

**Valuing People Now:
A Three Year Strategic
Commissioning
Framework for People
with Learning
Disabilities in Wirral**

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An easy-read version of this document is available.

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the Three Year Strategic Commissioning Framework for Adults with Learning Disabilities living in Wirral, across the Health and Social Care Economy in Wirral. It sets the strategic priorities for the next three years (2009-2012) for both adults and young people who will be moving into adulthood. It focusses on the priorities set out in Valuing People Now, but also drawing on other relevant policy and guidance and local intelligence, and discussions with service users and carers earlier in 2009.

2 Executive Summary

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.

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.

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***

The Strategy identifies that some work streams are already in place to deliver on these issues locally e.g. Service improvement planning in Department of Adult Social Services, new governance arrangements for the Partnership Board, Options for Change, ongoing work to ensure Best Value and the delivery of cost effective services across the public sector

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***

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

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

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.

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.

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 the end of January 2010 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 the end of July 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

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.

3 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

3.1 Commissioning

The Department of Health's *Valuing People Now Delivery Plan* (DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 2009) brings the strategic commissioning for learning disability services into clear focus;

“Good commissioning, based on sound information from Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and collation of information from person centred plans, is the key to improving outcomes for people with learning disabilities. It enables Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts to identify gaps in services, develop new models of service provision, working with providers, and decommission inappropriate models.”

This document uses the definition of Commissioning produced by the DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH within “Commissioning for Health and Wellbeing” but also matches the expectations of DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH World Class Commissioning Programme



Commissioning is the means to secure the best value for local citizens. It is the process of translating aspirations and need, by specifying and procuring services for the local population, into services for users which:

- *deliver the best possible health and well-being outcomes, including promoting equality*
- *provide the best possible health and social care provision*
- *achieve this within the best use of available resources.*

In respect of individuals, this translates to helping people to:

- *look after themselves, and stay healthy and independent*

- *participate fully as active members of their communities*
- *choose and easily access the type of help they need, when they need it.*

In respect of populations, it means:

- *understanding and anticipating future need*
- *promoting health and inclusion and supporting independence*
- *identifying the groups or areas that are getting a raw deal and giving them a voice to influence improvements*
- *delivering the best and safest possible quality of care.*

The Department of Health also published a World Class Commissioning Guide, “*Improving the health and wellbeing of people with learning disabilities*” on 24th November 2009. The guide is designed to support Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), with local authorities and Learning Disability Partnership Boards, in commissioning general health services in ways that achieve better health outcomes for people with learning disabilities.

3.2 Policy Context: Key Challenges

Since 2006 a number of guidance and policy documents have been published regarding the commissioning and the delivery of health and social care services for people with learning disabilities, (they are listed in Appendix One). Valuing People Now (DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 2009) sets out a series of responsibilities and actions for LD Partnership Boards, Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts over the coming three years:

The key National challenges are that:

All people with learning disabilities and their families will:

- benefit from *Valuing People Now*;
- have greater choice and control over their lives and have support to develop person centred plans;
- get the healthcare they need and the support they need to live healthy lives;
- have an informed choice about where, and with whom, they live;
- have a fulfilling life of their own, beyond services, that includes opportunities to study, work and enjoy leisure and social activities;
- be supported into paid work, including those with more complex needs;
- have the choice to have relationships, become parents and continue to be parents, and will be supported to do so;
- be treated as equal citizens in society and supported to enact their rights and fulfil their responsibilities;
- have the opportunity to speak up and be heard about what they want from their lives – the big decisions and the everyday choices. If they need support to do this, they should be able to get it;
- be able to use public transport safely and easily and feel confident about doing so; and
- be able to lead their lives in safe environments and feel confident that their right to live in safety is upheld by the criminal justice system.

In respect of services this means:

- Leadership, delivery and partnership structures are put in place that will make sure the outcomes set out in this strategy are delivered.
- Effective commissioning in a way that best supports the right outcomes for people with learning disabilities and their families is ensured.
- The workforces across services are given the appropriate support and training to equip them with the values, skills and knowledge to deliver the *Valuing People Now* priorities for all people with learning disabilities.
- Learning disabilities will have a clear position in the new performance frameworks for the NHS and local authorities, and there will be a comprehensive range of data sets and reporting mechanisms.

Wirral already has several workstreams in place to address most of these challenges (see the Current Service Improvement Initiatives section below). These have been reviewed and focused towards the expectations of Valuing People Now and World Class Commissioning competencies, whilst taking account of other local strategies, such as our Sustainable Communities Strategy, Options for Change (DASS), The NHS Wirral Strategic Plan 2009-2013 and an overarching local priority of Best Value and the delivery of cost effective services across the public sector.

The strategic priorities for learning disability services in Wirral are:

1) Effective Partnership Board:

- To ensure it has an effective structure so that we can see the progress we make on all Valuing People Now targets.

2) Information:

- Securing sound information from Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and collation of information from person centred plans to support robust commissioning of new models of service provision and decommissioning of inappropriate models.
- The need for improved and joint measures of local council and NHS performance.

3) Transition:

- Facilitating the smooth transition of young people to adulthood.

4) Personalisation:

- The establishment of effective community learning disability teams promoting individualised person-centred planning of care and support – people are too often expected to fit in with services rather than services being tailored to individual needs. This encompasses the full roll out of Person Centred Plans, Self Directed Assessments, Personal Budgets, and Health Action Plans together with ensuring access to good advocacy services

5) Integrated Services / Localisation / Specialisation:

- To develop a plan to determine how best to provide a service for people with learning disability based on the locality model

6) Access to Health Services:

- Ensuring equitable access to health care and to address the health inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities
- Taking a strategic approach to the commissioning for specialist healthcare services.

7) Real Homes:

- Developing a housing strategy for people who have a learning disability

8) Real Jobs:

- Developing an employment strategy for people who have a learning disability that meets the expectations of Valuing Employment Now.

These priorities are aligned strongly with the Council's Vision of a more prosperous and equal Wirral, Enabling all communities and people to thrive and reach their full potential, and its strategic objectives:

- To create more jobs, achieve a prosperous economy and regenerate Wirral
- To create a clean pleasant, safe and sustainable environment
- To improve health and well being for all, ensuring people who require support are full participants in mainstream society.
- To raise the aspirations of young people and
- To create an excellent Council

There are a number of external regulators of the progress of this strategy, including the Care Quality Commission, the National Learning Disability Team, National Transitions Team, Regional Learning Disability Partnership Board and central government departments. Through this strategy Wirral will meet these regulator's expectations.

3.3. Governance

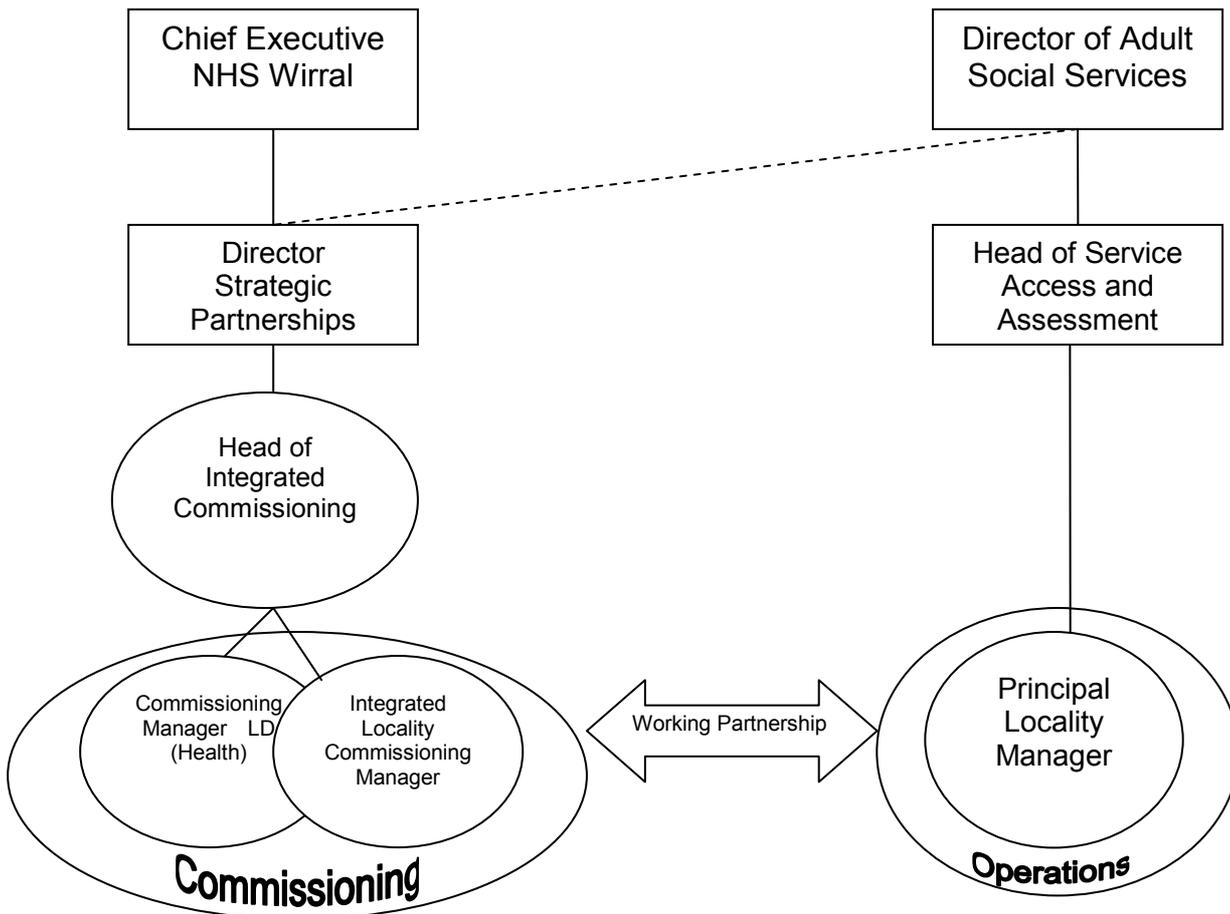
Valuing People Now sets out the respective (commissioning) responsibilities of both Local Authorities and PCTs

- Local Authorities lead on:
 - commissioning services for people who have not taken direct control of their funding through Direct Payments and personal budgets; and
 - for those who have Direct Payments or personal budgets, in helping to ensure the availability of appropriate support and a range of opportunities from which they can commission their own support in order to enable them to achieve their ambitions and aspirations.
- PCTs to deliver better health and well-being for the population, improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

Locally the strategic commissioning arm of DASS and NHS Wirral lies within the Strategic Partnerships Directorate of NHS Wirral in the form of the Integrated Commissioning Team, accountable via the Director of Strategic Partnerships to the Director of Adult Social Services and the Chief Executive of NHS Wirral. Additionally NHS Wirral has created capacity for the commissioning of (specialist) health services for people with learning disability; this also lies within Strategic Partnerships – this post is responsible for taking forward the wider health agenda required by Valuing People Now.

The structural arrangements for commissioning in respect of learning disabilities are already in place and are demonstrated both organizationally and strategically in diagram 1 below

Diagram 1.



The key vehicle for delivering our strategic agenda to ensure that people benefit from *Valuing People Now* is the Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB).

