

SOCIAL AND HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Date of Meeting	Thursday 3 rd October, 2019
Report Subject	Regional Learning Disability Service Report on Progress
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report gives an overview of the work of the “North Wales Together; Seamless Services for people with Learning Disabilities” programme which is being funded by Welsh Government (WG) via the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and hosted by Flintshire. Neil Ayling and Lesley Singleton Director Partnerships Mental Health and Learning Disability.

The programme is coproduced with the individuals with a learning disability and their families, the 6 Local Authority areas, the Betsy Cadwaladr University Health Board, (BCUHB) and the third sector.

The aim of the programme is to seek out and share best practice, developing models of support for Learning Disabilities Services in North Wales that can be trialled during the course of the project and adopted and taken forward alongside the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy (2018-2023) following the end of the programme in December 2020.

The Institute of Public Care (IPC) at Oxford Brooks University have the contract for evaluation of the programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the actions identified below are supported by Scrutiny.
---	--

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	NORTH WALES TOGETHER; SEAMLESS SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES
1.01	The purpose of the project is identified below; People with learning disabilities will have a better quality of life; living locally where they feel 'safe and well', where they are valued and included in their communities and have access to effective personal support that promotes independence, choice and control.
1.02	Background The project is funded via a bid made for monies linked to "A Healthier Wales". It is one of 4 complementary bid made by the RPB against monies made available to fund transformations in services advocated by that guidance.
1.03	Phasing The work falls into three phases though it is acknowledged there will be some fluidity between the three. They are; Mapping what's happening across the region; June 19 to September 19. Adoption of models; Sept 19 to Dec 19. Facilitation of models. Jan 20 to Dec 20.
1.04	Work Streams Five work streams are identified in the LD Strategy with a planning and development officer linked to each. In addition there are post attached to each of the three North Wales sub-regions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Systems • Technology • Workforce development • Community and Culture Change • Commissioning and Procurement. Flintshire lead on the Community and Culture change work stream and are involved, amongst other things, in projects around the opportunity to think differently about the use of Direct Payments, Project Search, relationships and dating, and the stay up late campaign.
1.05	Emerging themes from the first phase There is a good deal of innovative practice to be found in North Wales, and this can be shared and roll out across the region, however, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general profile and rights of people with Learning Disabilities needs to be raised within the wider community. • The general workforce remains a disadvantage to individuals with fewer than 2% of people with a LD in paid employment in Wales. The National Average UK average is 17%. • Pooled budget should be supported as there is evidence that the money is in the health and social care system that could deliver better outcomes for people, this work stream is being driven forward by the LD programme and will trialled in Ynys Mon. The issue is being identified as fundamentally important to breaking down the barriers to integrated working, particularly in Adults services.

1.06	<p>Themes in relation to the strategy work-streams</p> <p>Having the right support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People need to be better supported to be able to access 'mainstream' and more casual opportunities e.g. gig buddies but also general access to community resources. The project will be working on facilitating adoption of Gig buddie, stay up late campaign, and friendship groups. • A care provider event has been arranged to consider and address how we improve outcomes for people. There is a general view that care providers would like to modernise and move away from Traditional support but require clear guidance and support to do so from commissioners in relation to funding and positive risk taking. • Direct Payment support for families is required, not to access contractual and financial support as that exists, but to work out how they can meet their outcomes in person centred, imaginative and inclusive ways. Wider than just service solutions. We are working on a brokerage model for DPs which takes it wider than just employment and payroll support. To encourage the market to provide. We are also investigating development of protocols to ensure Direct Payments are accessible to those who are jointly funded with Health. • Active Support and Positive Behaviour Support training is required more widely for care and support staff across the sector. This would ensure the community support market is able to support those with more complex needs. To this end we are setting up a Community of Practice to provide support to trainers and care providers and support the rollout of Active Support in North Wales. • Gap in services for those with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD). We will investigate advocacy models for this group of people and to ensure all work streams, models and pilots have a PMLD offer.
1.07	<p>Friendships and relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens cite this area as being extremely important to them, and is therefore one the project is prioritising. We will re-establish a currently dormant regional co-production group focused on relationships. • Risk assessment and positive risk taking work will be undertaken, alongside working with families and care providers enable this.
1.08	<p>Something meaningful to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with LD want to work and volunteer. • Options around recruitment of people with LD is being mapped. Myth busting is required around permitted work and therapeutic earnings and partially, temporary and fully supported work options need to be investigated. • DP and pooling of DPs may help with this. Project to look at developing models and approaches that enable this. • Project Search. To investigate wider roll out.

