

LEARNING DISABILITY ACTION PLAN - FINAL REPORT

Report By: Head of Learning Disabilities

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

1. To provide a final report on the implementation of the action plan which followed the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) in January 2007.

Financial Implications

2. None

Background

3. The Commission for Social Care Inspection concluded in January 2007 that "people with learning disability in Herefordshire were not being served well and that the Councils capacity for improvement was uncertain"
4. The full report and action plan was presented to this Committee in June 2007 with updated reports in October and December.
5. Appendix 1 shows progress against each of the CSCI recommendations.
6. The main criticisms of the service were that; a large number of individuals had not had their needs reviewed for some time; the Council had been slow to implement Valuing People Strategy; there was no overarching strategy setting out strategic priorities; service users were not sufficiently included in developing services; too many people were living in residential care and there was insufficient range of services available.
7. The action plan addressed these and other issues. All service users have had their needs reviewed; The Valuing People Partnership Board has developed an overarching strategic plan informed by consultation with service users; Partnership Officers (including an expert by experience) have been appointed to improve service user engagement; an accommodation and support strategy has been developed with a preferred partner organisation identified; a successful pilot project provided 25 individuals with personalised budgets with which they have purchased a wide range of support.
8. A Needs Analysis report presented to Cabinet in December 2006 resulted in investment of £600k per annum for three years from 2007/8 to improve and modernise the service. This investment, together with the action plan is providing significantly improved outcomes for service users - with more individuals living more independent lives and having more say as to how funds allocated to them are spent to achieve their stated ambitions.

9. Following the completion of the action plan the learning disability service development has been incorporated into the overall adult social care improvement programme and service plan.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT progress against the action plan is noted and that the developments within the learning disability service are in future reported as part of the overall adult social care improvement plan.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Future Needs of adults with learning disability; Cabinet Dec 2006
- CSCI inspection report on service for people with learning disability and the councils action plan: Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing Committee June 2007
- Learning disability action plan; Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing Committee October 2007
- "Better Lives" - Personalised service fro people with learning disabilities in Herefordshire Dec 2007