

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda  
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for People  
to  
**Cabinet**  
on  
**18<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

Report prepared by: Michelle Hill, Group Manager Vulnerable  
Adults and Workforce Planning

---

## Draft Commissioning Strategy: Learning Disabilities

Executive Councillor: Councillor Lesley Salter  
*A Part 1 Public Agenda Item*

---

### 1. Purpose of Report

This report outlines the key principles of the Southend-on-Sea Learning Disability Strategy and the issues and risks that exist in relation to delivery.

### 2. Recommendation

#### 2.1 That Cabinet endorses the Learning Disability Strategy and Action Plan for formal public consultation and subsequent implementation

### 3. Background

3.1 The Draft Learning Disabilities Strategy (**Appendix 1**) explains what Southend-on-Sea Borough Council will seek to do to meet the needs of people with Learning Disabilities and their carers. The draft strategy exists against a backdrop of a changing health and social care agenda and the development of the Pioneer Project. The draft strategy seeks to be a 'whole systems' strategy.

3.2 The strategic priorities which are being followed in the strategy are:

- To enable people to live in their own homes as far as possible.
- To enable people to engage in socially inclusive activity and participate as citizens in their local communities.
- To provide equality of access to social care services, with particular regard to Equality and Diversity considerations.
- To enable carers to feel informed, included and supported in their role.
- To develop strong partnerships to underpin the seamless delivery of care and support.
- To achieve good value for money to ensure that people derive maximum benefit from available resources.

- 3.3 The Learning Disability Strategy forms part of a wider strategic framework within the context of the Health & Well-being Strategy.
- 3.4 To deliver the strategy priorities the strategy includes an action plan which highlights the actions that are required in order to achieve the aims, who is responsible for delivery and how success will be measured.
- 3.5 Achievement of the outcomes in the strategy will improve the health and wellbeing of people with Learning Disabilities.

#### **4. Other Options**

None.

#### **5. Reasons for Recommendations**

To enable formal consultation to take place on the Learning Disability Strategy in order that a robust Action Plan can be finalised to improve the lives of adults with learning disability and their carers

#### **6. Corporate Implications**

##### **6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities**

Healthy – Support Southend to be active and alive with sport and culture:

- People with Learning Disabilities have increase opportunities for social inclusion and community participation.

Healthy – Reduce inequalities and increase life chances of people living in Southend:

- People with Learning Disabilities have increased opportunities to be involved in work, education and learning.

Healthy – Continue to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and adults:

- People with Learning Disabilities have greater choice and control.
- People with Learning Disabilities experience better mental and physical health.

Prosperous – Encourage the prosperity of Southend and its residents:

- People with Autism Spectrum Conditions have increased opportunities to be involved in work, education and learning.

Excellent – Deliver strong, relevant and targeted services that meet the needs of our community:

- People with Learning Disabilities are able to achieve their goals through the development of relevant services.

## 6.2 Financial Implications

It is expected that the Learning Disability Strategy will deliver savings in both the short and long term. Long term savings are likely to be achieved with integration with NHS activities and through invest to save activities like improving prevention and telecare and telehealth. A number of risks have to be managed. (See 6.8 below)

Where there are actions from the learning disability strategy which identify a budgetary element/implications these will be highlighted in the final action plan

Targets from the action plan will be met using existing resources where possible and where additional funding is required a request will be made through the Council's budget and policy setting process

## 6.3 Legal Implications

None

## 6.4 People Implications

The strategy aims to improve the lives of adults with a learning disability and their carers.

## 6.5 Property Implications

None

## 6.6 Consultation

The strategy has been framed by national and local policy requirements and through discussions about the key gaps in services revealed in the Learning Disabilities Self Assessment Framework.

People with Learning Disabilities who live in Southend-on-Sea (SHIELDS Councillors) have been asked "what they would want to see in the strategy", and these views and requirements have been entered into the strategy.

Cabinet is asked to approve the strategy for formal consultation.

The strategy will be reviewed by the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board during the formal consultation period and again to SHIELDS and the wider community with an Easy Read version.

The strategy will also be reviewed by the Health & Well Being Board and the CCG.

All comments from the consultation will be taken into consideration and where relevant incorporated into the final action plan

## 6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The Learning Disabilities Strategy is focused on all adults with Learning Disabilities and people with Learning Disabilities include all 'protected characteristics'.

It is the characteristic of this disability that serve to make people with Learning Disabilities perhaps the most vulnerable in society. People with Learning Disabilities have received poor and neglectful service and this has been revealed in high profile examples such as Winterbourne view. People with Learning Disability die earlier than other than those without learning disabilities and there are greater risks to health.

This puts an emphasis on improving all services including mainstream services and making reasonable adjustments to help close the outcome gap. Where possible, services should be differentiated if they better serve the needs of different 'protected characteristics', This is particularly important as within the increase in numbers of people with Learning Disabilities there will be a significant rise in the number of older people and younger people with complex needs.

In this strategy there are no negative impacts on any protected characteristic. When the actions of the strategy are implemented we will seek to make sure that it has no detrimental impact on protected characteristics. The Draft Strategy says that an equality analysis/baseline of services to people with LD will be taken and changes measured.

## 6.8 Risk Assessment

The main risks to the strategy are:

- Not being able to procure low cost models of provision in supported living away from residential care.
- Managing the delivery of seamless care, particularly with NHS partners. This is also related to being locked into high cost models of provision as we consider developing integrated approaches to commissioning with health.
- Developing a personalised care market at lower cost which effectively supports people with learning disabilities and their carer's.
- Other Local Authorities placing vulnerable people in Southend-on-Sea who then become ordinarily resident.
- Reaching agreement with key partners

## 6.9 Value for Money

People with Learning Disability have traditionally been very high cost clients partly depending on their level of disability. Much provision has perhaps created too much dependency, and Southend-on-Sea has traditionally been reliant on high cost residential care. This position has changed and we no longer are reliant on residential care.

The emphasis of this strategy is to help to deliver greater independence with appropriate support for more people with learning disability. It is therefore a strategy capable of delivering both enhanced quality of life and for a lower cost.

The achievement of objectives and outcomes will relate to the development of joint working in the wake of Pioneer with its focus on prevention.

The strategy also focuses on improvement to mainstream service which further enables people to be independent.

## 6.10 Community Safety Implications

None

## 6.11 Environmental Impact

None

## 7. Background Papers

None

## 8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Learning Disabilities Strategy

