

Learning Disabilities Joint Commissioning Strategy

1. What is a Joint Commissioning Strategy?

- A statement that tells us what services should be provided for people with learning disabilities.
- It is agreed by North Somerset Council and NHS North Somerset.
- It tells us what services the Council and the PCT will be buying for people with learning disabilities.
- It also tells us what services the Council and the PCT think should be provided in the market place for service users to purchase for themselves.

2. What have we been told that people want?

The Government tells us that People with learning disabilities should have the same opportunities as everyone else to:

- ▶ *Live as **independent** citizens in their own communities and to use the same facilities as everyone else .*
- ▶ *Live in their **own home**.*
- ▶ *Receive the same **health services** as everyone else.*
- ▶ *Live with whom they choose.*
- ▶ *Be supported by people they need and to have **choices** about who these people are*
- ▶ *Work and to **earn a wage***

Locally service users and carers have told us that they want:

- ▶ Support to gain employment
- ▶ More community based activities - delivered locally
- ▶ More Person Centred Plans (PCP)
- ▶ More 1:1 support that is Person Centred
- ▶ Better social networks
- ▶ More leisure activities
- ▶ Address "bullying" and "hate crime"

- ▶ Better transport options

3. What should our main priorities be?

We have looked at all the information from the government and looked at what people have said they want locally to agree these following priorities:

- **Objective 1** Change the way in which we all work in North Somerset - a culture change programme.
- **Objective 2** Early Person Centred Planning (PCP) for those in transition from children's to adult services.
- **Objective 3** Increase the options for people to live at home that enable a planned reduction in the use of Residential and Nursing Care Homes.

4. What will we do to bring about these changes in North Somerset?

Culture Change:

- Deliver training, communication and briefings across all areas
- Produce minimum Service Specifications and expectations
- Promote the use of Personal Budgets and Advocacy
- Work with Providers to deliver the change
- Improve access for people with Learning Disabilities to mainstream services
- Ensure that the Individual is at the centre of services - all organisations need to review practices to deliver this

Early PCP for those in transition

- Engage with Children's Services (Education)
- Undertake joint planning to involve family and service users
- Introduce an identified worker in CTPLD team to lead
- Undertake training for staff
- Explore the possibility of developing a transitions team

Increase the options for people to live at home

- We will only place people in a care home when alternatives cannot be developed.
- Savings will be used to fund community based alternative support options.
- Improve support to Carers
- Modernise Day services - based on individual needs provided at a time when it is needed.
- Training & Development - extend the range provided
- Transport - more flexible options

5. How will we do this?

- We will work with:
 - Providers to plan any changes
 - Service users and carers to plan the changes that are needed.
- We will not make people move out of a care home if they don't want to and it is possible for them to continue living there.
- We will fully involve service users and carers in any decisions about their future.

The changes in housing options will take some time to introduce and will be planned.