

COMMITTEE: SOCIAL INCLUSION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 3RD FEBRUARY 2005

SUBJECT: THE MODERNISATION OF SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS

REPORT BY: SCRUTINY OFFICER

CONTACT OFFICER: FAUZIA SAEED 01582 546780

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY	
EQUALITIES	✓	ENVIRONMENT	
FINANCIAL		CONSULTATIONS	✓
STAFFING		OTHER	

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE

1. To inform Members of three aspects related to the production of the Older People's Strategy upon which the Service is going to commence its work and agree the scrutiny process for it.
2. To agree the scrutiny process for the Learning Disability Services Housing Strategy for people with a learning disability, which the Learning Disability Partnership Board is about to start work on.
3. To consider how the committee is going to dispense with the consultation strategy for the production of the older people's strategy agreed by the Executive.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SOCIAL INCLUSION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE is recommended to

- 4. Indicate any further information that they may need in relation to the development of the Older People's Strategy topics as in para (14) and indicate what aspect they would like to scrutinise.**
- 5. Indicate what aspects they would like to scrutinise in relation to the strategic work on meeting the accommodation needs of people with a learning disability and agree to undertake this through the Learning Disability Partnership Board's Housing Way Forward Group.**
- 6. Consider proposals for the appropriate disbursement of the consultation strategy, which was recommended by this committee and agreed by the Executive for consulting older people in the Borough over the Older people's strategy.**

BACKGROUND

7. The ODPM issued guidance on the production of an Older People's Strategy. It adopted a holistic approach covering all the needs of Older People e.g. Housing, Care, Health and Recreation. This committee agreed to scrutinise the production of the strategy. A working group was set up representative of all the relevant partners, senior people's organisations, council officers, councillors and senior citizens of Luton to work with the scrutiny committee in ensuring that the guidance was being followed and the views of Older people in Luton were reflected in the provision of services that affected their lives. It is referred to as the older people's strategy working group.
8. The committee and the working group received data on several aspects of the review e.g. statistics about the profile of older people in Luton, different kinds of provisions both the traditional ones and the ones that were based on best practice ideas reflecting innovative ideas agreed upon by older people themselves. Most committee meetings were held in the town hall and the working group meetings took place in community venues, particularly in the Central Library.
9. Several speakers addressed the committee and the working Group. An eminent one being the person in charge for managing changes that needs to be made in accordance with the ODPM's guidance in Liverpool. She shared information on the current management arrangements there as well as the process that was adopted to achieve the sea change that was required in order to deliver what is

now considered as an example of best practice. Members of this committee and representatives from amongst the members of the Scrutiny working group visited Liverpool and a few other places to bring back evidence of good practice.

10. Another speaker who is at the cutting edge of innovation was from Peterborough. He addressed the committee on how he was jointly managing Health and Social Care, for older people through a joint trust and outlined the benefits of it.

Consultation Strategy

11. The Social Inclusion Scrutiny Committee is committed to the scrutiny of the development of an Older People's Strategy in accordance with the guidance from the ¹ODPM. It set up a working group to assist with the task and to ensure that the senior citizens of Luton and their organisations are fully consulted. The working group, assisted by the Council's Consultation Officer, Service Officers, Scrutiny officer and representing PCT., Age Concern, and older people's organisations in Luton produced a consultation strategy to ensure that older people in Luton are fully consulted and especially those that are hard to reach groups. This committee commended the consultation strategy to the Executive and got approval for its implementation.
12. In addition Housing and Social Services was also consulting older people in Luton through the traditional and non-traditional channels. A Listening Event was organised which helped shape the Strategy for the Future Living Needs of Luton's Older People. It was put to a meeting of the Scrutiny consultation group and a number of recommendations were made through this committee to the Executive. These have been accepted.
13. Members are requested to indicate how they would like to dispense with the consultation strategy in view of the fact that the consultation for the future living needs of older people is over.

¹ ODPM: Offices of the Deputy Minister

Review of Day Services for Older People

14. The Older People's Service is proceeding to review other aspects of Day Services for older people. The project brief is to undertake a whole system review of day services for older people in Luton and a review of sheltered housing.
15. External consultants have been commissioned to carry out the Review. The first stage of the review is to be completed by the end of February 2005. The proposals for the future direction of the service will form the basis of a consultation process with key stakeholders staff, users and carers.
16. The project will produce a comprehensive map of current day resources and services across the Luton health and social care economy.
17. The project will produce strategic proposals for the modernisation of day services, designed to provide a flexible, cost-effective, inclusive range of day care, from long-term preventative to short-term re-enablement service. The proposals will seek to make best use of current assets, with increased flexibility of service provision for older people and their carers, in partnership with health and the voluntary and independent sector. The approach will ensure that intensive services are targeted at those most in need, whilst providing maintenance and preventative services to enable older people to live independently for as long as possible.
18. The review of sheltered housing is looking at services provided by LBC and independent providers. It will focus on a number of areas including the physical fabric of the buildings; the schemes proximity to local resources demographics of the ward in which the scheme is located and perceived take up of services in the future.

STRATEGY FOR MEETING THE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY

19. The Scrutiny of Modernisation of Day Care Services for people with learning disabilities has concluded. The Executive agreed the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee. The Committee agreed to receive quarterly monitoring reports through the Learning Disability Partnership Board. The first such report will be presented to the Committee in March 2005.
20. The Learning Disability Partnership Board is now starting work on a strategy for meeting the accommodation needs of people with a

learning disability and it is proposed that the Scrutiny Committee be involved in this process.

22. The key issues to be addressed through this process are as follows:

- 1) What is the scale of likely future demand for housing – particularly amongst learning disabled people still living with older family carers and young adults in transition?
- 2) How should the range of housing choices for people with a learning disability in Luton be expanded and what new models of housing support should be commissioned?
- 3) What specialist support services need to be locally commissioned to allow people placed in residential care outside of the Borough to be supported more locally and with greater personal control?
- 4) How far should existing residential care providers in the voluntary and independent sector be encouraged to shift to a supported living approach?
- 5) How can the quality of existing housing and support be improved to become more person centred?

PROPOSAL/OPTION

23. The committee is requested to agree what aspects they would like to scrutinise both in relation to the development of a strategy for the accommodation needs of people with a learning disability. To agree the same in relation to Day Care outlined in Para (14).

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

24. There is no legal implication of this report and is one of several reports written to progress the scrutiny of modernisation of services for Vulnerable adults.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

25. This report is about the future provision for vulnerable adults in Luton. It is the Council's responsibility that a comprehensive strategy is produced to outline how the future needs of older people in Luton will be met. Services for people with a learning disability are being modernised to better meet their needs. Vulnerable adults are often subjected to discrimination and isolation and this report is mainly about how the council will meet their needs in future.

APPENDIX

There are no appendices.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

1. LBC committee reports to the social inclusion scrutiny committee from Dec 2002 to date.
2. A leaflet produced by the service on the future living needs of older people by Social Services.
3. Guidance on the production of Older People's Strategy issued by the Offices of the Deputy Minister.