

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 19 th November 2019
Report Subject	Regional Learning Disability Programme: Report on Progress
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report gives an overview of the work of the “North Wales Together; Seamless Services for people with Learning Disabilities” programme which is being funded by Welsh Government (WG) via the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and hosted by Flintshire. Neil Ayling, Chief Officer Flintshire and Lesley Singleton Director Partnerships Mental Health and Learning Disability, BCUHB are the lead directors.

The programme is developed with the individuals with a learning disability and their families, the 6 Local Authority areas, the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, (BCUHB) and the third sector.

The aim of the programme is to seek out and develop best practice, shaping models of support for Learning Disabilities Services in North Wales that can be trialled during the course of the project and adopted and taken forward alongside the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy (2018-2023) following the end of the programme in December 2020.

The Institute of Public Care (IPC) at Oxford Brooks University have been appointed to evaluate the programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	The direction of the Learning Disability Programme is supported by Cabinet.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE REGIONAL LEARNING DISABILITY PROGRAMME: REPORT ON PROGRESS
1.01	The purpose of the project is identified below; People with learning disabilities will have a better quality of life; living locally where they feel 'safe and well', where they are valued and included in their communities and have access to effective personal support that promotes independence, choice and control.
1.02	Background The project is funded via a bid made for monies linked to "A Healthier Wales". It is one of 4 complementary bid made by the RPB against monies made available to fund transformations in services by Welsh Government.
1.03	Phasing The work falls into three phases though it is acknowledged there will be some fluidity between the three. They are; Mapping what's happening across the region; June 19 to September 19. Adoption of models; Sept 19 to Dec 19. Facilitation of models. Jan 20 to Dec 20.
1.04	Work Streams Five work streams are identified in the LD Strategy with a planning and development officer linked to each. In addition there are post attached to each of the three North Wales sub-regions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Systems • Technology • Workforce development • Community and Culture Change • Commissioning and Procurement. Flintshire lead on the Community and Culture change work stream and are involved, amongst other things, in projects around the opportunity to think differently about the use of Direct Payments, Project Search, Relationships and Social links for people.
1.05	Emerging themes from the first phase There is innovative practice to be found in North Wales, and this can be shared and rolled out across the region, however, the following points are relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general profile and rights of people with Learning Disabilities needs to be raised within the wider community. • Fewer than 2% of people with a LD in paid employment in Wales. The National Average UK average is 17%. • Pooled budgets should be supported as there is evidence that the resources in the health and social care system could deliver better outcomes for people. This work stream is being driven forward by the LD programme and trialled in Anglesey.

1.06	<p>Themes in relation to the strategy work-streams</p> <p>Having the right support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People need to be better supported to be able to access 'mainstream' and more casual opportunities e.g. gig buddies but also general access to community resources. The project will be working on facilitating adoption of Gig buddie, stay up late campaign, and friendship groups. • A care provider event has taken place to consider and address how we improve outcomes for people. There is a general view that care providers would like to modernise and move away from traditional support but require clear guidance and support to do so from commissioners in relation to funding and positive risk taking. • Direct Payment support for families is required, not to access contractual and financial support as that exists, but to work out how they can meet their outcomes in person centred, imaginative and inclusive ways. Wider than just service solutions. We are working on a brokerage model for DPs which takes it wider than just employment and payroll support. To encourage the market to provide. We are also investigating development of protocols to ensure Direct Payments are accessible to those who are jointly funded with Health.
1.07	<p>Friendships and relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens report that this area is extremely important to them, and is therefore one the project is prioritising. We will re-establish a regional co-production group focused on relationships.
1.08	<p>Something meaningful to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with LD want to work and volunteer. • Project Search is being taken forward in Flintshire and will be considered for wider roll out across the region.
1.09	<p>Having a good place to live. Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate services are not in place or sufficiently robust. Step up step down/Intermediate level of care to support for those with complex needs in a crisis to be investigated. • The only accommodation options available at present in an emergency situation are residential placements, these are often out of county. There may be opportunities on a Sub-regional (East) to work together on providing 24 hr needs temporarily whilst alternative long term placements are sought, or enablement and progression approaches to be applied to assess and skill up individuals in daily living tasks. • Pathways to be developed supported by agreement which allow the funding of an individual placed in another county where that is appropriate and agreed.
1.10	<p>Being healthy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is low uptake of health checks. Health checks to have some impetus in Anglesey with the purpose of developing better processes across the region (potentially supported electronically).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information accessibility is an issue. Pathways and publicity to be developed in different formats to sustain checks and screening following project. Inpatient settings will also need to adapt to transformation. Review of inpatient services required to ensure transformation to community services is reflected in what is being offered in the inpatient setting.
1.11	<p>Being safe.</p> <p>Technology. Rolling out and developing new approaches. Specialist input to be sought to ensure accessible, centrally located information. Website blueprints to be explored.</p> <p>Safe places scheme has been successful in Wrexham and will be considered for potential roll out across the region.</p>
1.12	<p>Children's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progression and enablement in transition to be investigated. A dedicated Children's event has been held, very well attended, well received and has informed children's priorities in the programme.
1.13	<p>Carers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developments in line with Regional Carers strategy. Planning for the future of concern to parents and current approaches need to be improved. Parents, carers and individuals have to battle for diagnosis and support. Consultation happening to identify what can be done to address this.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>There is no budget for FCC.</p> <p>This programme is funded in total by Welsh Government, equally for 1.09 when over 2 ½ years.</p>

