

WIRRAL COUNCIL

DELEGATED DECISION BY PORTFOLIO HOLDER

12 JUNE 2013

SUBJECT:	ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSIONING PLANS
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE JONES
KEY DECISION?)	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The subject of this report is the next stage development in relation to a comprehensive and complementary commissioning framework as outlined within the overarching strategy approved by Council entitled 'Shaping Tomorrow'. Shaping Tomorrow (Appendix 1) was developed to make sure that the principles of personalisation and the transformation of adult social care which will result from it are fully embedded in commissioning and business processes and practices within Wirral.
- 1.2 Shaping Tomorrow now informs a clear direction of travel for future service provision and the Early Intervention and Prevention Commissioning Plan (Appendix 2), linked Carers Strategy (Appendix 3) and the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan (Appendix 4) are essential components to capture both national and local drivers to ensure the transformation of adult social services and contribute to the Council's challenging financial context.
- 1.3 The Early Intervention and Prevention Plan is an aspect of this change agenda and will strive to provide a rationale for commissioning intentions and a framework through which Adult Social Care can proactively engage with all sectors and interested parties to ensure best use of available resources, that lead to positive outcomes for people by promoting independence and wellbeing. The Plan has been built up through extensive engagement with the Voluntary, Community and Faith sectors but importantly now seeks to move away from a sector led approach to one based upon themed areas to promote and maintain continued choice and control for individual members of our communities. The Plan has also been the catalyst to enable the review of existing resource deployments and is contained within the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme.
- 1.4 The refresh of the Carers Strategy is linked to all Commissioning Plans and recognises the cross cutting role play by carers to support vulnerable adults both known to Adult Social Services but equally to many members of our communities who are sustained by family members who discharge caring responsibilities. The Carers Strategy seeks to recognise the needs of carers in their own right, one in every eight people living in Wirral provide support to a family member or friend because they have ill-health, a disability (physical, learning, mental health), drugs or alcohol problem or are amongst the growing numbers of older people who are frail. We therefore

recognise that Carers need to be supported to enable them to continue to carry out their caring responsibilities.

- 1.5 The Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan confirms Wirral Council, Adult Social Services Department's commitment to Think Local, Act Personal and the Making it Real markers as one approach to delivering real change and positive outcomes for people. Think Local, Act Personal is the sector wide commitment to transform adult social care through personalisation and community based support. The Commissioning Plan also recognises that Wirral spends 31% of its adult social care budget on Learning Disability services which is commensurate with both national budget (30%) and regional comparator councils (30%). However within these overall spending patterns, comparative analysis demonstrates a number of variations in relation to the comparator average. The Plan is therefore supporting the extensive review and modernisation of Learning Disabilities services and the best use of available resources.
- 1.6 The Commissioning Plans will endeavour to respond to the knowledge that forecast demand for services is running ahead of the money to pay for them and therefore we will consider all current spending as we move forward. We will also strive to ensure coherence and consistency in relation to the Council's Corporate Plan and the financial imperatives confronting the Council.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The overarching commissioning strategy 'Shaping Tomorrow' has been developed to make sure the principles of personalisation and the transformation of adult social care which will result from it are fully embedded in commissioning and business processes and practices to ensure best use of available resources and positive outcomes for people. As part of this framework we will have three Commissioning Plans to provide a comprehensive and complementary approach to respond to the needs of our residents and the subject of this Report is the Early Intervention and Prevention Commissioning Plan and the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan and the cross cutting Carers Strategy.
- 2.2 The Early Intervention and Prevention Plan seeks to establish:
- A framework to deliver better outcomes.
 - A framework to ensure the best use of preventative and early intervention resources.
 - A framework for the allocation of adult social care resources.
 - A shift away from a sector led approach based entirely upon the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sectors to one of themed areas that promote and support independence.
 - A guide to inform the expectations of those in need of care and support and their families.
 - To encourage early light touch services to aid prevention of social isolation or deteriorating physical and mental wellbeing.
- 2.3 The Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan is dynamic in nature, embracing the efficiencies to be achieved and a programme of continuing transformation and the best use of available resources. The Plan will equally reflect the importance of enabling people to remain independent, with the necessary supports to help

themselves as a means of developing coordinated local solutions to meeting people's needs.

2.4 To meet this challenge we will put in place, aligned to the Corporate Plan, an approach to Learning Disabilities that –

- Ensures that strategic and service challenges are identified and addressed.
- Systematically undertake reviews of services using an evidence base.
- Engages with local people and other stakeholders about their priorities.
- Sets out how we will address our budget challenges.
- Develops a plan to deliver up a contribution to the overall savings by 2016.
- Investments and dis-investments will be based upon consultation.

