

**TO: THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER – ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING**  
**DATE: 20 JULY 2011**

---

**THE REFRESHED COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR ADULTS WITH A  
LEARNING DISABILITY 2008-13 – ‘MAKING CHOICES, BEING IN CONTROL’  
Director of Adult Social Care and Health**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 On 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008, the Executive approved the Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability 2008-13.
- 1.2 The Strategy states how the Council and the NHS, in partnership with other organisations in Bracknell Forest, will contribute to improving the lives of people with learning disabilities and their families.
- 1.3 The Strategy has been refreshed to take into account recent national guidance on learning disabilities, see attached Appendix One. This includes Putting People First; Valuing People Now; Our Health, Our Care, Our Say; and Six Lives: The Provision of Public Services to People with Learning Disabilities (Local Government Ombudsman). It also includes refreshed targets and progress on actions.
- 1.4 The Strategy outcomes are based around the seven key areas in Our Care, Our Health, Our Say, however any new Strategies will be based around the New Outcomes framework.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the refreshed Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability 2008 to 2013 be approved.**

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To ensure that the strategic direction for supporting people with learning disabilities and their families continues to reflect
  - the needs and wishes of the people concerned
  - national strategic direction
  - recognised best practice

**4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 To continue with the strategic direction identified in the original commissioning strategy. However, this would risk not following recent government guidance and best practice.

## 5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 This refreshed Strategy is Bracknell Forest's local response to
- national policy initiatives and
  - what people with a learning disability have told us about what they need and want in order to have fulfilled lives.

The Strategy is also supported by an Action Plan (integral to the strategy) which includes targets and progress updates.

- 5.2 The central tenet of national policy has been guided by "Putting People First": This ministerial concordat establishes the collaboration between central and local government, the sector's professional leadership, and providers and the regulator. It sets out the shared aims and values which guide the transformation of adult social care, and recognises that the sector will work across agendas with people who receive services and their carers to transform people's experience of local support and services. This cross government shared ambition is to put people first through a radical reform of public services, enabling people to live their own lives as they wish, confident that services are of high quality, are safe and promote their own individual needs for independence, well-being and dignity.
- 5.3 Valuing People Now is a three year cross government strategy for people with learning disabilities. It says that all people with a learning disability are people first with the right to lead their lives like any other.
- 5.4 Six Lives: The Provision of Public Services to People with Learning Disabilities (Local Government Ombudsman). The report responds to complaints brought by the charity Mencap on behalf of the families of six people with learning disabilities who died whilst in NHS or local authority care between 2003 and 2005. Based on the findings of these investigations the Ombudsmen made three key recommendations in the report:
- First, that all NHS and social care organisations in England should review urgently:
    - the effectiveness of the systems they have in place to enable them to understand and plan to meet the full range of needs of people with learning disabilities in their areas; and
    - the capacity and capability of the services they provide and/or commission for their local populations to meet the additional and often complex needs of people with learning disabilities;
  - Secondly, that those responsible for the regulation of health and social care services (specifically the Care Quality Commission, Monitor and the Equality and Human Rights Commission) should satisfy themselves, individually and jointly, that the approach taken in their regulatory frameworks and performance monitoring regimes provides effective assurance that health and social care organisations are meeting their statutory and regulatory requirements in relation to the provision of services to people with learning disabilities; and that they should report accordingly to their respective Boards within 12 months of the publication of the Ombudsmen's report.
  - Thirdly, that the Department of Health should promote and support the implementation of these recommendations, monitor progress against them and

publish a progress report within 18 months of the publication of Ombudsmen's report.

## **6. ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitors

- 6.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of the report

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 There are no direct financial implications arising out of the strategy. Where the strategy leads to changes in the type of support that is available to people with a Learning Disability this will need to happen within existing budgetary resources.

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out for this revised Strategy see attached Appendix Two.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 A detailed Action Plan has been developed for the delivery of commissioning intentions which supports services for people with a learning disability. Performance and progress can be measured against each criteria.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 A public consultation exercise was carried out from October 2007 to December 2007 on the development of the initial Strategy which approved by Executive on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Further consultation was carried out on this revised Strategy through Learning Disability Partnership Board.

### Methods of Consultation

- 7.2 At meetings of the Partnership Board, and subsequent meetings of LDPB member with the groups they represent.

### Representations Received

- 7.3 All representations have been incorporated into the strategy and action plan.

## **8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None

## Background Papers

- Putting People First: A Shared Vision and Commitment to the Transformation of Adult Social Care.
- Valuing People Now
- Six Lives: The Provision of Public Services to People with Learning Disabilities (Local Government Ombudsman).

## Contact for further information

Zoë Johnstone  
Chief Officer: Adults and Joint Commissioning  
01344 351609  
[Zoe.johnstone@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Zoe.johnstone@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

Nick Ireland  
Head of Learning Disabilities  
01344 351652  
[Nick.ireland@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Nick.ireland@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

Amina Begum  
Joint Commissioning Officer  
01344 351204  
[Amina.begum@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Amina.begum@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)