

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

HEALTH SCRUTINY MEETING – MONDAY 29 MARCH 2021

DRAFT LEARNING DISABILITY STRATEGY AND CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR ANDY BURFORD

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

- 1.1. *“A learning disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities – for example household tasks, socialising or managing money - which affects someone for their whole life. There are different types of learning disability, which can be mild, moderate, severe or profound”ⁱ*. According to data available from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in 2017 there is an estimated total of 4100 people over 15 with a learning disability in Telford and Wrekin. As at 30 November 2020 Adult Social Care were supporting 493 adults with learning disabilities. This represents 27% of all the adults supported by adult social care.
- 1.2. Across all services in Telford and Wrekin we want to promote independence of people with learning disabilities and help people to live well. People with learning disabilities, and their families, in Telford and Wrekin should be able to access advice, information, care and support that is aspirational, modern and meaningful.
- 1.3. During Autumn 2020, the Council undertook a series of engagement events to co-develop a new Learning Disability Strategy that would set out our approach to improving the lives of adults with a learning disability in Telford and Wrekin over the next 5 years. The draft strategy has been informed and developed by what people with learning disabilities, their families and carers, and professionals have told us.
- 1.4. The purpose of this report is to present a high level overview of the draft Learning Disability Strategy (please refer to Appendix A for a copy of the full draft strategy) alongside the consultation questions (Please refer to Appendix B for a copy of the questions).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Scrutiny is asked to:

2.1 Note the content of the report and appendices; and

2.2 Support and promote the consultation on the draft Learning Disability Strategy.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-operative Council priorities?	
	Yes	Ensuring every child, young person and adult lives well in their community
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	The Learning Disability Strategy will impact on all residents who have a learning disability, their families and carers.
TARGET COMPLETION/ DELIVERY DATE	The strategy is scheduled to be implemented in Summer 2021, depending on feedback from the consultation, approval by Cabinet and any impact from Covid.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	<p>The budget for Adult Social Care necessitates an annual financial review and modelling of the impact of future care strategy, numbers of clients anticipated to be supported, and the unit rates estimated to be valid in the ensuing financial year(s). In addition, the Council receives income from client contributions and contributions towards the cost of care from partners e.g. the CCG. For 2021/22 the provisional budgeted gross expenditure requirement for long term care for clients with a Learning Disability for all over 18's is around £23m.</p> <p>The financial implications of the adoption of this strategy can only be considered when the detailed action plan is produced. There will then need to be a review to determine whether these changes can be met from within the available resources of all partners.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>RP 13.01.2021</i></p>
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	<p>The Learning Disability Strategy is required to comply with The Care Act 2010 and the promotion of personal well-being in care and support. The Equality Act 2010 details protected characteristics protected from discrimination, the prevention of disadvantage to classes of individuals including those with learning disabilities and necessary reasonable adjustments which are accounted for within this report. The Human Rights Act 1998 and the included right to be free from discrimination are noted and remain good law pending review in 2021. These legislative requirements and protections are met in the attached report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ON 13.01.2021</i></p>
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	Yes	There are opportunities relating to improved outcomes for people, sustainability and improved efficiencies through delivering on the learning disability strategy.

IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	N/A
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PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. BACKGROUND

4.1. Using learning disability prevalence rates from Public Health England (2016) and population data from the Office for National Statistics (2019) MENCAPⁱⁱ have calculated that there are 1.5million people with a learning disability in the UK. This equates to 2.16% of all adults in the UK and 2.5% of all children in the UK.



4.2. Looking specifically at the prevalence within England it is estimated that there are 951,000 adults with a learning disability, of which 731,000 are of working age (18-64)ⁱⁱⁱ.



4.3. In January 2020, Public Health England^{iv} provided more detailed data in relation to adults with learning disabilities. They reported that “*in total, the number of adults with learning disabilities getting some form of long-term social care increased from 139,555 people in the period 2014 to 2015 to 147,915 people in 2017 to 2018*”. This increasing number of people receiving long term social care continues to be seen nationally and locally and is important to recognise the impact the increasing population has on the provision of services, including statutory ones.