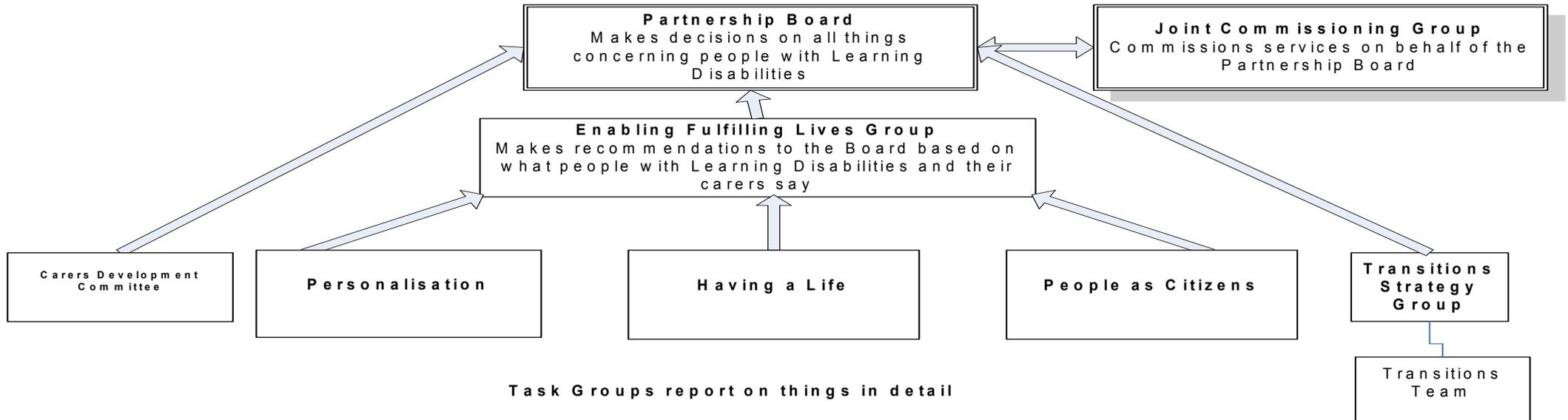
The Board will:

- Agree the strategic framework for commissioning,
- Agree timescales for the completion of particular commissioning projects contained in the framework;
- Publish a timetable to receive updates on specific elements of the framework for commissioning, so that there is an expectation of regular evidence of progress.
- Secure assurance by receiving commissioning reports, considering opportunities and risks and agreeing future developments.
- Produce an annual report outlining achievements, progress and challenges; this report will form part of the new national performance framework for Partnership Boards

The Board's Governance arrangements are contained in diagram 2 below.
Diagram 2.

The Learning Disabilities Partnership Board will report to the Local Strategic Partnership and link to the corporate governance arrangements in the relevant organisations.

Proposed Governance arrangements for Wirral Learning Disability Partnership Board



The key strategies will be delivered through working groups, such as the Employment, Housing, Health working groups which will report through the above process to the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.

Membership of the Partnership Board was reviewed over the summer of 2009 and members have been asked to champion particular aspects of the strategy. Guidance recently received from the Office of the National Director for Learning Disability shows that the proposed membership is appropriate to the challenges ahead.

List of Partnership Board Members (note, where * this relates to areas of challenge highlighted in executive summary).

| Board Member | Champion for Area of Challenge* |
|--|--|
| Cabinet member – Social Care and Inclusion and person with learning disability (chairs) | Effective Partnership Board* |
| Director Strategic Partnerships NHS Wirral | Access to Health Services* |
| Integrated Commissioning Manager | Information and Specialisation* |
| Head of Housing (Department of Regeneration) | Real Homes* |
| Head of Cultural Services (Department of Regeneration) | Access to Leisure and Social Activities |
| Representative of the Director of Children's Services | Transitions* |
| Head of Branch – Integrated Communities and Wellbeing (Department of Adult Social Services) | Citizenship and Access to Services |
| Chief Officer Voluntary and Community Action - Wirral | Citizenship and Engagement |
| Head of Merseytravel | Transport |
| Head of Strategic Development – Corporate Services | Real Jobs* |
| Director of Adult Social Services | Social Care |
| Principal Manager with a lead for Learning Disabilities – Department of Adult Social Services | Personalisation, Integration and Localisation* |
| Chair and co-chair of Enabling Fulfilling Lives (EFL) group) | Consultation and involvement |
| Representative from carers development committee | Carers |
| Three other representatives for people with Learning Disabilities – EFL group to hold elections in January | Consultation and involvement |
| Three other representatives for carers of people with Learning Disabilities – EFL group to hold elections in January | Consultation and involvement |
| A carer and a young person who are involved in the transition process | Transitions consultation and involvement |

For each Partnership Board member from a professional organisation tackling an area of challenge there will be a person with a Learning Disability / carer member of the Board working with them in partnership to meet the challenge.

4 CURRENT SERVICE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

This section describes the important work that is already underway to improve services for people with learning disabilities. It is the starting point from which we shall build our commissioning of services that deliver benefit from *Valuing People Now* for all people with learning disabilities and their families in Wirral.

4.1 Department of Adult Social Services

The Department of Adult Social Services Learning Disabilities Service Improvement Plan sets out the operational plans that aim to deliver on a number of the strategic objectives set out in this strategy. The Service Improvement plan is attached to this plan and complements the strategy.

The elements of the plan which have strategic importance are set out below;

- The Learning Disabilities service has moved out of Ashton House to Westminster House in order to establish an effective and efficient service ensuring value for money in all its activities, and upon which an integrated service can be developed with agencies working together on the personalization, integration and localization agenda.
- Links in developing an integrated service will include Health, Housing, local Colleges, training providers, employers, leisure, voluntary, community and faith sector, and people who use services and their carers to ensure people with Learning Disabilities are supported in their education, in gaining employment, and gaining their own tenancies.
- The Local Authority has taken a lead in re-setting the steering groups, boards, protocols and partnerships to ensure they are set around an agreed vision of personalisation, integration and localisation and to reduce duplication and waste in the system.
- The Department of Adult Social Services is building on existing consultation forums with customers, carers and providers, and directly linking them with the Learning Disability Partnership Board.
- Leadership on the Learning Disability developments is driven through the Principal Manager with responsibility for Learning Disabilities,
- The Department of Adult Social Services is in the process of developing work opportunities to employ several people with Learning Disability to work alongside practitioners and quality assure their work, develop models of working and information sharing which are driven by people with Learning Disability themselves.
- The Department of Adult Social Services through this work seeks to promote the employment of people with Learning Disabilities and will make links with employers and training organizations which support people with Learning Disability in work.
- The Learning Disabilities service will be offering everyone who uses its service a Personal Budget as part of phase 2 of the Personal Budgets pilot as agreed by Cabinet on December 9th 2009.
- The Department of Adult Social Services and Children and Young People's Department have established a joint transition process and team which came into being on January

4th 2010. The team will intervene earlier with children who are likely to require a service from the Department of Adult Social Services and to work with those children, their families, carers and professionals on expectations regarding FACS, personalisation, personal budgets and support planning.

- The Department of Adult Social Services will develop a shared procurement function across the Children's, Health and Department of Adult Social Services organisations so providers have a shared set of consistent expectations to work to and the market is managed.
- There will be operational management accountability of the performance and financial arrangements in the Learning Disabilities service in partnership with finance, contracts, performance and Human Resources through performance surgeries with staff.
- The Department of Adult Social Services is reviewing and re-setting the priorities and format of the Learning Disabilities Review team so that they work to financial savings targets and embed the process of reviewing the provision alongside the needs of the customer within all reviews in the Learning Disabilities service.
- The Department of Adult Social Services is working with the Supporting People unit in Regeneration to develop a contract culture in setting up agreements with providers
- The Finance and Performance Branch of Department of Adult Social Services will map out all the existing contracts, both individual and block contracts, ending any payments for voids, and planning the replacement of such contracts with personal budget and individual plans with people.
- Following on from agreeing a standard hourly rate for Supported Living support to consider through the Contracts and Commissioning process a standard rate for other services delivered to people with Learning Disability, both to ensure consistency of service delivery and to support the delivery of Personal Budgets.
- The Department of Adult Social Services will work with NHS Wirral to re-focus on joint funding and Continuing Health Care for people with most complex needs, and strengthen the decision making process in the joint Disabilities panel.
- The Department of Adult Social Services will work with the specialist Learning Disabilities service in Ashton House to provide additional specialist support to better manage behaviours in high cost residential placements where people with complex needs are placed, without automatically requiring additional staffing and resources.
- Services will be developed through Options for Change, driven by people with Learning Disabilities identifying what they want from services through their own support plans.
- The range and use of Assistive Technology solutions to promote independence, choice and control for people with Learning Disabilities will increase.
- By 2012 the Department of Adult Social Services will deliver integrated Learning Disability services through integrated teams on a Locality basis co-terminus with the Department of Adult Social Services and NHS Wirral localities (GP catchment areas).

4.2 NHS Wirral

NHS Wirral produced a Health Action Plan in Autumn 2008 and reviewed progress in July 2009. The key issues highlighted were:

- Directly Enhanced Service (DES)
 - The introduction of the DES by the Department of Health was based on clinical and other evidence that people with learning disability have more health problems and die at a younger age than the rest of the population. GPs can decide whether

or not to opt in to Direct Enhanced Services. As of September 2009, 75% of Wirral GP practices had agreed to provide health checks for people with learning as part of the Direct Enhanced Scheme. NHS Wirral is considering how best to ensure that all people with learning disability are able to access health checks.

- NHS Wirral employs 2 Health Facilitators; who are nurses working as part of the 'virtual health facilitation team' within the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust. The roles of the Health Facilitators will be reviewed to ensure that we can both achieve maximum sign-up to the DES in order to address the inequity of health provision for this population, and to also ensure the quality of the health checks provided.
- Health Screening
 - The audit of how often people access health screening published in 2009 showed mixed results.
 - The uptake of screening amongst people who are supported by independent sector providers is good, mainly as a result of the focus of work of the health facilitators in recent years in ensuring that providers fully embrace the health agenda. Take up by people living with family carers is low.
- The role and focus of the Health Facilitators is also being reviewed to ensure that people living with family carers access primary health care and get appropriate screening. We will also work in conjunction with carers' networks, the Department of Adult Social Services and other stakeholders to agree the best way to make this happen.

Other Key Areas of Work currently being addressed

- Ensuring health issues are included as part of the transition process for young people
- Development of health promotion sessions in day services
- Clear pathways relating to postural care
- Using the 'Green light toolkit' to ensure people have good and equitable access to mental health services
- Review of services for people who present challenges to current services
- Improved pathways for people needing planned and unplanned admissions into acute hospital
- Development of 'Virtual' Integrated Community Disability Teams and pathways (and getting the teams in Ashton House to work in a more joined up way)
- Ensuring that standards relating to health outcomes and care will be incorporated into contracts with all providers.
- Incorporating Learning Disabilities awareness into core induction training for all health care staff across Wirral

5 STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS

This section sets out our commissioning principles, the financial framework and the key strategic intentions

5.1 Commissioning Principles

In September 2009 The North West Training and Development Team produced for consultation a set of Commissioning Principles for Services for People with Learning Disabilities in the North West of England.

The principles will help shape commissioning of services in Wirral;

PERSONALISATION AND INDIVIDUAL PERSON CENTRED SERVICES.

Services commissioned will:

- move away from pre-formed pre-packaged support;
- encourage housing options that support people with Learning Disabilities to have choice and control over where they live and wherever possible promotes ownership of the house they live in;
- be supportive of developing friends and relationships, including relationships with families;
- encourage employment for learning disabled people.

Relevant Valuing People Now targets:

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- have an informed choice about where, and with whom, they live;
- be supported into paid work, including those with more complex needs.

Services will

- effectively commission in a way that ensures the right outcomes for people with learning disabilities and their families.

SELF DIRECTED SERVICES

Services commissioned will:

- put people in control of their own lives;
- encourage opportunities for people to live their lives the way that they want to;
- enable risk taking through sensitive risk assessment and management;
- encourage involvement in self advocacy;
- involve advocates from outside of the organisation;
- maximise choice.