1.09	<p>Having a good place to live. Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate services are not in place or sufficiently robust. Step up step down/Intermediate level of care to support for those with complex needs in a crisis to be investigated. • The only accommodation options available at present in an emergency situation are residential placements, these are often out of county. There may be opportunities on a Sub-regional (East) to work together on providing 24hr needs temporarily whilst alternative long term placements are sought, or enablement and progression approaches to be applied to assess and skill up individuals in daily living tasks. • Sub regional tenancy based models to be investigated and developed jointly for complex needs and potentially for grouping of people from different counties who want or need to live together. • Parents with LD require services that allow them to be supported alongside their children, whilst the number across the regional are low, working across the region, could reduce the likelihood of those children them being taken into care. Shared lives being pursued as a model. • Pathways to be developed supported by agreement which allow the funding of an individual placed in another county where that is appropriate and agreed.
1.10	<p>Being healthy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is low uptake of health checks. Health checks to have some impetuous in Ynys Mon with the purpose of developing better processes across the region (potentially supported electronically). • Information accessibility is an issue. Pathways and publicity to be developed in different formats to sustain checks and screening following project. • Inpatient settings will also need to adapt to transformation. Review of inpatient services required to ensure transformation to community services is reflected in what is being offered in the inpatient setting (point made in relation to Bryn Y Neuadd hospital). Working group to be set up.
1.11	<p>Being safe.</p> <p>Technology. Rolling out and developing new approaches. Specialist input to be sought to ensure accessible, centrally located information. Website blueprints to be explored.</p> <p>Safe places scheme. Project supporting North Wales roll out.</p>
1.12	<p>Children's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progression and enablement in transition to be investigated. • New legislation to be introduced. Preparation for Additional Learning Needs (ALN) including improving transition experiences. Project to incorporate within models.

1.13	Carers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developments in line with NW Carers strategy. • Planning for the future of concern to parents and current approaches are not acceptable/accessible. • Parents, carers and individuals have to battle for diagnosis and support. Consultation happening to identify what can be done to address this.
------	--

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>Total budget allocated is 1.69 million. This is drawn down in arrears at the end of each quarter. The last drawdown will be Dec 2020. The programme can allocate money for “pump priming” of specific strategy and work stream related projects (related to the emerging themes above) which will trial models adopted in various locations during September and October 2019 to be rolled out in 2020.</p> <p>Allocations will be made in agreement from the project board and will be identified in collaboration with lead areas for each work stream.</p>

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	<p>Strategy consultation undertaken prior to development of strategy. This programme of work is coproduced with individual with a Learning Disability.</p> <p>IPC will evaluate and provide an outcome report.</p>

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>Equality impact assessments in development.</p> <p>Risk log available on Camms, the Flintshire project management system.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – North Wales Learning Disability Strategy 2018 – 2023

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Kathryn Whitfield, Programme Manager. North Wales Together, Seamless Services for people with Learning Disabilities. Telephone: 07770598073 E-mail: Kathryn.whitfield@flintshire.co.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Learning Disability (LD). A Learning Disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities. (Mencap definition).</p> <p>Direct Payments are a payment made by a local authority social services department to an individual who has been assessed as having care and support needs who wish to arrange their own care and support services.</p> <p>Active support is a method of enabling people with Learning Disabilities to engage more in their daily lives. (British institute of Learning Disabilities).</p> <p>Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is a way of supporting people who display behaviours that challenge those around them.</p> <p>Community of practice. A group of individuals with a shared interest that comes together to share learning and support the development of those interests, in this case a shared commitment to supporting people with behaviours that challenge.</p> <p>Challenging Behaviour or behaviours that challenge can include hitting and kicking other people, throwing things or self-harming behaviour. Behaviour is challenging if it is harmful to the person and others around them, and if it stops the person achieving things in their daily life (Mencap).</p> <p>Profound and multiple Learning Disabilities. PMLD. People with severe and profound disabilities. This term covers those who have learning disabilities and physical disabilities where their issues compound to cause increased barriers to care and support and within the community and care environments.</p> <p>Intermediate care. Support which breaches the gap between care in one's own home and within your own community and hospital, residential or nursing homes and could prevent an individual from having to step up to that level of care, hence potentially losing their home.</p> <p>Shared lives is a support model which enables individuals to live with and receive support from a paid carer with whom that individual shares a home.</p> <p>Health Checks is a reference to the system of paying GP surgeries to provide a structured health check to people with a diagnosed Learning Disability.</p> <p>ALN. Additional Learning needs is a piece of legislation due to be enacted in 2020 which lays out responsibilities for Local authorities and partners in relation to the learning needs of people with additional requirements up to the age of 25.</p> <p>Safe places is a scheme that works with communities and individuals to identify designated places within that community to which a person can go if they feel unsafe whilst out and about in that community.</p>

	<p>Integrated Care Fund (ICF) is a time limited fund which was set up to fund set term projects enabling innovation and integration within Health and Social Care.</p>
--	---

	<p>Coproduction refers to a way of working where citizens and service providers and commissioners work together to produce services and arrangements that meet their outcomes.</p>
--	---

	<p>Bryn Y Neuadd was the North Wales specialist hospital for people with Learning Disabilities based in Llanfairfechan. Its use has now been broadened out to accommodate other BCUHB services but it still houses the offices for the LD Senior Management team, consultants and the Assessment and Treatment unit alongside some residential services for people with complex needs.</p>
--	---