2.5 The Plan is based upon a commitment to put people with learning disabilities and their families and carers in control of important areas of their lives including service and support arrangements. It is designed to meet the needs and preferences of the changing population of adults with learning disabilities in Wirral now and in the future

2.6 The objective of the Carers Strategy is to provide a strategic framework, linked in nature to the Commissioning Plans to demonstrate the commissioning intentions to further improve and develop services to effectively support carers. It identifies and builds upon the work that has already taken place. It aims to enhance the quality of life for people they care for and to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of health and social care services.

2.7 It recognises the key roles that Carers play in providing unpaid support to family or friends and the impact it has on health and wellbeing. Whilst acknowledging that without the support of unpaid Carers, health and social care agencies would struggle to provide the level of care that vulnerable people and disabled children need to remain in their own homes and community. As such we will continue to work closely with partner agencies to ensure the successful implementation of this strategy, acknowledging that Carers require more help and support, not only as a Carer but also to have a life outside their caring role.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 There is now awareness that aspects of the adults social care system are under considerable strain and as such there is now a clear consensus on the need for radical and ambitious social care reform. When this is placed within the context of the financial challenges confronting the Council, taken together these positions reinforce the importance of robust commissioning and business process to mitigate the risk.

3.2 The Commissioning Plans will seek to provide coherence in relation to Corporate and Departmental Plans and make best use of available resources to determine and drive future commissioning intentions. Central to this approach will be the transformation of services that will seek to respond to changing demographics, the Council's savings agenda and assurance that we are providing positive outcomes for people As such we are in a better place now with a commissioning services framework to transparently work together to respond to the real challenges we face.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 The strength of the Commissioning Plans is that they have been co-produced and afford the opportunity to review and explore a range of options to transform services and outcomes for people. The Plans are dynamic and provide the basis for continued engagement with all stakeholders to develop services and outcomes going forward. The Plans are tools to enable robust appraisal of service positions to ensure the efficient and effective use of available resources.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Commissioning Plans and the Carers Strategy have been subject to extensive consultation on a number of levels and all three positions reflect active co-production to assure ownership as we move forward. As such the documents will be used to ensure continuing engagement to enable implementation and the best use of available resources. VCAW remain central to both the Early Intervention and Prevention Plan and the Carers Strategy and the Making it Real Partnership Board will continue to contribute to the implementation of the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 As indicated above VCAW have been a key partner organisation in relation to the Early Intervention and Prevention Plan and the Carers Strategy and remain active in the implementation of both positions. The Voluntary, Community and Faith Sectors have helped to shape the Early Intervention and Prevention Plan and the move to establish themed service areas rather than an approach entirely sector focused. The VCF Sector are aware that the Plan will be the catalyst to both achieve further sector efficiencies but equally a template to transform how services are provided going forward. Such an approach will recognise the unique position that the VCF Sector occupies within Wirral and the value that the wider community accords to this sector of the market.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

7.1 The Commissioning Plans and the Carers Strategy are aligned to the financial challenges confronting the Council and the savings targets for Adult Social Services. The Delivery Plans within each Plan do reflect the Transformation Programme that the Department has established to oversee and coordinate efficiency savings. The Commissioning Plans will take forward the best use of available resources and will actively explore additional measures to achieve further savings.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The Commissioning Plans and the Carers Strategy will reflect legislation and national and local policy positions.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Equality impact will be managed through the programmes of implementation associated with the Commissioning Plans.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no carbon reduction implications.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no planning implications and safety will always be a prime consideration in the future transformation of services and outcomes for individuals and their families.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

12.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- Note the Early Intervention and Prevention Commissioning Plan, the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan and the Carers Strategy.
- Support the approach to a framework of Commissioning Plans to respond positively to the transformation of adult social care.
- To recognise that the Commissioning Plans support the Council's drive to make best use of available resources and to achieve efficiencies going forward.
- To note that these Plans will be the basis for continued engagement with stakeholders.
- To support the development of service specifications linked to commissioning intentions with the respective Plans/Strategy.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 The recommendations are being made to establish a robust commissioning framework that will make best use of available resources and achieve the transformation of adult social care and strive to deliver better outcomes for people.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Shaping Tomorrow

Appendix 2: Early Intervention and Prevention Commissioning Plan

Appendix 3: Carers Strategy

Appendix 4: Learning Disabilities Commissioning Plan

REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date