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- have greater choice and control over their lives and have support to develop person centred plans;
- have the opportunity to speak up and be heard about what they want from their lives – the big decisions and the everyday choices. if they need support to do this, they should be able to get it;
- be able to use public transport safely and easily and feel confident about doing so; and
- be able to lead their lives in safe environments and feel confident that their right to live in safety is upheld by the criminal justice system

LOCAL AND INCLUSIVE

Services commissioned will:

- be rooted in local communities;
- utilise local services.
- promote healthy living and use local health services when necessary;
- be based locally but will be regionally and nationally aware;
- be inclusive and value diversity;
- be designed to help learning disabled people get the maximum possible involvement with other members of the community.
-

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- get the healthcare they need and the support they need to live healthy lives;
- have a fulfilling life of their own, beyond services, that includes opportunities to study, work and enjoy leisure and social activities;
- be treated as equal citizens in society and supported to enact their rights and fulfil their responsibilities;
- be able to use public transport safely and easily and feel confident about doing so; and
- be able to lead their lives in safe environments and feel confident that their right to live in safety is upheld by the criminal justice system.

ACCOUNTABLE

Services commissioned will:

- be based on sound, explicit values that put people first;
- be forward thinking;
- be aware of the development of services and clear about values (i.e. not isolated);
- have a joint responsibility to develop local services;
- employ staff with a commitment to current values (and will treat them well).

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- benefit from *Valuing People Now*.

For services:

- The workforces across services are given the appropriate support and training to equip them with the values, skills and knowledge to deliver the Valuing People Now priorities for all people with learning disabilities.

COLLABORATIVE

Commissioners will:

- work together, particularly when they are close neighbours, to provide borderless services;
- understand that some administrative and political boundaries don't make much sense to people;
- develop common understandings about prices;
- share information about populations;
- commission services for all learning disabled people in need of them;
- commission services on the basis of this set of principles

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- benefit from *Valuing People Now*.

For services:

- the workforces across services are given the appropriate support and training to equip them with the values, skills and knowledge to deliver the *Valuing People Now* priorities for all people with learning disabilities.
- Learning disabilities will have a clear position in the new performance frameworks for the NHS and local authorities, and there will be a comprehensive range of data sets and reporting mechanisms.

INCLUSIVE AND SUPPORTED

Within a context of rising demand for health services from a growing and ageing population of people with Learning Disabilities services commissioned will include:

- Specialist health services to support people with learning disabilities and their families
- Specialist health services that liaise with primary, secondary and mental health services to improve outcomes for people with learning disabilities
- A clear commitment to enhance health and well being among people supported

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- get the healthcare they need and the support they need to live healthy lives;

REFLECT THE WHOLE LIFE EXPERIENCE OF INDIVIDUALS

Services commissioned will:

- Recognise and support child and adolescent services when working with young adults;
- Relate to services across the age range;
- Recognise their responsibility for life long outcomes.

Relevant Valuing People Now targets

All People with learning disabilities and their families will:

- have greater choice and control over their lives and have support to develop person centred plans;
- have the opportunity to speak up and be heard about what they want from their lives – the big decisions and the everyday choices. if they need support to do this, they should be able to get it;

5.2 Financial Framework

During 2009/10, the amount of money we expect to be spent on learning disability services for adults in Wirral is £38.9m.

At present most services are funded either by DASS or NHS Wirral. The Department of Regeneration also fund some housing services through the Supporting People Grant.

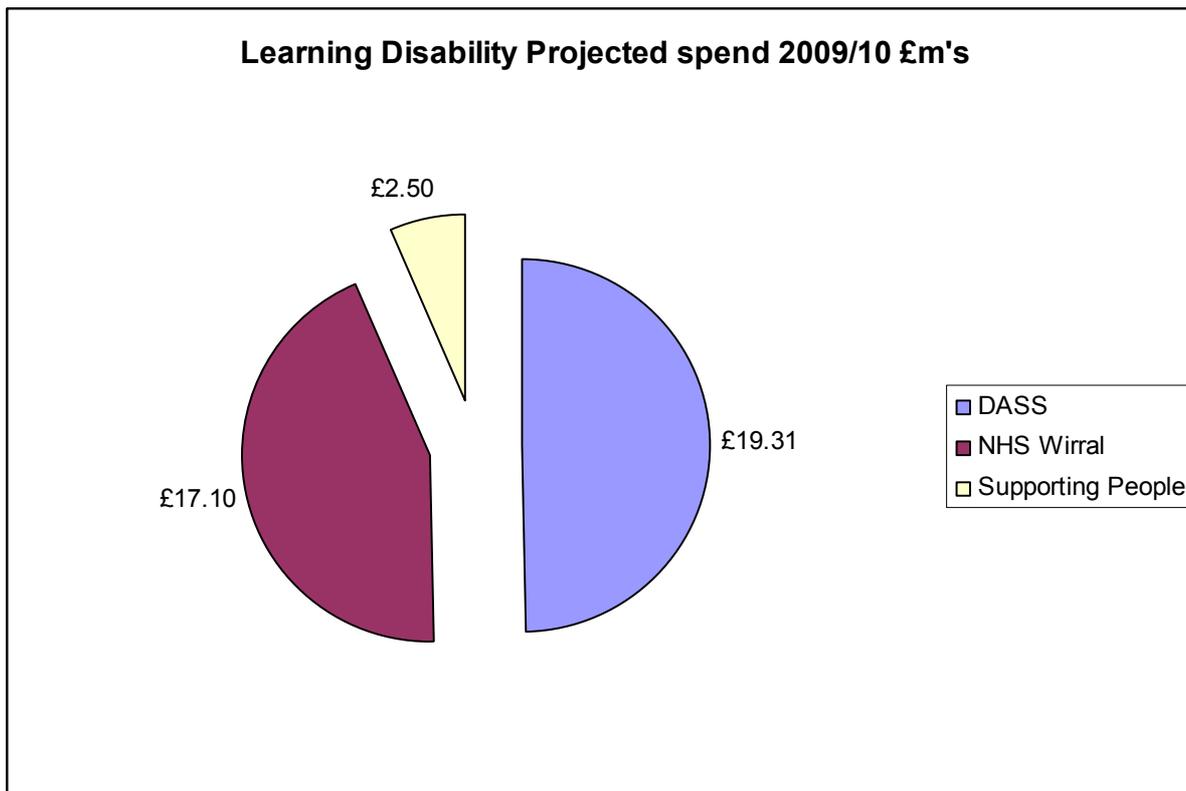


Table 1 Total Projected Spend in respect of Learning Disabilities

(Supporting People figures are based on 2008/09 spend, with no expectation of increase or decrease in 2009/10)

The following tables illustrate how the money is spent by both DASS and NHS Wirral:

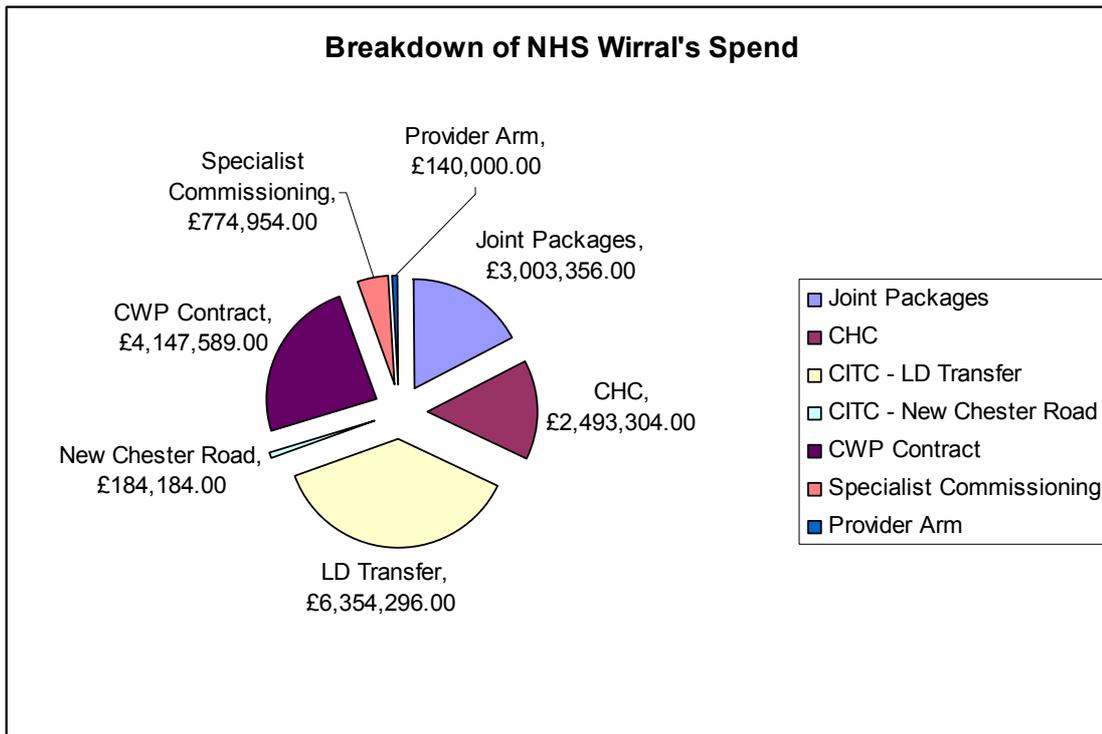


Table 2 NHS Wirral Spend on Learning Disabilities

- Specialist commissioning is what's paid for people in out of area hospital and secure units
- The money paid to the provider arm is for physiotherapy and the health facilitators
- CHC is the money spent on packages of care for people that are fully funded by NHS Wirral
- Joint packages are those where the cost is shared between DASS and NHS Wirral
- LD Transfer is the money which NHS Wirral has transferred to DASS this year
- New Chester Rd is a housing scheme which NHS Wirral still want to use
- CWP contract is the money paid to the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust for the specialist health service:
 - Specialist Health Teams
 - Thornheys (Respite)
 - Kent House (Assessment)

DASS's spend is split into what it spends in the independent and private sector and what it spends on its own services; this is shown in the tables below:

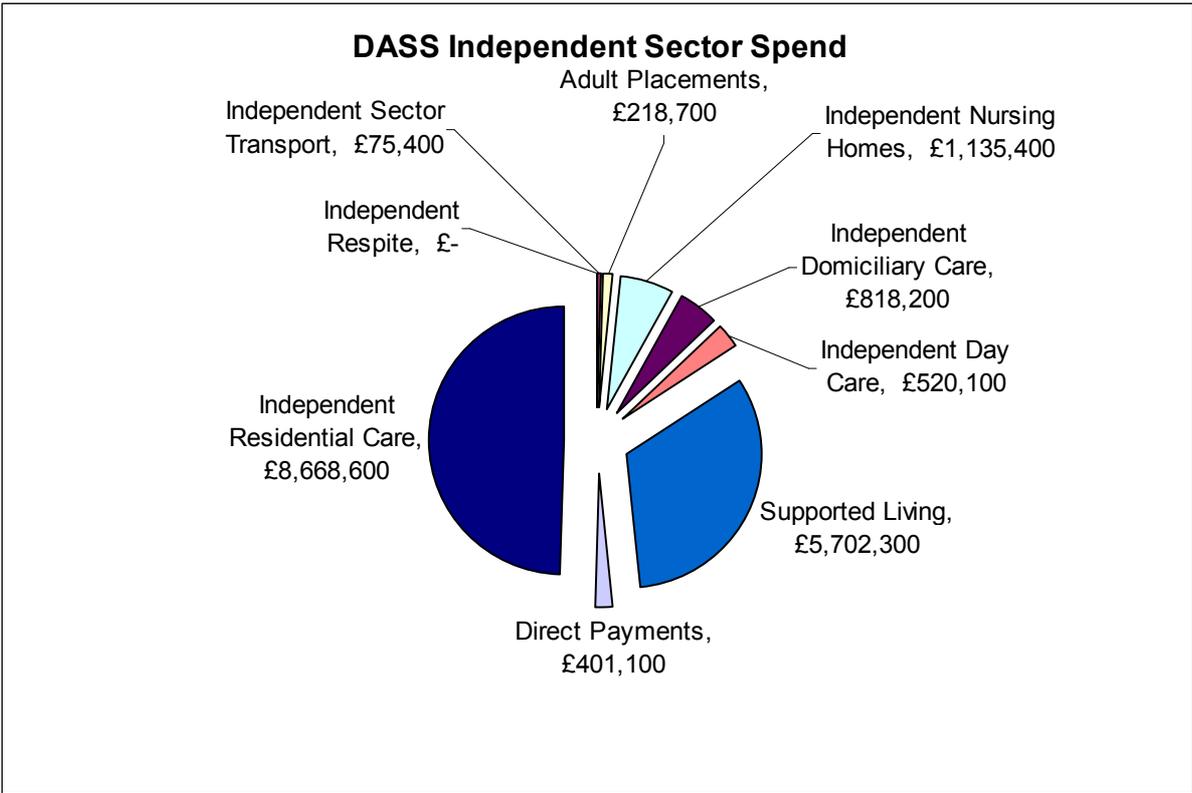


Table 3 DASS spend in the independent sector

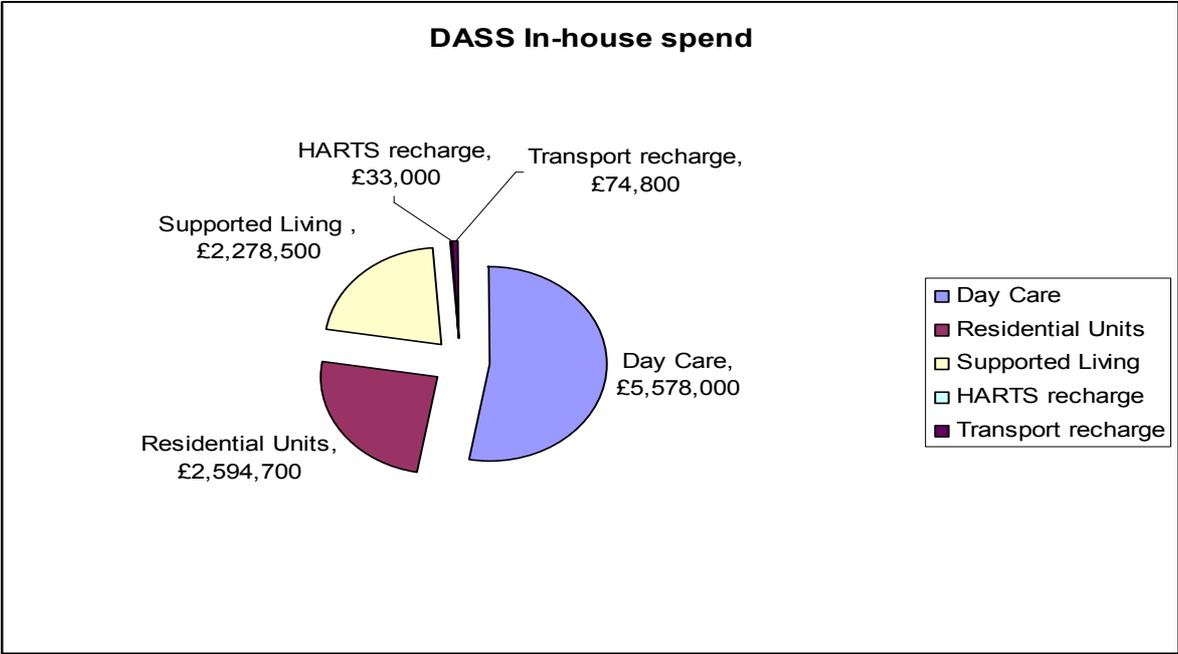


Table 4 DASS spend on in-house services

Summary of key areas of spend

- DASS expects to spend this year £12.3m on residential and nursing care for people with learning disability
- DASS expects to spend £7.9m on supported living for people with learning disability
- DASS expects to spend just over £6m on day care for people, £5.5m of which is spent on its own services

The shape of the spend in three years time following the successful implementation of this strategy will be away from residential and nursing care towards more personalised spending on services requested by people with Learning Disabilities. In essence a move away from care to support.

Comparison with other Local Authorities and PCTs

According to 'NHS Programme Budgeting' data, NHS Wirral ranked 87th out of 152 PCTs in terms of its expenditure on Learning Disability, out of the 8 PCTs in Merseyside and Cheshire, NHS Wirral was the 4th highest spender – out of every £100,000 NHS Wirral spent, £4.9m per 100,000 population.

The following table compares DASS's expenditure in 2008/09 with other Councils in the North West

The Total spend- and spend per 100,000 of the population

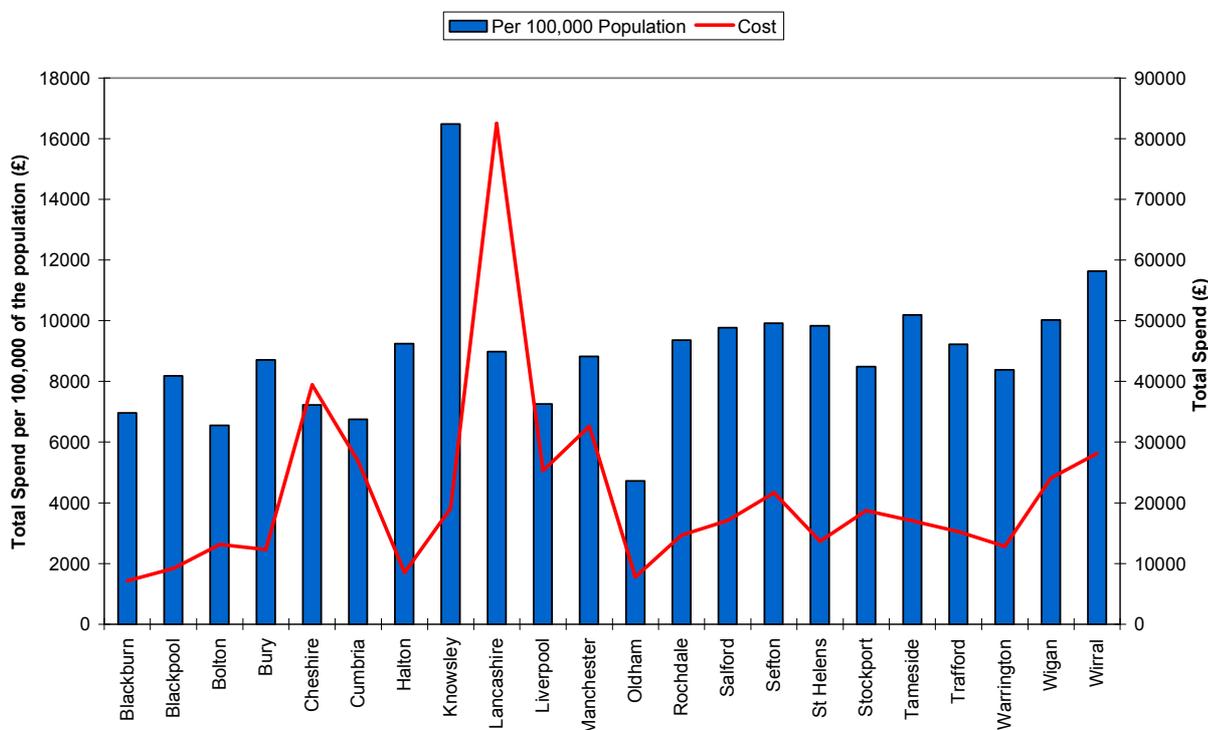


Table 5 DASS spend compared to other Council's in the North West

Although Wirral has one of the largest populations of any authority on the North West, and therefore could be expected to spend more than most other authority on any service, Table 5 also indicates that it spends more per head of population than most Councils.

5.2.1 Financial Outlook

Both NHS and Social Care finances will increasingly be under pressure over the coming years therefore it is important that value for money is considered when making decisions concerning re-designing / reconfiguring services.

There are a number of work streams that will be expected to deliver efficiency savings across the local health and social care economy:

- NHS Wirral, DASS and the Department of Regeneration are currently working together on a High Cost Complex Care Project. The purpose of the project is to
 - Confirm that current identified high cost placements for adults are appropriate and provide best value for money for the local health and social care economy
 - Describe the potential for people to be supported differently (i.e. better care for better value)
- The project to review services for people who present challenging behaviour. This project will:
 - Review current provision within Wirral and benchmark against best practice as outlined in the Mansell report
 - Review best practice nationally and locally and undertake a Gap analysis
 - analyse current costs of service to ensure we get best value
- The work of the learning disability review team focussing on high cost Supported Living provision has been successful in identifying efficiencies and the methodology, simplified to support a wider application, will be implemented by the wider service. This will be adapted to support a personalised approach to review in rolling out the offer of personal budgets.

Through focussing on delivering an efficient service with people with Learning Disabilities any duplication of tasks will be identified and wherever possible integration of services will be put in place.

Although at the time of writing these projects are at an early stage of development, it is not unreasonable to anticipate that over 2010-13 that these projects will deliver 10% in financial efficiency savings across the Health and Social Care economy.

5.3 Population

The 2008 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) contains some headline and more detailed data about people with learning disability in Wirral. Whilst some of the data e.g predicted population may need to be refined in the light of more accurate reporting systems and national data, the significant headlines are as follows:

- Large numbers of people with learning disability are unwaged; national evidence indicates that people with learning disability are more likely to be excluded from the workplace than any other group of people with a disability

- Many people with learning disability in Wirral had indicated that employment is an important issue for them
- The majority of people with learning disabilities living in residential care had been in residential care for 5 or more years
- There is a lower life expectancy within the learning disability population than within the general population and people with learning disability are more likely to have undiagnosed long term conditions

Wirral does not have a register of the number of people with a learning disability, however using figures provided by the Department of Health designed to help local authority planners and commissioners of social care provision in England, we are able to make some predictions. Table 6 illustrates the anticipated numbers of people with learning disability in Wirral between now and 2025.

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. The predicted figures indicate that the numbers of younger adults is expected to fall 741 people aged 18-24 in 2010 to 595 people in the same age group by 2025.

In the same time period, the numbers of people aged 65+ are expected to increase from 1,202 in 2010, to 1,579 in 2025

