

REPORT TITLE	Future Commissioning Strategy for People with a Disability
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REPORT SUMMARY

This report describes the approach that will be taken to the future commissioning of health, care and support services for people with a disability in Wirral.

The Wirral Plan sets out a commitment to protecting the most vulnerable and to Wirral residents who have a disability. The following Pledges within the Plan illustrate this:

“People with disabilities live independently”, “Wirral Residents live healthier lives”, “Vulnerable children reach their full potential”, and “Older people live well”. Several strategies underpin these pledges, with the main one for the future commissioning of health, care and support services for people with disabilities being the All Age Disability Strategy.

This sets out three key priorities:

“All people with disabilities are well and live healthy lives”, “Young people and adults with disabilities have access to employment and are financially resilient”, and “All people with disabilities have choice and control over their lives”.

The strategy is available via the internet:

(<https://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/media/2111/all-age-disability-strategy.pdf>) and is attached as an appendix (*Appendix 1*).

Nationally, there is a Transforming Care Programme which describes the need to develop alternative support for people with a disability in order that they can receive the support that they need to live independently in their own homes and within their own communities, with person centred care, rather than receiving more hospital based care or care in a clinical environment. This brings an opportunity to develop an increased preventative offer.

Work is underway to bring together a range of resources from Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Local Authority to create a single commissioner for Wirral. Working through formal shared arrangements and a Committee in Common, this body will ensure that the Council and the CCG can effectively deliver their Health and Care functions in a more joined up way. This body will be responsible for commissioning health, care and support services to meet the needs of people with a disability in Wirral (among

other functions), and will contribute to delivering the All Age Disability Strategy, the Wirral Plan Pledges and the Transforming Care Programme agenda.

This creates an opportunity for a truly joined up approach to planning and commissioning services for people in Wirral who have a disability. The report outlines some key areas where we intend to commission differently to both improve our offer to local people and to manage the increasing cost of adult social care.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee note this report.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

N/A

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

N/A

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Health and social care services play an important role in enabling people with a disability to maintain independence and keep well in Wirral. The inter-dependency between health and care systems has become increasingly clear over recent years. Nationally, Councils are faced with increasing demand on social care services which presents as a challenge to meet within the available resources. Local Authorities and NHS providers are increasingly working to integrate social care and health services locally to provide both sustainability and a better experience for people who use those services.

3.2 The creation of an integrated commissioning approach for health and care on Wirral will enable services to be commissioned through a single body fulfilling the statutory health and care functions of both the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). It will also enable strategic outcomes to be effectively delivered through a single planning framework and structure. This single commissioner initiative will enable the health and care system to use Wirral's resources together to jointly create a sustainable health and care system. Integrated commissioning will provide system leadership and a focus on outcomes for people with a disability alongside the Place Based Care arrangements that are emerging for Wirral.

3.3 Creating a single integrated commissioning organisation offers the opportunity to deliver a single comprehensive commissioning plan, and to make commissioning decisions that are in the interests of the whole system. It should be noted, however, that the resource overall is currently under significant pressure.

Integrated commissioning arrangements are therefore expected to achieve:

- A focus on better health, care and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Wirral
- Commissioned outcomes and priorities will be fully aligned into a single plan
- A greater ability to manage demand and secure efficiencies in service delivery,

Future commissioning arrangements will be more effective in:

- Increasing value for the "Wirral Pound"
- Undertaking Care Market shaping and oversight;
- Commissioning a range of provision of high quality, appropriate services offering choice and control to residents;
- Ensuring continuity of care and preventing market failure;

- Delivering integrated health and care to benefit people that require support;
- Driving partnership working;
- Promoting social inclusion, wellbeing, and with a focus on outcomes for people;
- Delivering an integrated whole system approach to supporting communities.

