

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** **SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** **THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**SUBJECT:** **LEARNING DISABILITY COMMISSIONING PLAN**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 The Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy and Summary documents appended to this report describe our plans for the provision of accommodation and support to persons with a learning disability in Flintshire over the next 5 years.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

2.01 Adult Social Care's TSSA programme which started in 2011 reinforced the need for fundamental changes to deliver on people's expectations, respond to changing needs and improve efficiency in relation to accommodation and support for people with Learning Disabilities.

2.02 People told us that they wanted to be more independent with more choice and control over their lives and access to a range of housing options, which includes ordinary community living.

2.03 This Strategy aims to provide the basis upon which accommodation and services will be developed over the coming 5 years to deliver these aims.

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 The vision described in these documents is that people with a learning disability will have a range of different types of accommodation available to them, and that through individualised support planning, they will be enabled to be as independent as possible with 'just enough support' to promote their wellbeing and ensure they are safe.

3.02 We intend to retain a viable but reduced in-house service to ensure we retain experience within this service and continue to be well placed to provide support to Independent sector providers as necessary.

3.03 We will achieve this vision by:-

- Adopting an ethos of promoting independence.
- Review and refocus our in-house Supported Living Service and configure it as the 'first stop' on the 'move on' pathway for young people with disabilities coming through transition from children's services.
- Increase the use of Direct Payments and Citizen Directed Support Packages.
- Work with partners to ensure that housing options are available that respond to the needs of persons with a learning disability.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 That scrutiny support the implementation of the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy following final consultation and informing sessions planned.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 The Learning Disabilities Strategy aims to ensure that future provision can be met within current budgets and over time delivers further efficiencies to support the councils overall Medium Term Financial Plan.

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 Not Applicable

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 Not Applicable

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 An Equalities Impact Assessment of this Strategy and its development has been completed

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 Not Applicable

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 Standard 2 of Fulfilled Lives Supportive Communities Commissioning Framework states that *'Representatives of service providers need to be engaged at each stage of the analysis process as they can make valuable contributions towards identifying changes in need and with regard to the existing capacity to deliver services and options for future developments'*

Taking into consideration the proposed actions noted below and those

carried out to date we are of the view that we have fully met this requirement.

10.02 Future consultation and involvement includes

- Updates/ feed back to LD planning group – Easy read version of the final strategy being produced
- Involvement in monitoring of the effectiveness of the strategy (details needed from contract monitoring team)
- A market position statement that will follow this strategy will be shared with provider forums

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 The views stakeholders have informed the ‘analysis of need’ stage of the development of this commissioning strategy.

11.02 This consultation involved the following events

- People with learning disabilities and their families were provided with the opportunity to tell commissioners ‘what makes a good home’ and ‘what makes a good break’ in a workshop on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012 facilitated by the Learning Disabilities Partnership and Planning Group.
- Findings from a Transition event, which was held for 48 young people with learning disabilities on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 were also considered and fed into the strategy.
- A SLOT (strengths, limitations, opportunities and threats) tool was used to structure 1:1 interviews with a random selection of existing providers and was also completed by other stakeholder teams, included Social Workers, Commissioners and Contract monitoring.
- The equality impact assessment and strategy was shared with the Quality Checks Group, a corporate led group with representatives from the protected groups.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy  
2013- 2018

Appendix 2 - Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2013- 2018  
Summary

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.

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