Predicted numbers of adults with learning disabilities

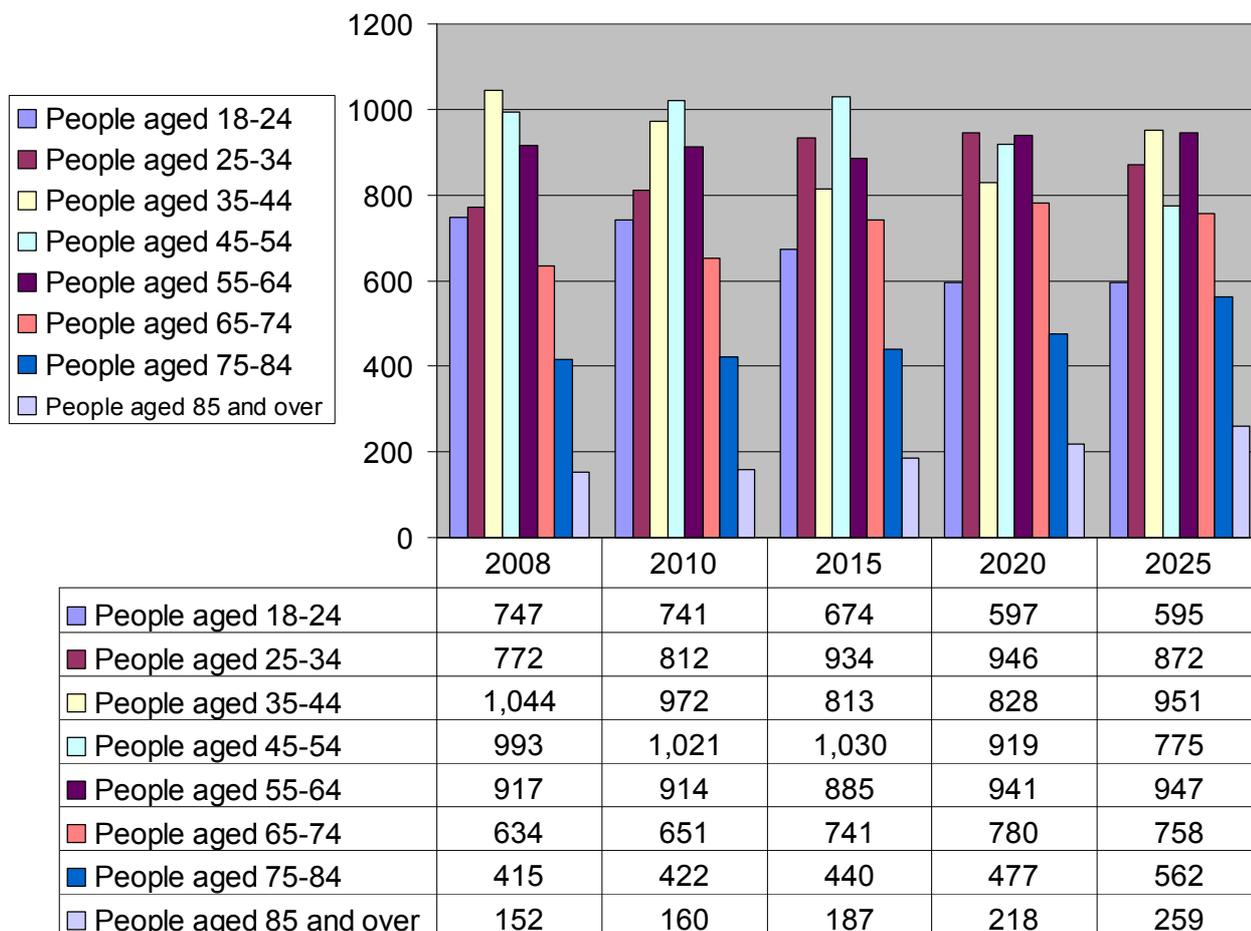


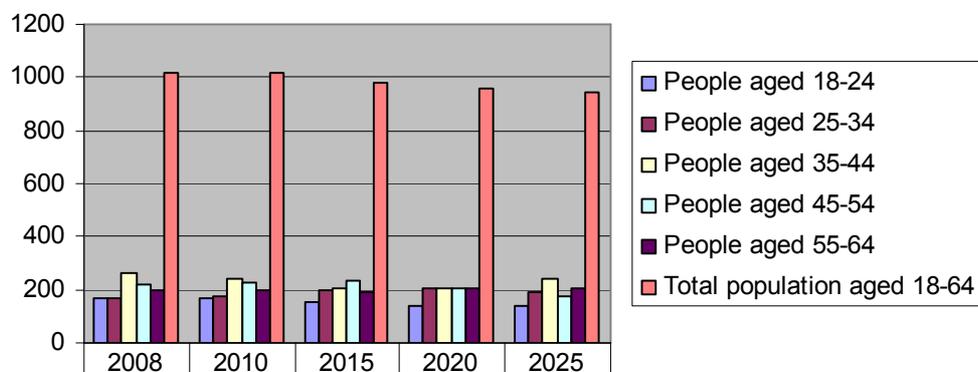
Table 6 Projected population of adults with learning disabilities

The predicted population aged 18-64 is as follows:

- 4,460 in 2010
- 4,336 in 2015
- 4,231 in 2020
- 4,140 in 2025

Whilst the extent of a person's learning disability is not of itself an indicator of them receiving a specialised service, Table 7 shows some predictions of people with learning disability who we may expect to need a specialised service.

Predicted number of people with moderate or severe learning disability likely to be in receipt of services



| | 2008 | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 | 2025 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| People aged 18-24 | 171 | 170 | 156 | 139 | 140 |
| People aged 25-34 | 166 | 174 | 201 | 203 | 187 |
| People aged 35-44 | 262 | 244 | 204 | 208 | 239 |
| People aged 45-54 | 223 | 229 | 231 | 206 | 174 |
| People aged 55-64 | 199 | 197 | 192 | 204 | 204 |
| Total population | 1,020 | 1,015 | 984 | 960 | 945 |

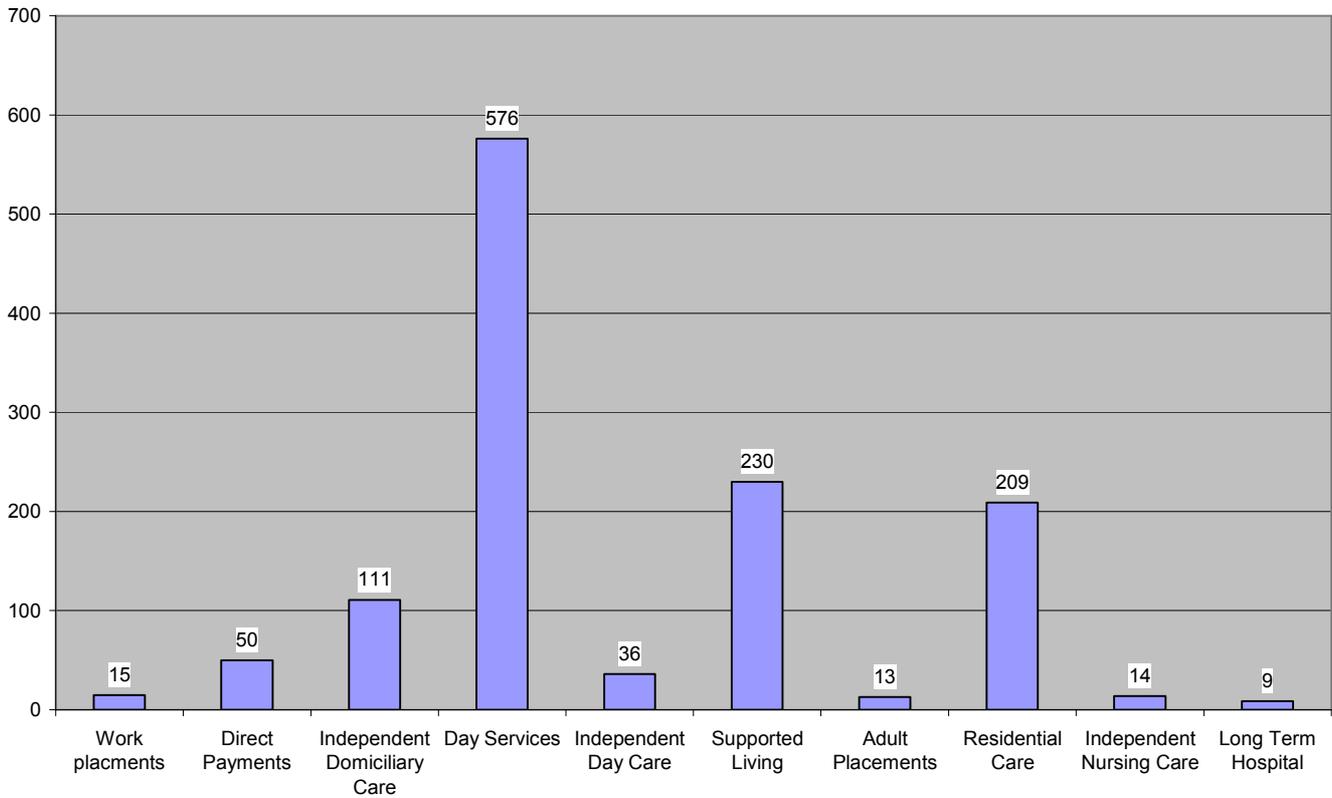
Table 7 Predicted number of people with learning disability who are likely in receipt of a service

Based on the above predicted prevalence figures, Wirral would normally be expected to provide services for approximately 25% of the learning disability population aged 18-64.

Figures from NHS Wirral and CWP about health issues indicate that over 700 people are known to the specialist learning disability health team; during the current year 557 with learning disability received a health check from their GP.

The numbers of people receiving services is illustrated in the table below

Numbers of people in receipt of services



**Increase in dependency
Increase in complexity of need**

Table 8 Numbers of people in receipt of services

The total number of people receiving services, as per above, is 1263 although there may be a number of people in receipt of more than one service e.g. people attending day services also having a direct payment. The actual numbers of people receiving services is approximately 20% greater than the numbers of people Wirral would expect to receive a service.

Whilst there are a number of people in day services and supported living services who may have high levels of dependency and more complex needs, people in nursing care and long term hospital care have higher levels of need and present with higher levels of complexity than those people in receipt of direct payments and in work placements. NHS Wirral’s expenditure on services is concentrated on a small number of people living in supported accommodation, people living in residential care and those in long term hospitals.

The major areas of expenditure by both DASS and NHS Wirral reflect investment in services for people with more complex needs and higher levels of dependency. They do not currently reflect investment in services that promote independence. A shift in investment and the roll out of personalised budgets as planned by DASS will support increased emphasis on services that promote independence.

5.4 Performance Framework

There are 3 National Indicators that relate to learning disabilities, 2 relate only to learning disability and one to all adults. They are:

- NI 130 - Social care clients receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 population
- NI 145 - Adults with learning disabilities in settled accommodation
- NI 146 - Adults with learning disabilities in employment

In addition the NHS has been asked to report on the numbers of people with learning disability who have had a health check in 2008/09; 557 people had a health check in 2008/09; no comparative figures are yet available to show how Wirral compares with other parts of the country.

The following tables illustrate Wirral's performance in respect of the National Indicators for 2008/09.

NI 130 - Social Care Clients Receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 population

