves all key stakeholders in a new approach.

1 Background

- 1.1 This strategy, the Three Year Strategic Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities in Wirral, sets out the local strategic priorities for the next 3 years (2009-2012). The Strategy has been developed over the past nine months in the light of the publication of ‘Valuing People Now’ in January 2009. It further draws upon other relevant policy and guidance and local intelligence in respect of learning disabilities.
- 1.2 The Strategy has additionally been influenced by discussions with people who use services and their carers earlier this year, and work with other key stakeholders within Wirral. It reflects the current commissioning arrangements within Wirral and other local developments relating to the provision of health and social care across Wirral.
- 1.3 The Strategy sets out a number of key challenges which are taken directly from both Valuing People Now and other key policy documents relating to the transformation of health and social care:
 - ***People having greater choice and control over their own lives***
 - ***People receiving appropriate healthcare and equitable access to healthcare***
 - ***People should be encouraged to lead fulfilling lives that include opportunities to study, work and enjoy leisure and social activities***
 - ***All people with learning disabilities should be supported into paid work and have the same opportunities as others to have relationships and be parents***
 - ***People should be treated as citizens and be supported to enact their rights and responsibilities as citizens***

- ***Within services there should be clear leadership and structures in place to ensure that strategies deliver the right outcomes for people***

1.4 The Strategy identifies 8 strategic priorities for Wirral

- The development of an effective Partnership Board
- Ensuring more robust information and data to ensure commissioning is based on information resulting from, amongst other sources the JSNA and person centred plans;
- Ensuring the work on transition improves the outcomes and experiences of young people and their families
- Ensuring that services and support are tailored to individual need and that current systems facilitate this
- Develop a plan as to how learning disability services may work within a locality based model
- The need to ensure people have access to real choices about housing and where and how they live
- To address the health inequalities experienced by people with learning disability and to take a more strategic approach to the commissioning of specialist health services
- To develop a deliverable strategy that will ensure people with learning disability can access real jobs

1.5 The framework identifies the financial climate in which services are currently operating and will be in the future. It also uses the recently produced set of commissioning principles developed by the North West Training and Development Team with their emphasis on the need to commission services which are:

- Personalised
- Local and inclusive
- Integrated
- Accountable
- Collaborative
- Reflect people's whole life experiences

1.6 Within the Strategy are specific outcomes and targets which have been identified as crucial to ensuring that it delivers what it sets out to do e.g.

- By December 2009 we will have:
 - Identified all young people with learning disabilities who have started, or are about to start the journey of transition out of children's services so that we can better plan with them the support they might need as adults.
 - Agreed and implemented revised transition protocol
- By mid 2010, we will have:
 - Reviewed our services for people who challenge so we can make decisions as to how to better support them

- Reviewed everyone receiving a service from DASS; the outcomes of the reviews will assist Wirral in deciding what to commission in the future to meet their needs and aspirations
- Revised the Strategic Health Action plan

1.7 As part of the new performance framework for learning disabilities, Partnership boards will be required to provide an annual report on progress regarding implementation of Valuing People Now. Progress on the implementation of the outcomes and targets contained within this framework will form a key part of the annual report.

2 Financial Implications

2.1 The delivery plans outlined in the Strategy are anticipated to deliver 10% in financial efficiency savings over 2010-13 across the Health and Social Care Economy.

2.2 However, demands on the budget are set to increase. The numbers of people with learning disability are expected to rise over the next 15 years, from 5,693 in 2010, to 5,719 in 2025.

2.3 In the same time period, the numbers of people aged 65+ with a Learning Disability are expected to increase from 1,202 in 2010, to 1,579 in 2025, meaning an increase in the numbers with the highest levels of dependency on the Social and Health Care economy from within a group who already require statutory support.

3 Staffing Implications

3.1 There will be opportunities created through this Strategy for people with Learning Disabilities to gain employment, including working in the largest employers in Wirral; the Council and NHS Wirral.

3.2 For the existing staff there will be a workforce strategy which will meet the requirements set out in the Best Practice Guidance for Learning Disability Partnership Boards: Workforce toolkit 25 Nov 2009. This will include training being provided on Personalisation as services are shaped around people, and support for all agencies involved in delivering on this agenda.

4 Equal Opportunities Implications

4.1 This strategy challenges assumptions about people with Learning Disabilities and sets out plans to support people into their own Houses, into real jobs, ensures access to high quality health services and supports people to gain lifelong learning through further education.

5 Community Safety Implications

5.1 This strategy links with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and to identify a hate crime lead and a link person responsible for working

with Local Safeguarding Children Boards through the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.

6 Local Agenda 21 Implications

None

7 Planning Implications

7.1 This strategy sets out how we will identify the **housing needs** of people with learning disabilities to inform strategic planning, including identifying the number of people with learning disabilities living with family carers over 70 and those with complex needs. We will facilitate people's access to **housing** of their choice, including:

- more people receiving personal budgets and direct payments to increase their choice and control over where they live and with whom;
- local authority care managers to have an increased focus on home ownership and assured tenancies as a model for housing and support; and
- through person centred planning, work with people still living with families to establish if that is the person's preferred option and to instigate plans accordingly.

8 Anti Poverty Implications

8.1 People with a Learning Disability are less likely to be in work than people without a Disability, less likely to rent or own their own house, and their health outcomes are generally poor in comparison with the rest of the population.

8.2 There are three key strategies that will tackle these inequalities that come from this overarching Commissioning strategy and will be delivered through the Learning Disability Partnership Board;

- Employment Strategy
- Housing Strategy
- Health plans which address the issues raised in the Mansell Report

9 Social Inclusion Implications

Having a paid job is a key indicator of social inclusion and increasing the number of people with Learning Disabilities in paid employment is a central part of this strategy.

10 Local Member Support Implications

None

11 Background Papers

- Easy Read version of the strategy.
- Department of Health (2009) **Valuing People Now: The Delivery Plan**: London: Department of Health and National Health Service
- Department of Health (2009b) **Valuing People Now: a new three-year strategy for people with learning disabilities**: London: Department of Health and National Health Service

12 Recommendations

That

- (1) The Cabinet endorses the implementation of the **Three Year Strategic Commissioning Framework for People with Learning Disabilities in Wirral**

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