4.4. Locally, the Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) has a role in developing and running services in a more coordinated way, agreeing priorities and planning collectively how to improve local residents’ day to day health. It seeks to address the key aims of the NHS Long Term Plan^v to “*give everyone the best start in life, deliver world-class care for major health problems, and help people age well*”. The STP’s key area of work over the next five years is to reduce the inequality for people with learning disabilities and increase their quality of life. This includes:

- Implementing the national programme for Learning Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder;
- Continue to undertake LeDeRs to review the deaths of people who have a learning disability and implement any learning;
- Increasing the number of annual health checks (with a target of 80%);
- Stopping over medication of people with a learning disability and supporting treatment and appropriate medication in paediatrics; and
- Upskilling the workforce and improving recruitment and retention in all services.

4.5. According to data available from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in 2017 there was an estimated total of 4100 people over 15 with a learning disability in Telford and Wrekin. This is 2.3% of the total population of Telford and Wrekin. Over the next 12 years it is estimated that the number of people with a learning disability will increase by 6%. This equates to 200 more people over 15 with a learning disability.

4.6. As at 30 November 2020 Adult Social Care were supporting 493 adults with learning disabilities. This represents 27% of all the adults supported by adult social care.

4.7. The Learning Disability strategy is set in the context of the above, national legislation and quality developments relating to the care and support of people with a learning disability. This includes:

- The Care Act 2014
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Human Rights Act, 2000
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Mental Health Act 2007
- Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Autism Act 2009
- Transforming Care Programme (TCP)
- Think Local Act Personal
- British Association of Social Workers Professional Capability Framework

5. OUR APPROACH

5.1. To ensure the strategy is informed by people with learning disabilities, families, carers and professionals a period of engagement was undertaken. The engagement was undertaken with due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty of the S149 Equality Act 2010.

5.2. The engagement activity ran from 30 September to 11 November 2020 and included:

- Virtual face to face sessions,
- Easy Read questionnaire,
- Online questionnaire,
- Stakeholder sessions through various partnerships, including the Making it Real Board and Learning Disability Partnership.

5.3. Due to the Covid Government restrictions the engagement was unable to hold face to face sessions with people with learning disabilities. To ensure their voice was heard if they were unable to engage directly, families, carers and staff were asked to support the person to tell us their views.

5.4. The engagement asked people what was important to them, or the person they support, around the following areas:

- Being healthy and independent
- Having friends and relationships
- Having choice
- Getting out and about
- Having a job
- Having the right support
- Accessing respite
- The impact of Covid.

5.5. During the engagement period we engaged with over 160 different people, including 32 people with learning disabilities as well as families, carers and staff from various organisations supporting people with learning disabilities.

5.6. The draft strategy has been developed from the engagement feedback and from discussions at the Telford & Wrekin Learning Disability Partnership Board. Please refer to Appendix A for a copy of the draft strategy.

6. NEXT STEPS

- 6.1. The next stage of the strategy development is to consult with people who it affects and establish if the plan outlined in the strategy will make a positive difference to them living well in Telford and Wrekin. Please refer to Appendix B for a copy of the proposed consultation questions.
- 6.2. Following approval by Cabinet on 18 February 2021, the timescales for the consultation are:
- Consultation launched on 25 February 2021
 - Consultation activity during following 9 weeks
 - Consultation closes on 29 April 2021
- 6.3. Following the conclusion of the consultation the findings will be analysed and the strategy amended where necessary to reflect the views shared. The final draft version of the strategy will be presented to the Learning Disability Partnership for their agreement to progress to the final stage of approval.
- 6.4. The final stage of the strategy development will be to present the final draft strategy to Cabinet in July 2021 for approval.

7. PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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ⁱ [MENCAP](#), 2020

ⁱⁱ MENCAP, 2020 – [How common is learning disability?](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ Images taken from MENCAP, Nov 2020

^{iv} Public Health England: People with learning disabilities – [Adult Social Care \(Chapter 5\)](#)

^v [NHS Long Term Plan, 2019](#)