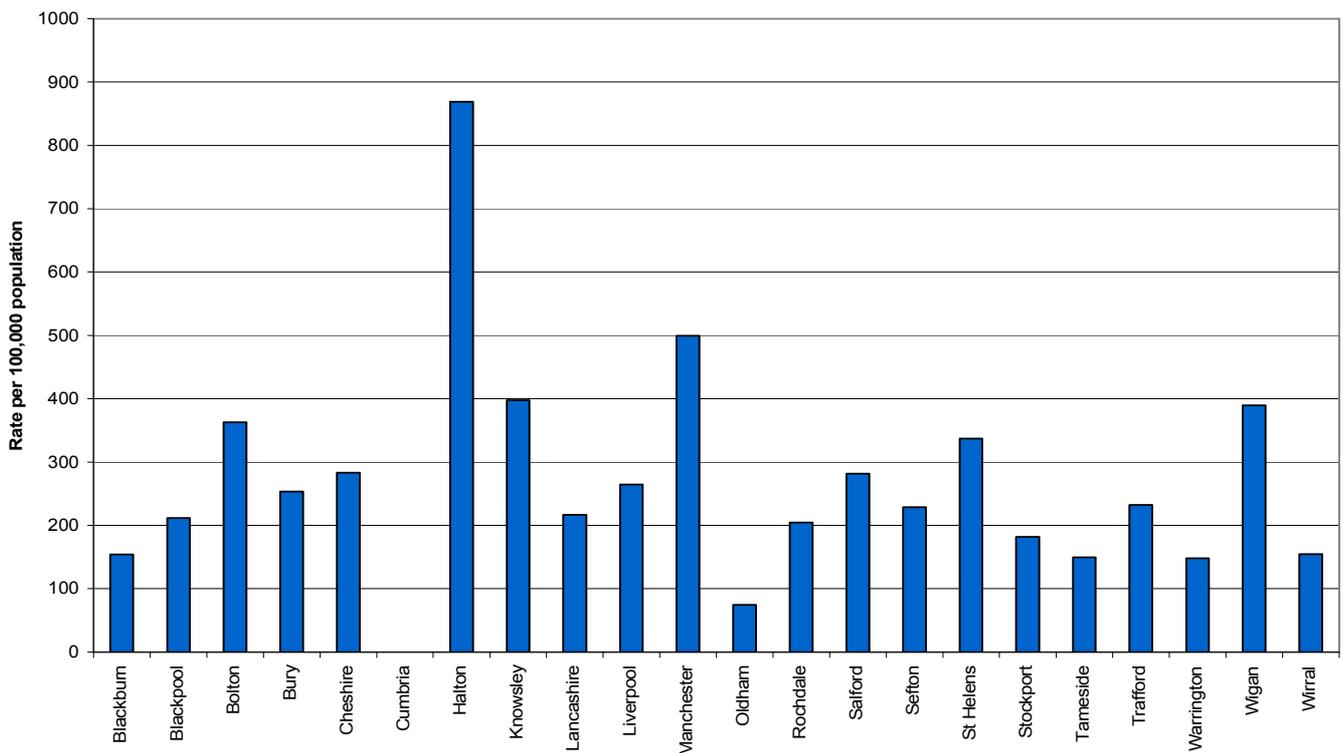


Table 6 Performance relating to self directed support

NI 145 - Adults with learning disabilities in settled accommodation

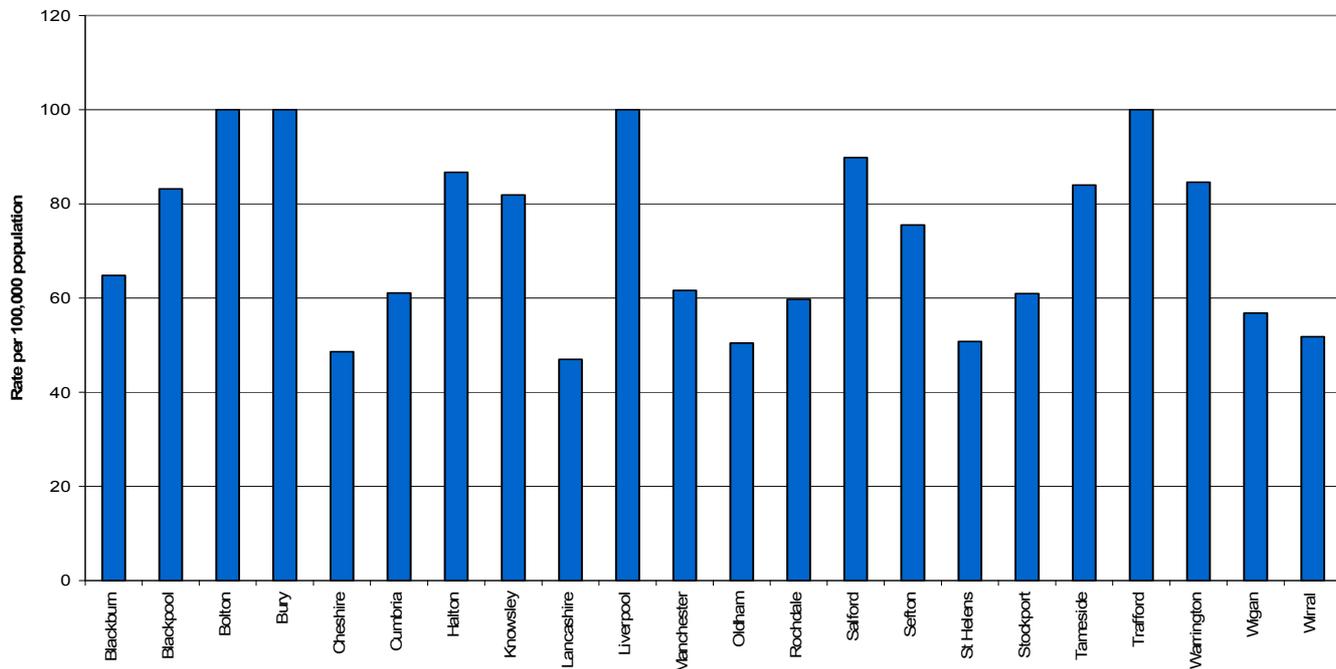


Table 7 Performance relating to adults living in settled accommodation

NI 146 - Adults with learning disabilities in employment

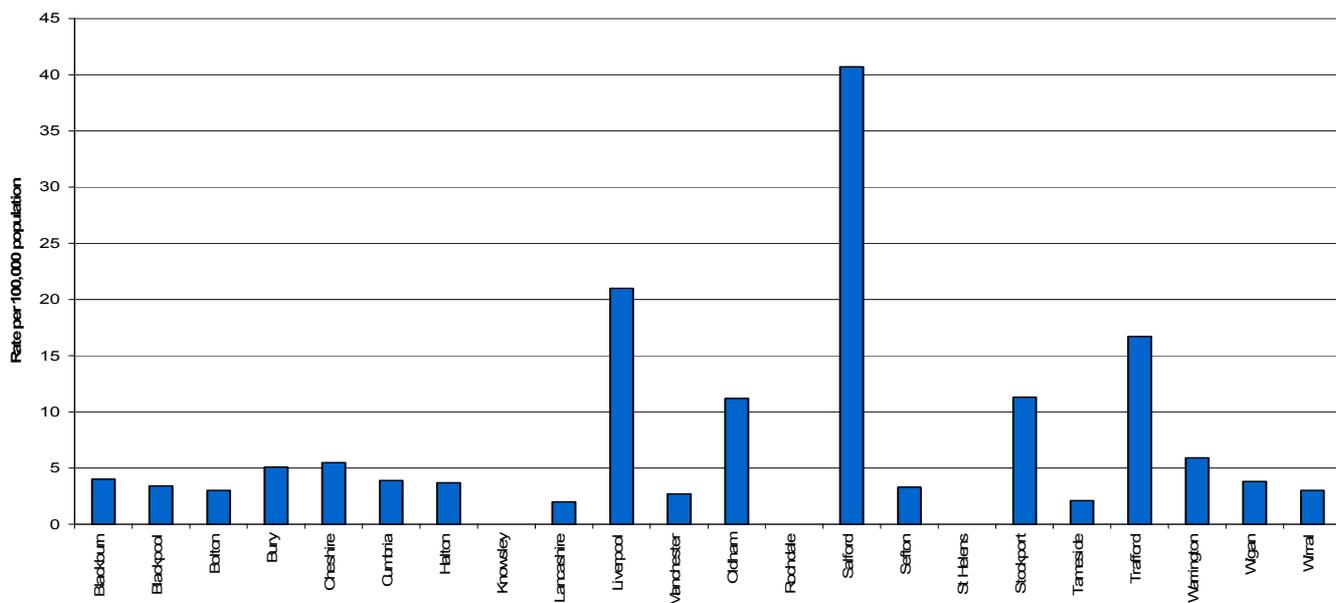


Table 8 Performance relating to people in employment

The tables above illustrate Wirral's performance in 2008/09 regarding 3 key indicators which are prioritized within Valuing People Now, self directed support, employment and people living in settled accommodation; they compare local performance with those of other authorities throughout the North West

The figures, as reported indicate that Wirral has a lot to do to bring local performance up to levels of performance demonstrated across the North West:

- In terms of employment:
 - Only 3 areas performance is worse than Wirral
 - Only 5 perform significantly better than Wirral
 - 9 Councils perform slightly better than Wirral
- In terms of settled accommodation
 - 4 Councils performance is worse than Wirral
 - 17 Councils performance is better than Wirral's
- In terms of self directed support for *all* adults:
 - 16 Council's performance is better than Wirral's
 - Only 1 Councils performance is worse than Wirral's

Plans have been formulated to address these areas; they have been identified as 3 of the strategic priorities within this commissioning framework

The Care Quality Commission's (CQC) Annual Performance Assessment Report 2008/2009 of Wirral Adult Social Care Services said that the council was performing well. One area where the council needs to do to improve was to continue to review and develop services in line with the Valuing People Now agenda. This strategy will support us in this aim.

On 15 December 2009 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published a five year plan outlining how it will drive up standards on behalf of people with learning disabilities. This is in direct response to the inpatient follow up review which was also published on 15 December 2009.

CQC said it would be scrutinising this area of care and would keep up the pressure for improvements.

Key to driving improvement will be building intelligence networks, within services, representative groups and other relevant organisations. This will feed into the regulator's picture of services and direct where inspections should take place.

Plans also include:

- a special review of physical healthcare for people with a learning disability and people with mental illness in response to the Michael's enquiry
- piloting a joint service inspection of local authorities and primary care trusts to check adult safeguarding mechanism
- consulting on a special review on the use of restraint and the health and social care needs of offenders
- involving "experts by experience" (people with a learning disability and carers) in a range of social and health care inspections and reviews

- continuing to work with the Department of Health and the Information Centre to improve available data, including performance indicators and the possibility of having a national minimum data set for learning disabilities.

5.5 Implementing Strategic Priorities

Valuing People Now sets a challenging Agenda for Health and Social Care Commissioners over the next three years.

We described our current service improvement initiatives earlier and have made some comparisons with how we perform compared with other areas in the North West. This section links our intentions for the strategic priorities described in section 3 above with the relevant Valuing People Now Targets and where possible with other National Indicators of Performance as these are understood at September 2009. needs to link into our corporate and business plan and reflect LSP / LAA priorities / community cohesion strategy etc.

The Guidance relating to World Class Commissioning for People with Learning Disabilities (due later this year), the NHS Operating Framework 2010-2011(to be published in December 2010 and any other specific priorities relating to learning disabilities e.g. priorities set by Regional Partnership Boards will mean that we will have to keep these priorities under constant review, this will be done via the Partnership Board and Joint Commissioning Group

The Local authority will use personal budgets and direct payments to support parents with a learning disability as part of their Transforming Social Care strategies. Why its important and a fundamental building block.

The Local Authority will work with the Department of Children, Schools and Families to implement Think Family (what's this?) reforms to make sure that adults, and children's services understand how to support families experiencing difficulties and deliver a joined up service.

The Local authority and its partners will work to build capacity around person centred approaches and planning so that all people with learning disabilities and their families have support to develop plans which identify what is important to them now and in the future, and support and services that are informed by their person centred plan. We use the term self directed support and support planning. Not just about person centred. This approach has been updated.

The Learning Disability Partnership Board will review its person centred planning strategies and work with key agencies to ensure that personalisation strategies include person centred planning approaches.

Personalisation strategies will include implementation of person centred planning, support planning and carers' impact assessments for all adults with complex needs or where changes are planned in their support and services.

Services will have self directed assessments and support plans for everyone they support, and to use these to review and improve the support they provide to individuals to ensure that agreed outcomes continue to be met.

There will be a greater focus on universal services and the use of community resources to help support people to live within their local community, whether or not they are eligible for social care funding. Need to reflect information needed in local communities. Work of Communities and early intervention branch.

5.5.1 An Effective Partnership Board:

Strategic Priority: The key vehicle for delivering our strategic agenda to ensure that people benefit from *Valuing People Now* is the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

We will review the Partnership Board to have an effective structure so that we can see our progress on all Valuing People Now and Valuing Employment Now targets. Some of those targets relate directly to Partnership Boards:

| |
|---|
| 1. Partnership Boards to review their board membership, processes of engagement and working practices with a view to ensuring that the board is properly constituted and led; consulted by statutory agencies; operating in line with good practice advice; and ensuring sufficient resources for the operation of the board. Directors of Adult Social Services and PCT chief executives have important leadership roles at local level as members of Learning Disability Partnership Boards. |
| 2. Partnership Boards, supported by Valuing People regional leads, to take their place at the centre of local delivery of the key objectives. This will mean building close links between Partnership Boards and the JSNA process, Local Strategic Partnerships and the Local Area Agreement, as well as local Overview and Scrutiny Committees. |
| 3. Partnership Boards to ensure that local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) 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. |
| 4. Partnership Boards to develop their own equality schemes to show how they are implementing and monitoring equalities legislation. |
| 5. Partnership Boards to ensure that all relevant bodies (PCTs, local authorities etc) are using accessible information when supporting parents with a learning disability and that their services are accessible, as required by disability discrimination legislation. |
| 5. Partnership Boards to work with key agencies to ensure that personalisation strategies include SDS and support planning person centred planning approaches. Personalisation strategies need to include support planning and carers' impact assessments for all adults with complex needs or where changes are planned in their support and services. |
| 6. Partnership Boards to review their person centred planning strategies in light of the person centred planning guidance personal budgets |
| 7. Partnership Boards to ensure that, by 2012, all young people with statements of special educational needs who have learning disabilities have person centred reviews from the ages of 14 to 19 which actively involve the young person and their family. |
| 8. Partnership Boards to make sure that access to the post-16 education and training sector is fully included in the local strategy for responsibilities returning to local authorities. |
| 9. Partnership Boards to support local service commissioners and providers to develop systems and processes which will enable people with learning disabilities to build and sustain relationships . |
| 10. Partnership Boards to develop an information strategy to publicise the availability of advocacy regionally and locally and to share best practice. |
| 11. Partnership Boards and primary care trusts (PCTs) to ensure that people with learning disabilities and their family carers can act as partners in improving healthcare for people with learning disabilities. |
| 12. Partnership Boards to engage with local transport plans to ensure the effective inclusion of |

people with learning disabilities.

