



**LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

**DRAFT STRATEGY FOR THE COMMISSIONING
OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL &
SENSORY DISABILITIES**

2008– 2013

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR PUBLIC
CONSULTATION**

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of The Draft Strategy

- 1.1.1 This draft commissioning strategy relates to and is one of a series of four commissioning strategies covering the whole of adult social care services that the Council has produced and is simultaneously consulting on. (Services for People with a Learning Disability, Older Persons Services, Services for People with a Physical Disability or Sensory Impairment and Services for People with a Mental Health Problem)
- 1.1.2 An Overview Report has also been drafted, drawing out the common themes underpinning all of the commissioning strategies. If you would like to see how the vision presented here relating to services for people with physical and sensory disabilities fits into this broader strategic picture, please contact Kimberly Radford – consultation co-ordinator on 01582 547706 or at commissioning.consultation@luton.gov.uk for a copy of the Overview Report
- 1.1.3 This Executive Summary of the Strategy, for the purposes of public consultation, presents the primary proposals for the development of these services, summarized through a series of commissioning proposals, with key questions posed to facilitate the process of consultation.
- 1.1.4 The full draft strategy provides greater detail. A copy of the full strategy can be obtained by contacting Wendy Toomey, Service Manager
- 1.1.5 Public consultation on the strategy will take place from July to September 2008. Feedback from consultation and any amendments to the draft strategy suggested by this feedback will be presented to the Council's Executive in November 2008 and the final version of the strategy will be published after this.

1.2 The Modernisation of Physical & Sensory Disability Services

- 1.2.1 Although a good start has been made in modernising local services for people with a physical and sensory disability, in line with The Future Living Needs for Younger Adults in Luton Strategy, further major change is needed to make them fully compliant with the latest guidance from central government.
- 1.2.2 This strategy is strongly influenced by the national "Transforming Social Care" programme, through which the Government expects all local

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authorities to have put in place, by March 2011, the different structures and processes required for delivering self directed care and individual budgets and for a significant proportion of those eligible for social care support to be benefiting from this.

- 1.2.3 The Government themselves, however, recognise that such a large-scale transformation, which will require a major change in culture and the development of a very different social care market, will not happen overnight. This strategy therefore includes proposals for improving the current range and quality of commissioned services, which will continue to be required by people whilst the new self directed care arrangements are being developed and rolled out to all.

2 IMPACT OF THIS STRATEGY

- 2.1 What will this ten-year vision mean for people with disabilities and their carers living in Luton?
- Increased range of support options for people to choose from, increasingly through the use of an individual budget
 - More information about support options will be readily available in formats that are easy to understand.
 - Increased access to advocates and personal brokers
 - People with disabilities and family carers as full partners in shaping the allocation of resources to meet their needs
 - Full protection from discrimination.
 - Reduction in the number of young adults with complex needs being placed outside of the Borough
 - There will be more opportunities for people with disabilities to move into paid employment, part and full-time, with the Council setting the example for other employers.
 - The range of supported living schemes will be increased (including shared ownership) and intentional communities

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- Day services has ceased to be provided through large institutional settings and will now be provided through accessible community settings like the Chaul End Centre
- Short breaks will be made available in a more flexible and responsive way.
- Full provision will be made for the cultural needs of people with a disability coming from the expanding ethnic minority communities.
- People with disabilities will be helped to access the full range of health services, especially if they have a combination of health needs.
- Over this time period, there will be a continuation of transfer of resources from residential to non-residential services, the better to support people with a disability within their local communities.

Consultation Question 1 : Do you agree that the impacts of the strategy described above will be achievable and will be sufficient to bring about the transformation in the lives of people with a learning disability called for by the national Valuing People Strategy ?

3 COMMISSIONING PROPOSALS

In this Section, all of the Commissioning Proposals are drawn together and related to the seven Outcome Headings, against which the Commission for Social Care Inspection will be evaluating services.

3.1 Improving Health and Emotional Well-Being

- Establish with practice-based commissioning groups the priority of health action planning for people with a disability.
- Those people with disabilities will be helped to access the supported self assessment service for simple equipment.
- Review the design and delivery of the integrated community equipment partnership to deliver a transformed service offering wider choice through a retail/prescription model.
- Review and develop accessible nourishing meal alternatives.

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- Continue to develop sophisticated rehabilitative partnership approaches to intermediate care, hospital discharges, to achieve the highest outcomes for younger disabled people.

Consultation Question 2 : Do you agree that these are the right priorities for improving the general health of people with a learning disability ?

3.2 Improved Quality of Life

- Undertake a review of all out-of-borough residential placements with a view to identifying those who would prefer or benefit from a more local specialist service, if the appropriate alternative provision were commissioned.
- Enter into dialogue with existing service providers within the Borough to identify their capacity to develop the required alternative provision, opening up the tendering process to new providers, as required, and entering into collaborative commissioning with Bedfordshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities to address service gaps in common.
- Commission specialist assessment and reenabling home support services for those with disabilities living in the community, who have complex needs.
- Identify within any review of sheltered housing stock and new extra care schemes the scope for providing for younger people with a disability with either complex needs and/or challenging behaviour, whether through building, adaptation or demolition of existing buildings.
- Commission from Registered Social Landlords a year-on-year allocation of supported tenancies of appropriately adapted properties, alongside securing a regular supply of Council housing tenancies.
- Commissioning of all future buildings to lifetime standards.

