

# HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

## Agenda Item 63

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy  
**Date of Meeting:** 12 November 2008  
**Report of:** Director of Adult Social Care and Housing  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Diana Bernhardt Tel: 29-2363  
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**Key Decision:** Yes Forward Plan No. HSG2880  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Learning Disability Commissioning strategy for Brighton and Hove 2009 - 2012 sets out how we will commission social care services for people with learning disabilities over the next 3 years. The Commissioning strategy and 3 year plan is attached as Appendix 1
- 1.2 This strategy reviews the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2006-2009 for Brighton and Hove in the light of recent strategic developments such as the self directed support strategy for the city and Valuing People Now.
- 1.3 This Commissioning strategy has been developed through the Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB) and sub groups and has been consulted on during a 12-week formal consultation, the outcomes of which are reported below.
- 1.4 The LDPB will oversee the implementation of the strategy and the sub groups will be responsible for the day to day implementation of project work plans. Progress will be regularly monitored and progress will be formally reported on an annual basis to the LDPB, Cabinet member meeting and Joint Commissioning Board.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy for Brighton and Hove 2009-2012 attached as Appendix I be agreed.
- 2.2 That, in support of the *Valuing People Now* policy, the amount estimated by the council for the transfer of learning disability social care funding and commissioning from Brighton & Hove City Teaching Primary Care Trust to Brighton & Hove City Council of £6,150,498 in 2007/8 (as set out on page 25 of Appendix 1) be noted.

### **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 The government's 'Valuing People Now' which is due to be launched early in the new year, is expected to recommend an expansion in self directed support and increased personalisation, choice and control; improved access to housing, better health and support to participate in the community as equal citizens. This government paper is an update of the 'Valuing People: A New Strategy for Learning Disability for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' White Paper that was issued in 2001).
- 3.2 This strategy reviews the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2006-2009 for Brighton and Hove. A review of the strategy was considered necessary to reflect national policy developments on social care reform and local developments such as the self directed support pilot in learning disabilities and the council's plans to modernise and personalise services across all social care groups.
- 3.3 The 15 key objectives in the commissioning strategy are:
- Increased independence
  - The choice of self directed support
  - Keeping people safe
  - Work with commissioners in Health to ensure services meet the needs of people with learning disabilities
  - Ensure people with learning disabilities can access mental health services
  - Increase housing options
  - Increased choices for what people do during the day
  - Increasing the range of services available locally
  - Improve Value for Money
  - Make plans early for young people
  - Plan services for people as they get older
  - Improved information on local need
  - Provide services for people early on, rather than waiting until they are in crisis
  - Make sure that we are listening to people with learning disabilities, their families and carers
  - Making sure that learning disability services are accessible to all groups in our community

## 4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The formal 12-week consultation was undertaken between 14th July and 10<sup>th</sup> October. The consultation involved group and individual meetings with all key stakeholders: such as service users, family carers, the Learning Disability Partnership Board, local advocacy groups, internal and external providers of services. In addition a consultation document was distributed widely and was available on the Learning Disability Partnership Board website.

4.2 Responses received:

**Service Users:** 5 individual responses and approximately 30 people contributed to group work (some people contributed to a collated response as part of their advocacy groups).

**Carers and families:** 6 individual responses and 16 people contributed to group work

**Staff:** 4 individual responses and 1 collated response from in-house day services. 1 collated response from the leading independent sector provider. 21 people contributed to group work.

**Other organisations and groups:** Learning Disability Partnership Board and sub groups Better Lives sub group, Healthy Lives sub group, Provider Forum, Place to Live sub group, Person Centred Approaches sub group, Brighton and Hove Primary Care Trust, Sussex Partnership Trust, Carers Centre, Speak Out network, Amaze, all local independent, private and voluntary sector service providers.

## 5. CONSULTATION FINDINGS

5.1 The feedback we received is summarised in the strategy according to the following key headings:

- Housing
- Health
- Day Services
- Self Directed Support
- Work/Learning/Leisure
- Health
- Transitions
- Involving People

## **6. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications

The pooled Learning Disabilities budget for the next 3 financial years is approximately £30m each year. The commissioning strategy will focus on the continued use of individualised budgets and self directed support which will manage growth more effectively and will be used to commission and remodel services so that they are more personalised and flexible and so achieve improved outcomes and value for money. This strategy will help contribute to the reduction of the existing high unit costs across the service.

*Senior Finance Officer consulted Neil Smith 14/10/08*

### Legal Implications

The review of the existing Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy is necessary to reflect national and local policy developments on social care reform.

The Strategy aims to personalise services to enable statutory duties to be met in accordance with individual needs and best value principles, taking into consideration the outcome of the consultation process.

*Lawyer Consulted: Hilary Priestley 22/10/08*

### Equalities Implications:

The aims of the commissioning strategy are to increase the personalisation of services through the expansion of self directed support and the commissioning of local personalised and flexible services. In this way the varying needs of individuals can be more effectively met and address inequality. The strategy also supports the work of the Primary care Trust to reduce health inequality for people with learning disabilities. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the development of the strategy.

### Sustainability Implications:

The aims of the commissioning strategy are to reduce the number of people placed out of area, particularly those placed out of Sussex which will reduce the need for review staff in the authority, family and friends to travel long distances to visit placements.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

The aims of the commissioning strategy are to promote social inclusion through increased access to mainstream services and participation as equal citizens in the community.

### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

The aims of the strategy will meet the council's strategic priorities and reflect the move towards increased personalisation which will feed into the council's self directed support strategy for the city.

### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

The aims of the commissioning strategy are to enable people with learning disabilities to participate as equal citizens in the city of Brighton & Hove.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:** Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2009-2012

**Documents In Members' Rooms:** None

### **Background Documents**

1. Valuing People White Paper 2001 & Valuing People Now.
2. Putting People First 2007
3. Services for People with Learning Disabilities and Challenging Behaviour or Mental Health Needs Mansell (2007)
4. Commissioning Specialist Adult Learning Disability Health Services
5. Health Care for All – Jonathan Michael (2008)
6. Independence, Wellbeing and Choice (2005)
7. Our Health, Our Care Our Say (2006)