13. Government Offices for the Regions (Home Office lead) to support Partnership Boards to engage with local **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships** and to identify a **hate crime lead** and a link person responsible for working with **Local Safeguarding Children Boards**.

In October 2009 the Department of Health published “Good Learning Disability Partnership Boards: Making it Happen for everyone”. This sets out arrangements that will help our local board’s development.

- Partnership Boards are now part of a new governance structure that allows for the reporting of local data to the new Regional Learning Disability Programme Boards. This will help the National Learning Disability Programme Board.
- The Care Quality Commission has also given an opportunity for Boards to comment on the performance of all NHS bodies in their local area as part of their annual assessment (‘the annual health check’). This is an important lever for local Boards to help ensure that people with learning disabilities get good, fair and safe treatment and support from health services in their local area.
- From April 2010, all Partnership Boards should produce an annual report detailing progress in implementing the commissioning strategy. The annual report will bring together all the information about people with learning disabilities and their carers, including their needs, services and future plans, to help steer local commissioning. It can be used to identify those areas where insufficient progress has been made and where local areas may need regional or national input. The report will also be an important aid to planning and to set the agenda for the coming year.

What we will do to make this happen

By April 2010 we will have completed the annual reporting template on local progress in the implementation of *Valuing People Now* in 2009–10. The Partnership Board will be responsible for ensuring the targets set out in this strategy are delivered and reported on through the annual reporting process.

What will we do to make this happen

- We have re-launched Wirral’s Partnership Board
- We will use the National Guidance to determine how best to ensure the Partnership Board fulfils its functions
- We will use the awaited national reporting framework to help determine how effective Wirral’s Partnership Board is

5.5.2 Information:

Strategic Priority: Securing sound information from Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and collation of information from person centred plans to support robust commissioning of new models of service provision and decommissioning of inappropriate models.

National Valuing People Now has targets that have prompted some local projects that will make clear the needs of discrete groups of people in our population of people with learning disabilities:

| |
|--|
| Joint Strategic Needs Assessments to identify the housing needs of people with learning disabilities in order to inform strategic planning, including the number of people with learning disabilities living with family carers over 70, and those with complex needs. |
| Commissioners and service providers to address the recommendations of the Mansell Report and to include people with complex needs in the development of self-directed services in their area. |
| Local planners and service deliverers to: include and take account of the issues for people with more complex needs , from black and racial minorities communities , with autistic spectrum conditions and who have offended ; |
| Wherever possible, transition plans and year 9 reviews to address future accommodation choices and to contain a section on health needs and start the development of a health action plan. |
| Access to the post-16 education and training sector to be fully included in the local strategy for responsibilities returning to local authorities. |

Wirral produced its Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for people with a learning disability in September 2008. This provides a helpful general overview of the needs of local people with a learning disability, but has also identified key gaps in our knowledge about many of the groups highlighted in Valuing People Now.

There has also been some further national research estimating the needs of people who have Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities.

In addition, 'Options for Change' identified that there may be a significant number of people currently using DASS services, including many with high levels of need, whose care is not being actively managed or reviewed at present.

Therefore further work is needed to strengthen our understanding of the needs of People with Learning Disabilities so that we can make the right commissioning decisions about future services.

What we will do to make this happen:

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is used to inform commissioning. From this information 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.

- We will also have reviewed and refined our transition planning arrangements between Child and Family services, DASS and NHS Wirral.
- By April 2010 we will have clear arrangements in place to take regular account of the issues for people from black and racial minorities communities in our commissioning decisions.
- By April 2010 we will have the findings of our review of Wirral's services against the recommendations of the **Mansell Report**. This will help us decide how we should commission services for people with complex needs.
- By June 2010 all people currently using DASS services, including many with high levels of need, whose care is not being actively managed or reviewed at present, will have had a review. The reviews will help us decide what to commission better to meet their needs and aspirations.
- By June 2010 we will have a clear indication of the number of people with learning disabilities living with family carers over 70.

The need for improved and joint measures of local council and NHS performance:

A National challenge for services outlined in Valuing People Now is

“Learning disabilities will have a clear position in the new performance frameworks for the NHS and local authorities, and there will be a comprehensive range of data sets and reporting mechanisms. “

The Department of Health published its proposed annual self-assessment template for reporting local progress in the implementation of *Valuing People Now* in 2009–10 in the “Good Learning Disability Partnership Boards: Making it Happen for everyone”. The template asks for detailed information on the following areas:

- The Local picture (information from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), or Care Quality Commission self-assessment
- Partnership Board arrangements
- The overall budget for services for adults with learning disabilities across health and social care
- The health of people with learning disabilities
- Where people live
- Provider market
- Employment
- Advocacy and leadership
- Family Carers
- Parents with learning disabilities
- Transition
- Personalisation
- Workforce development
- Hate crime

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Quality assurance and monitoring○ Commissioning |
|--|

And brings together all of the existing targets and information from

- National Indicator Set
- Adult Social Care Combined Activity Return (ASC-CAR)
- PSS EX1 and RAP returns
- Skills for Care National Minimum Data Set for Social Care (NMDS-SC)
- Integrated Local Area Workforce Strategy (InLAWS)
- Social Services Staffing Collection (SSDS001)
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

What we will do to make this happen

The NHS North West 2009-10 Operating Plan, Self Assessment Tool also provides some indication of what PCTs are likely to see in the Performance Framework:

- Ensure general health services make reasonable adjustments for people with learning disabilities.
- Ensure they secure general health services that are fully compliant with disability Equality Duty paying particular attention to Acute Hospital Provision.
- Provision of health checks using either a local enhanced scheme or existing Directed Enhanced Scheme – in particular for those young people in transition coming into adult services.
- Systematically address the recommendations made in Healthcare for All (Independent Inquiry).
- Identify people with a learning disability in the criminal justice system and offer appropriate health support.
- Identify the numbers and needs of people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.
- Collect accurate information and data on the associated health needs of people with a learning disability.
- Identify the numbers of premature and unexpected deaths amongst people with a learning disability.

5.5.3. Transition:

Strategic Priority: Facilitating the smooth transition of young people to adulthood.

Support at transition to adulthood is vital to enable disabled young people to gain independence, choice and control over the assistance they need, and achieve their aspirations. Evidence suggests the following barriers to smooth transition to adult services for children with disabilities;

- a lack of young person and family input into the transition planning process so that the aspirations and ambitions of the young person are often not known and realized, with transition planning meetings sometimes not involving the child and family.
 - a lack of multi-agency working to support transition and confusion over roles and responsibilities in transition planning.
 - a gulf between child and adult services in health and social services.
 - the timing of preparation for transition often does not take into account the complexity of need, and
 - the lack of recognition that transition occurs at the appropriate time for the individual rather than at a specific point in time for all young people.'
- From Aiming High for Disabled Children: better support for families (2007)

Some of the VALUING PEOPLE NOW Targets relate directly to Transition:

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|---|
| Wherever possible, transition plans and year 9 reviews (at 14 years old) to address future accommodation choices and to contain a section on health needs and start the development of a health action plan. |
|---|

| |
|--|
| Access to the post-16 education and training sector to be fully included in the local strategy for responsibilities returning to local authorities. |
|--|

| |
|--|
| Partnership Boards to ensure that, by 2012, all young people with statements of special educational needs who have learning disabilities have person centred reviews SDS and support planning from the ages of 14 to 19 which actively involve the young person and their family. |
|--|

Our vision is for a Transitions Team made up of personnel from Children and Young People's Department, Department of Adult Social Services, Connexions, and Health with input from Benefits Advisors, Housing and Employment will be sited within the new build Special needs 16-19 college on the Twelve Quays campus. The team will provide advice and support to children and families, professionals and carers who fall within the transitions protocol including those that will require statutory services case management through the transitions process. It is envisaged that the Transitions Team will cover 14-19 year olds, earlier than the current age of 16 years, extending up to 25 years old for those in further or higher education, mirroring the LSC current commitment which will continue after its responsibilities are transferred to the Local Authority in April 2010.

Transitions planning from 14 years old (Year 9 reviews) has begun, and is becoming more person centred, including children and their families. The Transitions Team will lead on ensuring that all plans include children and their families and will report to the Partnership Board on performance.

The commissioning of services through the joint commissioning group will include commissioners from children's, adults and health services to ensure continuity of services and a smooth experience of transitions.

People with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities and their carers who have experienced transitions will be asked to support and 'buddy' with people currently going through the Transition from childhood to adulthood, as the greatest experts are the people who have been there before.

People experiencing transitions and their carers will be able to elect a person who uses services and a carer onto the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board and Transitions will be a standing item on the Board's agenda.

What we will do to make this happen:

- By the end of January 2010 Self Directed Assessments will replace the use of Common Assessment Framework for young people aged 18.
- The Learning Disability Joint Commissioning Group will be extended to include CYPD representation
- By the end of December 2009, we will have agreed a revised Transition Protocol
- By 4th January 2010 the proposed Transitions Team will come into existence and will be based in the Department of Adult Social Services
- The Transitions Team will move to its base at the Twelve Quays Campus, as soon as the College for 16-19 years special needs young people has been built.
- From January 2010 Transitions Team will extend its remit to cover 14 year olds
- By December 2010 we will review the impact and opportunities presented by the transfer of LSC monies to the Local Authority in April 2010
- By December 2010 we will review the impact and opportunities presented by the changes to the Connexions contract with Wirral Council in April 2010

5.5.4 Personalisation:

**Strategic Priority: The establishment of effective community learning disability teams
Promoting individualised person-centred planning of care and support – too often people are expected to fit in with services rather than services being tailored to individual needs. This encompasses full roll out of Person Centred Plans and Health Action Plans together with ensuring access to good advocacy services.**

Some of the VALUING PEOPLE NOW Targets relate directly to Personalisation:

- | |
|---|
| 1) Personalisation strategies to include implementation of person centred planning, support planning and carers' impact assessments for all adults with complex needs or where changes are planned in their support and services. |
| 2) Services to have person centred plans for everyone they support, and to use these to review and improve the support they provide to individuals to ensure that agreed outcomes continue to be met. |

Valuing People asserts that people with learning disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else and that agencies should enable people with learning disabilities to lead full and purposeful lives within their community and to develop a range of friendships, activities and relationships. Accessing universal services such as health, further education, housing and employment, and promoting choice and control by supporting people with Learning Disabilities to be in charge of their finances through their own personal budget are key parts of the personalisation agenda.

With regards to further education, in Wirral there are a limited number of further education institutions, 'Wirral Met College' and Wirral Sixth Form, and the former struggles to meet the demand for its courses from people with a Learning Disability.