- 3.4 In November 2017 Cabinet approved the creation of a Joint Strategic Commissioning Board which would be a 'committee in common'; being two separate bodies but which sit together at the same time and place, each being a consultee to the other in their decision making. It is intended that the Board will lead service commissioning on behalf of the statutory bodies, focus on commissioning for outcomes in the delivery of health, wellbeing and care services; and ensure that they perform effectively and deliver to the appropriate quality standards.
- 3.5 The Joint Strategic Commissioning Board will oversee the commissioning of services for people with a disability in Wirral. As we move towards this, every opportunity is being taken to work more collaboratively and to approach commissioning of services for people with a disability and complex needs jointly.
- 3.6 A joint commissioning plan for people with a disability or complex needs is being developed in order that there is oversight of all commissioning activity for services for people with a disability across the care and health system. For future commissioning initiatives, a single commissioner will be identified with responsibility for leading the activity on behalf of both the Local Authority and CCG. Commissioning activity for disability services will contribute to delivering the All Age Disability Strategy, the Wirral Plan Pledges and will link to the Transforming Care agenda.
- 3.7 Commissioning activity that is currently planned for people with a disability includes;

Extra Care Housing for people with disabilities

Currently there is no specific extra care housing in Wirral available to people with a learning disability or autism. We plan to commission a range of extra care housing over the next 2-3 years. New accommodation will be of a high standard and will ensure that people have their own front door, their own private space and access to communal areas. Accommodation will have on site 24/7 support. Care costs will be reduced by people moving out of their current over supported accommodation where they prefer more independent living and where they will benefit from having their own individual accommodation but with care on site for when they need it. This will enable some of the smaller, more traditional, supported living houses to be released. Several such properties have more costly care arrangements and also tend to carry vacancies which are sometimes hard to allocate to or are occupied by people who do not require the level of support within the property.

Residential care for older people with a learning disability

There are a number of people with a learning disability who have lived in supported living arrangements for many years, but where they now have needs more related to their ageing than to their disability. Some people are no longer able to maximise the benefits of living in small supported living services in the community and have needs that are no longer compatible with others living within the same household. There have been examples of people who are no longer mobile, cannot use stairs or access the community who require more intensive support due to their current

care environment. A limited amount of residential care is to be commissioned which will allow older people with disabilities to receive care in the right environment and at the right level. Accommodation will be of a high standard with appropriate equipment in place to meet higher needs. This provision will be small to medium sized rather than larger residential care homes. It is expected that this will provide better and more cost effective care.

Outcome Based Commissioning for Supported Living

It is expected that there will continue to be a need for a significant amount of supported independent living provision. However, providers are currently not incentivised to work towards increased independence with people and to reduce their reliance on formal care arrangements. A model is being trialled which will incentivise providers by delivering sustained person centred outcomes for people and thus permanently reducing the amount of care that they need. This may result in increased hourly payments to providers who deliver good outcomes for people. Once trialled, a decision will be taken as to whether to roll this out more widely.

Preventative health interventions

It is expected that an increased range of preventative interventions will be developed with community health providers. This will offer intensive support at the time that people with a learning disability or autism need increased support to help them to manage their behaviour or to sustain their current care arrangements and avoid the need for either admission to hospital or to a more costly and restrictive care placement. Step up, step down and crisis support services are some examples.

Transition from childhood to adulthood whilst receiving support services.

Joint commissioning arrangements will make better use of available data from across the health and care system to understand the needs of people with a disability as they move into adult life. This may lead to a range of commissioning activities to ensure that we have the right offer for people when they need it.

Technological solutions

The benefits of rapidly developing technological solutions for people with support needs will be used more for people with a disability. Technology can support the assessment process and can also support people to get the help and care interventions at the time they need it. This will increase people's independence and reduce reliance on continuous supervision by care staff where this is appropriate.

Exploration of a more regional approach to provision of care and support to people with a disability.

Opportunities are being scoped with the Liverpool City region and neighbouring Local Authorities to explore opportunities to commission differently to achieve better market and price sustainability, and to achieve efficiency in commissioning activities.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 A single integrated approach to the future commissioning of services for people with a disability in Wirral will ensure the most effective use of the available resources within the care and health system.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The statutory duties placed on the Council will continue to rest with the Council and with the Council's Director of Health and Care, Director of Public Health and Director of Children's Services.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

N/A

7 RELEVANT RISKS

N/A

8 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Wirral Plan, All Age Disability Strategy and Transforming Care Programme have been subject to significant engagement and consultation. The arrangements for commissioning of services for people with a disability do not require consultation in themselves.

9 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There is no relevance to equality as the arrangements for commissioning services for people with a disability will achieve an overall improvement in the experience of people who use services.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1; All Age Disability Strategy

REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date