

ADULT SERVICES – SERVICES FOR CLIENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

1. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

- 1.1 Government policy for Learning Disability directs Social Work to provide person centred services which emphasise the use of available community resources rather than via the traditional Resource Centre model. Significant progress has been made in Helensburgh & Lomond, Bute & Cowal and in part Oban. However, services across Argyll and Bute require further re-design and modernisation to provide the person centred approach required.
- 1.2 The Project Board overseeing re-design of Older Person's Services also provides the governance framework for the re-design of Learning Disability Services. The Project Board has approved the methodology for options appraisal, the initial consultation events and additional carer/service user representation on the Project Board as recommended by the Project Team.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the content of the report and to consider this information as part of the work plan of the PPG.

3. DETAIL

3.1 Review of Council Services: Progress to Date.

- 3.1.1 The Project Team will report to the Project Board again on 26th February with its plans for adopting the proven methodology of the Older People's short-listing, scoring and consultation process and confirming the timescale for completion.
- 3.1.2 During May and June of 2009 initial listening events were held in Helensburgh, Oban, Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, Dunoon, Rothesay and a smaller focus group on Islay. These events were led by an Independent consultant. Over 400 people attended in total, attendees included service users, carers, service providers – including independent, third sector and NHS, as well as some of our own staff. In a second phase during September and October a number of the common themes were explored further within localities which will provide more depth to the process of long and short listing options still to take place. Themes included:

- Seeking better access to transport, leisure & community activities, health services, education, jobs, housing and respite opportunities.
- Looking for flexible and responsive services to meet and anticipate changing support needs.
- Improved preparation and communication required especially around lifetime transitional periods, especially on leaving school and approaching old age.
- Requiring improved communication and more routine opportunities to be involved and have a say rather than relying merely on formal events and consultation meetings.
- Also recorded many positive comments and appreciation of current services and providers.

4. SERVICE PROFILE

4.1 Care Home Placements

32 placements spread across the country including specialist placements in Wales. Annual Cost: £2,317,650.

Average Cost: £72,426.56 per annum.

Individual placements cost range from £22k per annum to £187k per annum.

Turnover in care home placements is negligible as clients live longer due to improved medical treatment. We now have a generation of young adults many of whom would have in previous decades died during childhood who will now outlive their parents. Given the cost of care associated with this client group it is clear that this will continue to be a budget pressure in the future.

4.2 Community Based Services

- 4.2.1 Day Services: The model of community based services varies significantly from area to area.

Helensburgh & Lomond: Day services purchased from Enable Scotland. This service was commissioned when the locality discontinued purchasing Resource Centre services from West Dunbartonshire Council. The service was developed on the basis of providing a local service that would maximize the use of existing community services with a limited provision of a physical building for those clients with significant physical and mental disabilities.

Bute & Cowal: Day services provided by the Council with a mix of services based both in the community and the resource centres.

Oban/Lorn & Isles and MAKI are similar to Bute and Cowal.

In all four areas it is increasingly the case that clients are carers are requesting that their needs are met via an individual support package that assists in enabling the client to actively participate in daily living rather than attending a resource centre. This has been facilitated via revenue sourced from the Independent Living Fund and the Supporting people revenue however it is clear that the significant revenue that is invested in the Resource Centre , both in staff and building costs, limits the Council's ability to develop individualised care packages to the full. The review of the Council's services will provide the opportunity for releasing funds to meet this agenda.

- 4.2.2 Community Resource Team is based in Oban and works along the same model of the outreach service in Helensburgh & Lomond and complements the existing Resource Centre service.
- 4.2.3 Respite: All the areas predominantly purchase respite services from independent services thus encouraging a very client centred and flexible approach to respite. A significant amount of LD revenue is tied into the Fyne View provision in Lochgilphead which effectively limits choice and as noted in recent consultation exercise does not meet the aspirations of LD clients across the Authority.
- 4.2.4 Community based packages are individual care packages supporting clients in their own tenancies and often involved 24 hour support and live in carers. There continues to be some debate whether individual tenancies of this type are a positive experience for clients and carers or whether a move towards shared tenancies would assist in resolving issues of social isolation for all concerned.
- 4.2.5 ASSIST provides and assists with supported employment for clients and provides services across the Authority with the exception of Helensburgh & Lomond where an equivalent service is part of the contract with Enable.
- 4.2.6. Greenwood Hostel in Campbeltown continues to provide a 24 hour residential type service for clients. Issues relating to this service is whether it can be re-designed to accommodate some of the clients who are placed in care homes outwith the authority and whether the service should continue to be directly provided by the council or commissioned from an independent provider.

4.2.7 Non Residential Budgets 2009/10

Community Based Packages	1,167,001
Resource Centres	1,627,131
Community Resource Team	171,065
ASIST	492,991
Helensburgh Day Care	547,801
Greenwood Hostel	364,049
Respite	60,378
Respite House	186,197
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	4,616,613

4.2.8. As can be noted from the budget summary, a significant level of resource continues to be invested in Resource Centres across the Council and the Respite House which significantly limits our ability to implement person centred packages of care which are driven by client choice and the personalisation of services agenda.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5.1 The Council implemented a Priority and Eligibility criteria for Adult Care services during April 2008. This provided a 4 point priority framework for the management of services. Given the resources available only Priority 1 & 2 clients receive services from the Council. The Council's framework is consistent with the new National Eligibility Framework for Older People to be introduced from 1st April 2010 and will be amended accordingly to include services for clients under the age of 65.

6. PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

6.1 The Team scorecard agreed for Learning Disability People's services and the Pyramid system is as follows and I would recommend that the PPG use this scorecard as part of the overview of Older People's services:

- Number of unallocated cases
- Number of assessments outstanding over 28 days
- Number of service users with a Person Centred Plan(PCP)
- % of LD service users with a care plan reviewed within 6 months.
- % of service users attending resource centres

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 The challenge for LD services is clearly to respond to the growing number of clients across the various age bands that are living significantly longer than any previous generation. This combined with the growing expectations

of clients and carers to be empowered to commission their own services with the assistance of Social Work requires the present provision of services and approach to assessment and care management to change radically if the expectations are to be met.

Director of Community Services

21st January 2010

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