

Health & Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Date: 25 January 2007

Modernising Services Working Group Modernisation of Day Care Services for People with Learning Disabilities

Portfolio: Social Care and Inclusion – Councillor Paul

Service: Integrated Learning Disability Service

Wards: All

Key decisions: To agree to endorse the plan to modernise Day Services for People with Learning Disabilities

Forward plan: Cabinet presentation February 2007

Summary of report

Following the report of the Modernising Services Working Group in April 2005 a Plan was prepared to identify the changes required in the Day Services for people with a learning disability in Walsall.

The proposed Plan was launched in February 2006 and an extended consultation period was concluded in autumn 2006

This report recommends that the Plan be submitted to Cabinet for formal agreement

Recommendations

- (1) That the proposed Plan is forwarded to Cabinet for formal agreement
- (2) That Scrutiny Committee be provided with Annual updates on progress together with being informed of any significant concerns expressed by Service Users or Carers

Resource and legal considerations

The Modernisation of Day Services in Walsall will be contained within the identified revenue resources allocated to the Learning Disability Service.

There is no statutory duty to provide Day Services although there is a legal duty to meet the assessed needs of citizens under the Community Care Act

Citizen impact

Services are presently provided in a traditional manner involving large groups of people with a learning disability being transported across the town to 3 large Day Centre sites.

The White Paper 'Valuing People' [2001] said that services should enable people with a learning disability to lead full and purposeful lives within their community

The proposed Plan emphasises a change to smaller service settings in township communities enhancing individual and inclusive person centred services.

Community safety

All Service Users will have individual person centred care plans which include appropriate Risk Assessments. Staff support and activities will be provided in accordance with the Risk Assessments.

Environmental impact

No issues

Performance and risk management issues

Day Services contribute to PAF C30 Helped to Live at Home indicators. Walsall is in the top 30% of Councils nationally. The proposed Plan will enhance future performance and the expectations of future service users and carers.

Equality implications

Existing services do not promote equality and inclusion due to the nature of their large segregated settings.

The services proposed are in small community integrated settings supporting an inclusive range of services. The person centred approaches will also provide a more sensitive range of services addressing the diverse cultural needs of Walsall's citizens

Consultation

The proposed Plan was launched in February 2006 in as part of the Learning Disability Partnership Board Annual Open Event at the Quality Hotel, approximately 80 Service Users and Carers attended.

Copies of the proposed Plan were made available in Day Centres and to all attendees

Service Users, Carers and Staff were initially offered until May 2006 to submit their views and concerns through a variety of mechanisms including:

- By post, telephone or email
- 'Surgeries' in Day Centres
- Individual or group meetings

The initial response was less than anticipated and not felt to be representative. Accordingly, the consultation period was extended and a themed event was held at the end of September 2006 to formally end the consultation period.

The event, held at the Crossing, was attended by in excess of 40 carers and was, effectively, a reprise of the views expressed at the launch in February. The agreed outcome was to proceed with the proposed Plan and adopt a continuous consultation approach involving individual/group discussions, regular surgeries and newsletters.

Vision 2008

5. Make Walsall a healthy and caring place

The Plan will facilitate People with a Learning Disability becoming valued members of the community. Services to be developed will include support to address the significant health issues in the lives of people with a learning disability

Background papers

- Assessment of Day Care Services for People with Learning Disabilities – Report of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel – April 2005
- Valuing People: A New Strategy for Learning Disability for the 21st Century – 2001
- Valuing People: much achieved, more to do – summary of Inspections carried out in 2003/2004
- Valuing People: The story so far... – expectations for change 2005-2010
- Minutes of the Modernising Services Working Group
 - 1st November 2004
 - 2nd February 2005
 - 8th February 2005
 - 15th April 2005

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