

**COMMITTEE**                      **DISABILITY ACCESS ADVISORY  
FORUM**

**DATE:**                              **7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2008**

**SUBJECT:**                        **CONSULTATION OF ADULT SOCIAL  
CARE COMMISSIONING STRATEGIES**

**REPORT BY:**                    **HEAD OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

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**IMPLICATIONS:**

**LEGAL**                              ✓    **STAFFING**

**EQUALITIES**                    ✓    **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**FINANCIAL**    **RISKS**

**OTHER**                              ✓

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL**

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**PURPOSE**

1. To consult with the Disability Advisory Access Forum on the Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategies

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2     **The Disability Advisory Access Forum is asked to consider and comment on the Draft Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategies appended to this report.**

## **REPORT**

### **Background**

- 2     Local authorities are periodically required to develop strategies for the future delivery of Adult Social Care Services, based on an analysis of the likely future needs for care and support of different groups of vulnerable and disabled people and showing how these projected needs will be met.
- 3     Appended to this report are the Executive Summaries of the separate commissioning strategies covering:
  - Older Persons' Services
  - Services for Adults with a Learning Disability
  - Services for Adults with a Mental Health Problem
  - Services for Adults with a Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment
  - Carers Strategy
  - Overview
  - Consultation Plan
- 4     Full versions of each of the commissioning strategies are available upon request by e-mailing [commissioning.consultation@luton.gov.uk](mailto:commissioning.consultation@luton.gov.uk) or by contacting the Disability Resource Centre on 01582 470900
- 5     These drafts have been amended in the light of feedback already received from Joint Board (27/3/08), Policy Group (7/5/08 ) and Social Inclusion Scrutiny Committee (3/6/08).

Following consultation, they will be amended in the light of public and stakeholder feedback and presented back to Social Inclusion Scrutiny and the Executive in November 2008 for final approval.

## **Scope and Purpose of Commissioning Strategies**

- 6 The commissioning strategies are expected to clearly demonstrate how the outcomes for people requiring adult social care support, are going to be improved, how any identified gaps in provision are going to be met and how any developments are going to be resourced.
7. Although much work has been done over recent years in Luton within each of the separate customer groups to develop commissioning proposals for these areas, the Commission for Social Care Inspection have commented in their annual appraisal of the Council's performance that these efforts have not been sufficiently well coordinated or coherent across adult social care as a whole and that the resultant separate strategies are not underpinned by the robust financial planning required to ensure delivery of the strategies.
8. It is for this reason that officers have now developed a consistent framework within which the common themes for improved delivery of adult social care can be highlighted and a whole set of commissioning strategies generated and simultaneously consulted on.
- 9 Within the next three years, the Council will be required to undertake further work to achieve a much larger scale transformation of the way in which social care is accessed and delivered. This is in line with the Government's "Putting People First" strategy for the phased introduction of self-assessment, self-directed care and individualised budgets.

- 10 These commissioning strategies prepare the ground for this transformation by placing a greater commissioning emphasis on personalised care (e.g. promoting the more widespread take up of direct payment arrangements). They are also intended to ensure that the existing models of service delivery continue to improve whilst the work is undertaken on the wider scale transformation and that any identified gaps in provision continue to be addressed as the new systems are developed and rolled out over the next five years.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11 As at this stage the documentation is for consultation only it is not possible to be definitive but currently there are no express legal implications arising from this Report or the commissioning strategies themselves as agreed with J. Newman on 6 June 2008.

### **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 12 All the commissioning strategies have equality implications, as they must ensure that social care services are accessible to all sections of the community in a fair and equitable way. An initial Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and will be enhanced through the public consultation. The outcome will be reported when the strategies are presented back to Scrutiny and the Executive for final approval.

### **SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 13 One of the key underlying themes running through all of the commissioning strategies is that vulnerable and disabled people assessed as requiring social care support

should be offered this support in a way which maximises their inclusion in local communities. Whilst ensuring protection for these who need it, the strategies' aim is to promote social inclusion by facilitating access of vulnerable and disabled people to the same range of local community amenities and accommodation options enjoyed by other local citizens. In this way, it is intended to foster more socially cohesive communities, breaking down some of the barriers that have traditionally existed between disabled and non-disabled citizens. The degree to which the strategies can achieve this will be a specific aspect of the consultation with stakeholders and the public.

## **COUNCILLORS AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CONSULTATIONS**

- 14 As highlighted in paragraph 6 above, the draft strategies have been presented to the Joint Board, Policy Group and Scrutiny Committee and have been amended in the light of the feedback received from these forums.

## **STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS**

- 15 Stakeholders representing each of the different groups of vulnerable and disabled people covered by these strategies were initially consulted on their views of service gaps and priorities as part of the process of generating these draft strategies. Stakeholders and the wider public will have the further opportunity to comment on each of the draft strategies over a three-month period of public consultation from July to September. (Detailed consultation plan attached as Appendix 6) A summary of the views expressed and how they have been reflected in

proposed amendments to the strategies will be made available to the Executive in November 2008 when they are presented for final approval.

## **OPTIONS**

- 16 There is no option to developing and consulting on these commissioning strategies, as they are regarded as a key component of the Council's performance by the Commission for Social Care Inspection, which regulates the provision and commissioning of social care services by the Council.

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1	Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategies : An Overview
Appendix 2	Executive Summary of the Older Persons Commissioning Strategy
Appendix 3	Executive Summary of the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy
Appendix 4	Executive Summary of the Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Commissioning Strategy
Appendix 5	Executive Summary of Mental Health Strategy
Appendix 6	Executive Summary of the Carer's Strategy
Appendix 7	Detailed Consultation Plan