

# HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

## Agenda Item 129

Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Review of Learning Disability Housing Strategy</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> April 2009</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Adult Social Care &amp; Housing</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Mark Hendriks</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 293071
	<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:mark.hendriks@brighton-hove.gov.uk">mark.hendriks@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This is an annual update of the Learning Disability Housing Strategy, 2007-2010.
- 1.2 It is reviewed in the context of the new Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2009-2012, the new Housing Strategy 2008-2013 and Valuing People Now, 2009.
- 1.3 The summary of progress achieved so far and ongoing action plan is attached.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet member for Housing notes the report and attached progress report the Learning Disability Housing Strategy, 2007-2010.
- 2.2. That the Cabinet member for Housing agrees that future updates will be made as part of the annual review of the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy.

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

- 3.1 The current Learning Disability Housing Strategy was agreed in November 2007. The strategy has been implemented through the 'A Place to Live' sub group of the Learning Disability Partnership Board that is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Valuing People Now locally.
- 3.2 Since 2007, a new Housing Strategy for the city has been developed, as has a new Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy. In addition, Valuing People Now has recently been launched.
- 3.3 This report is therefore an update on progress made in delivering the strategy with links to the new overarching strategies set out in 3.2.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 This report is for information and has not been subject to new consultation. Implementation of the actions in the strategy through the work of the Partnership Board includes representation of carers, service users, advocacy organisations, providers, Housing, Health, and the Children and Young People's Trust.

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

##### **5.1 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.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Neil Smith*

*Date: 02/03/2009*

##### **5.2 Legal Implications:**

This report provides an update on a Strategy that has already been considered and approved. There are therefore no specific legal implications arising from this report. The Strategy itself complies with National Policy and advances an individualised approach to the provision of housing and accommodation for people with learning disabilities; in doing so it takes account of individuals' Right to Family Life as enshrined in the Human Rights Act 1998. There are no proposals for change to the delivery of the strategy so that further consultation is not necessary at this time.

*Lawyer Consulted: Sandra O'Brien*

*Date: 6 April 2009*

##### **5.3 Equalities Implications:**

A full Equalities Impact Assessment of the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy is being carried out and the relevant actions from this have been included in the revised Learning Disability Housing Strategy.

##### **5.4 Sustainability Implications:**

The commissioning of housing and support services is in accordance with sustainability objectives and the housing objectives aim to reduce the reliance on resource heavy residential services.

##### **5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:**

The commissioning of housing and support services is in accordance with the local objectives to prevent crime and disorder. Supporting people to access more independent, mainstream housing options encourages greater social inclusion and integration.

## 5.6 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

The Learning Disability Housing Strategy works towards the council's priorities in creating better homes for citizens and maximising value for money. It also supports national requirements to increase the amount of people in settled accommodation.

## 5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7.1 The revised Learning Disability Housing Strategy fits with the corporate objectives in aiming to reduce inequalities that people with learning disabilities face when accessing housing, by increasing people's choices and opportunities.

5.7.2 It also fits with directorate objectives; in aiming to develop informed choice of housing for people with learning disabilities so that housing meets their needs, is personalised, high quality and value for money. Reducing inequality is integral to the aims of the strategy and is explicitly addressed in specific Equalities Impact objectives.

## **6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 There is an option of continuing to provide annual reviews of the Learning Disability Housing Strategy, alongside annual reviews of the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy.

6.2 This may represent an unnecessary duplication of information.

6.3. The A Place to Live sub-group, which will take the actions of the Learning Disability Housing Strategy as it's work plan, will be required to report quarterly to the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

## **7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 This update shows progress made to date in the life of this strategy.

7.2 The A Place to Live sub-group will report to the Learning Disability Partnership Board and be governed by them.

7.3 Progress on Housing for people with learning disabilities will be included in annual reports to Cabinet of the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Learning Disability Housing Strategy 2007-2010: update 2009.

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

None

### **Background Documents**

1. Learning Disability Housing Strategy 2007-2010
2. Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy 2009-2012
3. Valuing People Now, 2009.