

TO: EXECUTIVE
11th MARCH 2014

**THE JOINT COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING
DISABILITIES 2014-2019**
Director of Adult Social Care, Health & Housing

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform and seek approval from Executive for the proposed Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities 2014 -2019.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That the Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities 2014 -2019 is 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.
- 3.2 The development of this strategy has been led and supported by Bracknell Learning Disability Partnership Board ensuring all stakeholders including people with learning disabilities and their carers have been involved to find out what has been going well and what needs to be developed. The 'team' approach enabled as many people as possible to be involved and give their views.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 To continue with the strategic direction identified in the original commissioning strategy. However, this would risk not taking account of people's current needs and aspirations or follow recent government legislation and best practice.

5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities 2014 – 2019 is a plan which sets out the priorities for supporting adults with learning disabilities, their family carers and people approaching adulthood. The priorities have been informed by:-
- views of local residents
 - relevant legislation and national guidance
 - an analysis of the needs of the local population and how these are likely to change in the future

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- an overview of the strengths and limitations of current support and services
- resources currently available.

5.2 Significant developments were made in service over the period of the last strategy, (2008 -2013) so that people with learning disabilities and their family carers could have more choice and control, be active participants within their local area and feel and be safe within their local community. Developments include the:-

- implementation of personal budgets
- e-modelling activities so that they are more community based, promoting social inclusion and participation
- improvements in the way reviews are conducted following the out of borough review project. This project was conducted in light of Winterbourne View
- increased partnerships with housing providers enabling better access to affordable accommodation
- re-development of in-house respite services at Waymead improving access for people with physical disabilities
- construction of flats at Waymead which people can use to improve their independence
- more involvement of people with learning disabilities and their carers in the planning and development of services
- work with local businesses to implement the safe place scheme as well as:
- improving and developing employment opportunities.

5.3 To develop the strategy, a twelve week consultation took place with people with learning disabilities living in Bracknell Forest, their family carers and those who work with people with learning disabilities. It was found that many people were happy with their lives and the care they receive and wanted their support to continue. Key areas identified for development were:-

- **Fulfilling Lives** - Having even more flexible support which helps people and their carers live their lives in the way they choose
- **Housing** - Having affordable and suitable accommodation
- **Economic Wellbeing** – Having control of money, access to jobs and money for activities
- **People with Complex Needs** – Helping people to have more choice and control
- **Learning Disability Awareness Training** – To do more work with children and young adults in schools and colleges to promote inclusion of people with learning disabilities
- **People Approaching Adulthood** – Support for young people into adulthood

5.4 The vision for learning disability services remains as set out in the National Strategies *Valuing People* (2001) and *Valuing People Now* (2008): that all people with a learning disability are people with the right to lead their lives like any others, with the same opportunities and responsibilities, and to be treated with the same dignity and respect. They and their family carers are entitled to the same aspirations and life chances as other citizens.

5.5 Legislation taken into account includes the Health and Social Care Act 2012, which requires better integration of health and social care services and The Care Bill 2013, which intends to bring care and support legislation into a single statute, where the overall wellbeing of the individual is at the forefront of their care and support. Again

promotion of integrated care between health and social care services as well as housing and other service providers will be required within the new law.

5.6 There are also three national reports which are of high importance:-

- **Government Response to Winterbourne View, December 2012**

Winterbourne View Hospital was an assessment and treatment centre for people with learning disabilities that have challenging behaviour. In May 2011, a Panorama programme was broadcast detailing abuse of people with learning disability at the centre. Following this 11 staff who had worked at the hospital were convicted and sentenced for abuse in the criminal court. The DOH completed an in-depth review that found that, as well as problems within the hospital, there were systemic failings. The warning signs of abuse were not picked up or acted on by NHS Health bodies or local authorities, and concerns raised by a whistleblower went unheeded. The report identified failings in the provision of locally based community services, care management, commissioning and monitoring of the services by health commissioners, local councils and the Care Quality Commission. The report addresses these issues and sets out targets for action.

- **Mid Staffordshire Hospital Inquiry 2013**

This report examined the causes of maltreatment, neglect and high death rates of people at Mid Staffordshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust between 2005 -2009. The enquiry found that as well as poor care and leadership within the hospital, the monitoring of the services both locally and nationally did not pick up on the problems. The enquiry called for improved support for staff to provide committed and compassionate care and stronger healthcare leadership as well as fundamental standards of openness, transparency and candour throughout the system.

- **Confidential Inquiry into Premature Deaths of People with Learning Disabilities, March 2013**

This three year study found that of the cases reviewed, 37% of the deaths of people with a learning disability were considered avoidable. They found that compared to the general population, men with a learning disability died on average 13 years earlier, while women with a learning disability died 20 years earlier. The Inquiry called for people with learning disabilities and their carers to be listened to more, for earlier recognition and diagnosis of illness, for healthcare staff in primary and secondary to work more closely together with one person leading the care and for people who cannot make decisions for themselves to have decisions made in their best interest.

5.7 The implication of these three national reports are that people with learning disabilities still do not always get the care and support they need. The new joint commissioning strategy outlines local needs and how the good level of services and support can be further developed to meet the key challenges outlined in these national reports.

5.8 The 2014-19 strategy has been developed by using available data, including the 2012/13 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Bracknell Forest, and data from The Improving Health and Lives: Learning Disabilities Observatory which is part of Public Health England. Development of the strategy is also in accordance with Health and Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF).

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- 5.9 Young people approaching adulthood, their carers and appropriate staff from the Department for Children Young People and Learning have been involved in the consultation and approval of this draft strategy.
- 5.10 Please note that the "Health" section of the strategy is subject to ratification by Bracknell and Ascot Clinical Commissioning Group.

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 The Council allocates its financial resources through the budget process in the context of its medium term financial plan. Currently the medium term financial plan forecasts that the Council will need to make significant savings over the next few years. Over this period the Council will have to develop increased efficiency in service delivery whilst still responding to demographic changes, new legislation and the need to modernise services. This will require the reallocation of some of the Council's limited resources to key priorities.

In order to deliver these service changes, the Council publishes a range of strategies and policies relating to many of its key services. A strategy or policy does not represent a financial commitment but, rather, sets the strategic direction of travel, subject to the level of resources that become available. These strategies also form the basis of the annual service plan which ensures that the development of the Council's services is consistent with its medium term objectives within the resource envelope that is agreed. The development of these strategies is, therefore, an important part of the Council's arrangements for helping it allocate its limited resources to maximum effect.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out for the development of this Strategy See attached Appendix Two.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 A detailed action plan will be developed for the delivery of commissioning intentions which supports services for people with a learning disability. Performance and progress will be measured against each priority.

7. CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 A public consultation exercise was carried out over a twelve week period from May 2013 – August.

Methods of Consultation

- 7.2 Throughout the consultation period, various stakeholders including people with learning disabilities, their carers, support providers, the voluntary sector and statutory services contributed to the consultation by engaging with people for example, on a one to one level, in and with groups, at coffee mornings in order to find out what was going well and what needed to be developed. As well as this consultation, questionnaires were available on the council's website and in paper format. The 'team' approach enabled as many people as possible to be involved and give their views.

Representations Received

- 7.3 There were responses from approximately 30% of people with learning disabilities who receive a service as well as carers and those who work with people with learning disabilities. All representations have been incorporated into the strategy and action plan.

Background Papers

Joint Commissioning Strategy for Learning Disabilities 2014-2019: Appendix 1
Equalities Impact Assessment: Appendix 2

Contact for further information

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