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT				
3.01	<table> <tr> <td>Long-term</td><td>Positive – Taking a regional approach working with the other five North Wales Authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) helps social services and the wider council deliver on its duty to prioritise services in relation to people with a Learning Disability.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td><td>Positive – The transformation project is working to deliver on work streams within the North Wales Learning Disability strategy, Increasing preventative services in the community will minimise the escalation of critical need.</td></tr> </table>	Long-term	Positive – Taking a regional approach working with the other five North Wales Authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) helps social services and the wider council deliver on its duty to prioritise services in relation to people with a Learning Disability.	Prevention	Positive – The transformation project is working to deliver on work streams within the North Wales Learning Disability strategy, Increasing preventative services in the community will minimise the escalation of critical need.
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	Integration	Positive – Making sure that Health and social services work together to support people with a learning disability.
	Collaboration	Positive – The transformation project has been developed as part of the LD strategy produced jointly with the six North Wales authorities and BCUHB and supported by Public health Wales
	Involvement	Positive – significant consultation with people and their families, people have told us and what is important to them.
	Well-being Goals Impact	
	Prosperous Wales	Positive – The transformation work will develop further the skills of the workforce and support employment of more people with a learning disability in paid work.
	Resilient Wales	Positive – Working across the regional to ensure public places are accessible to the LD community. Supporting people to remain in their own communities.
	Healthier Wales	Positive – Peoples physical health will benefit from the health check programmes being developed for people with a LD.
	More equal Wales	Positive –People with a learning disability will be supported to fulfil their potential.
	Cohesive Wales	Positive – Valuing people and having access to communities, people with LD more visible and active in local communities.
	Vibrant Wales	Positive – supporting culture change where people with an LD are valued for their contribution to their local community, diversity and acceptance is a key part of the strategy.
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive – The strategy plays its part in making sure Wales is a safe and welcoming place for people with a LD.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Strategy consultation undertaken prior to development of strategy. This programme of work is coproduced with individual with a Learning Disability. IPC will evaluate and provide an outcome report

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Learning Disability Strategy.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Kathryn Whitfield, Programme Manager. North Wales Together, Seamless Services for people with Learning Disabilities. Telephone: 07770598073 E-mail: Kathryn.whitfield@flintshire.co.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p>Learning Disability (LD). A Learning Disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities. (Mencap definition).</p> <p>Direct Payments are a payment made by a local authority social services department to an individual who has been assessed as having care and support needs who wish to arrange their own care and support services.</p> <p>Active support is a method of enabling people with Learning Disabilities to engage more in their daily lives. (British institute of Learning Disabilities).</p> <p>Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is a way of supporting people who display behaviours that challenge those around them.</p> <p>Community of practice. A group of individuals with a shared interest that comes together to share learning and support the development of those interests, in this case a shared commitment to supporting people with behaviours that challenge.</p> <p>Challenging Behaviour or behaviours that challenge can include hitting and kicking other people, throwing things or self-harming behaviour. Behaviour is challenging if it is harmful to the person and others around them, and if it stops the person achieving things in their daily life (Mencap).</p> <p>Profound and multiple Learning Disabilities. PMLD. People with severe and profound disabilities. This term covers those who have learning disabilities and physical disabilities where their issues compound to cause</p>

increased barriers to care and support and within the community and care environments.

Intermediate care. Support which breaches the gap between care in one's own home and within your own community and hospital, residential or nursing homes and could prevent an individual from having to step up to that level of care, hence potentially losing their home.

Shared lives is a support model which enables individuals to live with and receive support from a paid carer with whom that individual shares a home.

Health Checks is a reference to the system of paying GP surgeries to provide a structured health check to people with a diagnosed Learning Disability.

ALN. Additional Learning needs is a piece of legislation due to be enacted in 2020 which lays out responsibilities for Local authorities and partners in relation to the learning needs of people with additional requirements up to the age of 25.

Safe places is a scheme that works with communities and individuals to identify designated places within that community to which a person can go if they feel unsafe whilst out and about in that community.

Integrated Care Fund (ICF) is a time limited fund which was set up to fund set term projects enabling innovation and integration within Health and Social Care.

Coproduction refers to a way of working where citizens and service providers and commissioners work together to produce services and arrangements that meet their outcomes.

Bryn Y Neuadd was the North Wales specialist hospital for people with Learning Disabilities based in Llanfairfechan. Its use has now been broadened out to accommodate other BCUHB services but it still houses the offices for the LD Senior Management team, consultants and the Assessment and Treatment unit alongside some residential services for people with complex needs.