Wirral has completed phase 1 of its personal budgets pilot and is developing proposals for phase 2 which will see a minimum of 200 people receiving personal budgets in Wirral. It has been agreed by Cabinet that phase 2 will see Personal Budgets being offered to all people who use Learning Disability services in Wirral, as well as people receiving services from the Birkenhead Locality and the Stroke worker. The services currently offered to people with Learning Disabilities are likely to change and need to adapt in tune with people's expressed choice as they gain more control over what services they need through their own personal budgets.

The Commissioning Specialist Adult Learning Disability Health Services - Good Practice Guidance (DoH 2007) says that "Specialist learning disability health staff are most likely to be employed within the local NHS, with those not in in-patient settings, operating as part of, and being accountable within, a multi-disciplinary structure such as a community learning disability team (CLDT) that is led or jointly led by the local authority. "

The potential for moving to this good practice model in light of the developing Personalisation agenda needs to be explored in Wirral as part of a move to define outcomes and agree service specifications for all aspects of Community Learning Disability Teams.

The workforces across services will need to be given the appropriate support and training to equip them with the values, skills and knowledge to deliver the *Valuing People Now* priorities for all people with learning disabilities.

What we will do to make this happen

- The Personal Budgets Pilot phase 2 will have commenced following Cabinet approval on December 9th 2009, to commence in January 2010 and the proposal is for all people with a Learning Disability who receive a service from the Department of Adult Social Services to be offered a Personal Budget by July 2010. The Reform Unit in Department of Adult Social Services will support the implementation of the Personal Budget developments and progress will be reviewed in March 2010 and then again in July 2010. Personal Budgets will then be offered to all people who receive services from the Department of Adult Social Services.
- By July 2010 all people with a Learning Disability currently using DASS services will have had a review. The review will use a self directed assessment, and people with Learning Disabilities will be offered a Personal Budget. If this is taken up then the person with a Learning Disability and the people closest to them will develop a Support Plan which will set out how their care and support will be delivered. The support plans will help us decide what to commission better to meet their needs and aspirations.
- By November 2010 we will have reviewed practice in Wirral against the Commissioning Specialist Adult Learning Disability Health Services - Good Practice Guidance and be able to describe clear commissioning expectations for Community Learning Disability Teams.
- By March 2010 the LD Partnership Board will have approved a joint workforce strategy that gives workforces across services the appropriate support and training to equip them with the values, skills and knowledge to deliver the *Valuing People Now* priorities. This strategy will meet the requirements set out in the Best Practice Guidance for Learning Disability Partnership Boards: Workforce toolkit 25 Nov 2009.

5.5.5 Integrated Services / Localisation / Specialisation:

Strategic Priority: Allied to the extension of the Personalisation agenda and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, we will identify the optimal positioning of learning disability service along continuum of local to specialist.

Services for people with Learning Disabilities are in the main centralised currently, but by 2012 Learning Disabilities services will be multi-disciplinary teams delivering integrated services in localities, ensuring people with Learning Disabilities are able to access services local to them.

What we will do to make this happen

- By November 2010 we will have reviewed practice in Wirral against the Commissioning Specialist Adult Learning Disability Health Services - Good Practice Guidance and be able to describe clear commissioning expectations for Community Learning Disability Teams.
- By July 2010 we will have evaluated phase two of our Personalisation pilot and have some clear indication of where support and services should best sit to meet the expectations of Valuing People Now.
- By June 2011 we will have agreed the model of support and services along a continuum of local to specialist, and have a plan to implement any necessary changes in the way we support people.

5.5.6 Access to Health Services:

Strategic Priority:

- Ensuring equitable access to health care and to address the health inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities
- Taking a strategic approach to the commissioning for specialist healthcare services.

Valuing People Now says

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| Partnership Boards and primary care trusts (PCTs) to ensure that people with learning disabilities and their family carers can act as partners in improving healthcare for people with learning disabilities. |
| Commissioners and service providers to address the recommendations of the Mansell Report and to include people with complex needs in the development of self-directed services in their area. |
| All relevant bodies to follow the guidance and/or use toolkits around health services for people with learning disabilities. This includes: <i>the Specialist Learning Disabilities Commissioning Guidance 2007;</i> the World Class Commissioning guide for people with learning disabilities (when published); guidance on mental health; and health action planning and health facilitation. |
| Strategic health authorities and PCTs to support local services to address good practice for local services, as outlined in Healthcare for All |
| PCT chief executives to have an important leadership role at local level and as members of Learning Disability Partnership Boards |
| PCT and NHS trust disability equality schemes to include specific action to address health inequalities facing people with learning disabilities. |

What we will do to make this happen

By March 2010 we will have revised our Health Action Plan to ensure that

- general health services make reasonable adjustments for people with learning disabilities.
- General health services are fully compliant with their Disability Equality Duty paying particular attention to Acute Hospital Provision.
- There are health checks using either a local enhanced scheme or existing Directed Enhanced Scheme – in particular for those young people in transition coming into adult services.

- We systematically address the recommendations made in Healthcare for All (Independent Inquiry).
- People with a learning disability in the criminal justice system are offered appropriate health support.
- We can identify the numbers and needs of people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.
- We collect accurate information and data on the associated health needs of people with a learning disability.
- We can identify the numbers of premature and unexpected deaths amongst people with a learning disability.
- By April 2010 we will have the findings of our review of Wirral's services against the recommendations of the **Mansell Report**. This will help us decide how we should commission services for people with complex needs.

5.5.7. Real Homes:

Strategic Priority: Developing a housing strategy for people who have a learning disability

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| 1) Partnership Boards to ensure that local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) 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. |
| 2) Joint Strategic Needs Assessments to identify the housing needs of people with learning disabilities in order to inform strategic planning, including the number of people with learning disabilities living with family carers over 70, and those with complex needs. |
| 3) Local authorities to facilitate people's access to housing of their choice, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. |
| 4) Local authorities to have an appropriate housing strategy reflecting local population housing needs, including those of people with learning disabilities. |

Officials from the Government's Department of Communities and Local Government spent two days in Wirral in October 2009. The purpose of the visit was to assess progress in respect of establishing settled accommodation arrangements for the client groups covered by PSA 16;

- people with mental health problems
- people with learning disabilities
- care leavers
- offenders

They identified good practice and made suggestions on improvement where necessary. In respect of learning disability the key observations and recommendations were:

Observations:

- good range of providers (30 accredited providers)
- holistic assessment in place which includes housing
- DASS are undertaking work to update housing needs of people with learning disabilities
- Membership of the Supporting People Core Strategy Group and Commissioning Body has been extended to include LD Commissioning Manager.

- PCT have invested additional funding to develop a pathway for people who may have delayed discharge
- some small numbers of people have ended up with personalised package and indicative budget.

Recommendations:

- there needs to be a clear focus on enabling and choice
- partnership working with housing and supporting people needs to be strengthened
- a number of people remain in residential accommodation who could be in supported living accommodation.
- the quality of learning disabilities data which forms part of the national indicator set needs to be reviewed.

There are opportunities with the expansion of housing availability, but some nervousness from carers and Housing Associations alike over the ability of some people with Learning Disabilities to manage a tenancy or mortgage.

What we will do to make this happen

- There is a National Indicator (NI 145) for services users in settled accommodation. The 'Having a Life' Subgroup of the Learning Disability Partnership Board will develop an action plan to ensure that we increase the number of people living in settled accommodation, and they will review performance in this area.
- The Information section above describes a lot of work that needs to be done so that we know the needs of different groups of people who have a learning disability e.g. people from black and racial minorities communities, young people, people with learning disabilities living with family carers over 70, people with complex needs, people who have Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities etc. That needs assessment work will help the development of a housing strategy that will ensure that people with learning disability have better access to the right accommodation when they need it.

5.5.8. Real Jobs:

Strategic Priority: Developing an employment strategy for people who have a learning disability that meets the expectations of Valuing Employment Now.

Valuing People Now expects that

Every local area to have a **multi-agency employment strategy**, linked to Public Service Agreement 16.

And Valuing Employment Now expects Learning Disability Partnership Boards to

•ensure that there is a process for bringing together key local stakeholders to develop local plans for implementing *Valuing Employment Now* and get their agreement through the board;

produce an annual report for their regional board, signed off by people with learning disabilities and family carers who are members of the board. This will include a section on progress on the local implementation of *Valuing Employment Now* (beginning in March 2010); and

make sure that the employment of people with learning disabilities is prominent in their plans, particularly with local authorities that have prioritised this in their Local Area Agreement and linked to the Local Employment Partnership.

A conference was held on learning disabilities and employment in Wirral in October 2009 “Valuing People Now Making It Happen In Wirral”. The top issues and suggestions were;

- Wirral Council and NHS Wirral could do a lot more to employ people with learning disabilities.
- Not everyone needs training to get into employment.
- Need to help employers identify where to go when employing people with a learning disability.
- Need to raise expectations/aspirations of people with learning disabilities living in poorer areas.
- All jobs are valuable – whether cleaning or packing - people can progress – a job is a job.
- Being in employment increases a person’s circle of friends and increases self-esteem.
- Give young people with disabilities aspirations of working.
- Person Centred Planning should include aspirations for employment.
- Payment/ benefit difficulties
- Too much red tape in getting people into employment.
- Employers need more support.
- Universal employment agencies need to address the needs of people with learning disabilities
- Emphasis should be on the ‘ability’ to do a job rather than a ‘disability’.

Wirral 2025, our Sustainable Community Strategy shows that Wirral was ranked as the eighth most deprived area of the country in the 2007 IMD indices of deprivation in relation to employment and significant concentrations of economic inactivity are focused in the east of the borough matching similar inequalities in health, educational achievement and crime. This is an indication of the scale of the challenge faced in Wirral and the need for a focused and co-ordinated approach to tackling worklessness and economic inactivity.

For every 100 people of working age in the borough, there are only 61 jobs. The Council has a full employment strategy that has been developed to create a workforce suitable for the demands of employers. It includes a target employment rate of 76% by 2012.

While the employment rate of disabled people in Britain overall has risen steadily, that of people with learning disabilities is much lower – just 10% for people receiving adult social services. We have a big challenge ahead as only 15 of all of the people with a learning disability who are of working age in the borough known to social services are in paid jobs.

Valuing Employment Now says that 65% of people with learning disabilities would like a paid job and sets a target that by 2025: ‘*any disabled person who wants a job, and needs support to get a job, should be able to do so*’. We will be working hard across a number of key areas to achieve this goal:

- i. *Growing the presumption of employability*
- ii. *Joint working to create employment paths for individuals*
- iii. *Better work preparation at school, college and adult learning*

- iv. *The role of personal budgets and social care to support adults with learning disabilities into work*
- v. *Increasing high quality job coaching*
- vi. *Clearing up confusion about the benefits system*
- vii. *Promoting self-employment*
- viii. *Encouraging employers to see the business case*
- ix. *Better support for the most excluded adults with learning disabilities*
- x. *People with learning disabilities and their families leading the way*
- xi. *Better data and performance management*

People with Learning Disabilities offer a motivated and committed contribution to the workforce, and the involvement of the Strategic Development lead for the Council on the Partnership Board, incorporating people with Learning Disabilities into the council's employment strategy is key to delivering positive outcomes.

The council will take a lead on this by permanently employing a group of people with Learning Disabilities in the Department of Adult Social Services through Learning Disability Development Fund to quality assure the work of the department.

What we will do to make this happen

- There is a National Indicator (NI 146) for people with learning disabilities in employment. The 'Having a Life' Subgroup of the Learning Disability Partnership Board will develop an action plan to ensure we increase the numbers of people living in paid employment, and they will review performance in this area
- The 'Having a Life' Sub Group will also oversee the development of an employment strategy that will set out an action plan with key performance milestones to ensure that by 2025 any person with learning disability *who wants a job, and needs support to get a job, should be able to do so*. The employment strategy should be available by October 2010.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

A full Equality Impact Assessment will be completed in partnership with people with Learning Disabilities and their carers by the end of March 2010 as to the implications of this strategy.

APPENDIX ONE

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