Consultation Question 3 : Do you believe that these proposed actions will secure the improvement in the quality of peoples' lives required ? If not, which other measures do you think the Council and Luton tPCT need to take ?

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3.3 Making a Positive Contribution

- Contribute to the establishment of a virtual Transitions Team for all young people, aged 14-25 years with an eligible disability, bringing together staff from children's services and adult social care, education and leisure, supported employment, housing and transport to develop and implement through-life support plans.
- As an integral part of the development of the Service Improvement Programme, ensure that feedback from service users and carers at care plan reviews are fed back into the commissioning process and that representative groups of users and carers are given regular opportunities to meet with members and senior managers.
- Review the ongoing stakeholder representation groups engaged with the Future Living Needs for Younger Adults Strategy and continuing arrangements to ensure fit for purpose.

Consultation Question 4 : Are there other specific ways in which people with a learning disability can be supported to make a positive contribution in their community ?

3.4 Increased Choice and Control

- Work towards the re-provision of more socially inclusive day opportunities.
- Provide the option of 'travel training' to all eligible people as a routine.
- Examine ways of making more cost-effective use of supported living units, with the aid of TeleCare and TeleHealth assistive technology and more flexibly deploying staff in support of more dispersed day opportunities.
- Contribute to the development across adult social care of the systems and cultural changes necessary to deliver self directed care and individualised budgets
- Commission a 'buddy service' to recruit, train and support volunteers to accompany people, especially young adults, with long term impairments to mainstream community services, seeking to match together those with similar interests.
- Draw up a specification for a localised, specialist transport service to facilitate access to more dispersed community activities.

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Consultation Question 5 : Do the proposals in this section make sense ? Are there other priorities for development you believe should be included under this broad heading of increasing choice and control

Consultation Question 6 : The aim of personal budgets is to enable people who can, have maximum choice, control and power over the support services they receive. Would you be willing to shape and commission your own service?

3.5 Freedom from Discrimination

- Involve service users and their carers (experts through experience) in developing broader practice training within Community Development and other council services.
- Provide a programme of assertiveness and other training for people with disabilities to ensure that people know how to deal with bullying and harassment in the community.

Consultation Question 7 : Are there other measures you think the Council could consider to ensure that people with disabilities are freed from discrimination?

3.6 Economic Well-Being

- Contribute to the development of plans for a significant increase in the range and volume of support available for people to secure vocational training and paid employment
- Increase the number of people able to make use of supported living schemes instead of residential care, through which they will have access to a higher level of benefits.
- Contribute to the development of a financial assessment partnership between the local authority and the DWP to ensure that people receive the maximum possible income.

Consultation Question 8 : Are there other specific measures the Council should be considering to help promote the economic well-being of people with disabilities ?

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3.7 **Maintaining Personal Dignity and Respect**

- Negotiate with Health and independent sector social care providers a comprehensive training programme for all care staff working with people with long term impairments to promote the appropriate skills.
- Implement a comprehensive quality monitoring system for all external service providers, to ensure that the services being provided place the individuals' dignity and respect at the centre of all that they do.
- Build into the new systems for self directed care sufficient safeguards to ensure that people choosing non-commissioned support packages remain protected.

Consultation Question 9 : Taking account of all the other proposals above that might contribute to achieving this outcome objective, do you believe there are any other measures that should be taken over the next 5 years to help ensure dignity and respect for people with a disability or long term impairment?

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Both the Council and Luton Primary Care Trust have responded positively over the last 5 years to the growth in demand for specialist disability services by providing substantial above-inflation budget growth, at a time when other service areas have faced significant cuts.
- 4.2 However, it is very unlikely that this exponential rate of growth can be sustained and, as a result, the majority of the service improvements in this commissioning strategy will have to come from both efficiency savings and from the commissioning of ever more creative and cost-effective services.
- 4.3 In Luton over 30% of people from the age of 50 to retirement age are disabled and only 50% of disabled people are in work compared with 80% of people without disabilities. Spending our resources on helping people live the life they want will mean that more people will have choice and feel in control of their own lives.
- 4.4 In the development of more socially inclusive services, it will also be essential to secure targeted funding from other mainstream local authority

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departments and government agencies responsible for training, employment, housing, transport and leisure.

Consultation Question 10 : Do you agree that a high priority should be given to reducing the current reliance on high cost residential care provision outside of Luton ?

----- End of Executive Summary -----

Please send your comments to: -

Kimberly Radford
Adult & Older Persons Services
Clemitson House
14 Upper George Street
Luton
LU1 2RP

Or

e-mail commissioning.consultation@luton.gov.uk

Or

visit the consultation website to complete an online questionnaire and view other versions of the strategies at www.luton.gov.uk/currentconsultations

Closing date for consultation feedback: 30th September 2008