

PHYSICAL DISABILITY & SENSORY SERVICES COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

To: Adults Committee

Meeting Date: 4th December 2014

From: Adrian Loades, Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults Services

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: Key decision: No

Purpose: For the Committee to consider the draft Physical Disability & Sensory Services Commissioning Strategy

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) Take note of and comment on the draft Physical Disability & Sensory Services Commissioning Strategy that will be consulted on through the Physical Disability and Sensory Services Partnership Board.**
- b) Delegate responsibility for finalising the draft strategy to the Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairwoman of the Committee**

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Countywide Physical Disability Team (PD) supports adults living in the community until their 75th birthday. This is a recent change to reflect the main work of the Older Peoples Teams which is with frail over 75 year olds. In August 2014 PD was directly supporting some 740 individuals with a physical disability resulting from acquired brain injury, stroke, lifelong disabilities or degenerative conditions. Consequently some people have deteriorating health conditions while other people can be supported to maximise their independence.

The Sensory Services Team supports individuals of all ages who have a sensory impairment, but their main client group are older people with acquired sensory loss. The main intervention is time limited, but not time prescribed, and covers technical equipment, and Visual Impairment Rehabilitation.

- 1.2 The previous Physical Disability and Sensory Services (PDSS) Commissioning Strategy needed updating in light of a variety of key drivers:
- The Care Act 2014
 - The Council's financial challenges.
 - The need to provide early intervention and prevention.
 - The need to work differently to reduce the demand for intensive statutory services.
 - The need to highlight the role of the Sensory Team to partner groups both internal and external.
- 1.3 The draft strategy has drawn information from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) focusing on the disability written in 2008 and the more recent JSNA for Learning and Physical disabilities written in 2013, which focused primarily on times of particular need around transitions between services. Future JSNAs covering Long Term Conditions, and Sensory impairments are planned and will inform future reviews of the strategy.
- Statistical data from the 2011 Census, findings from local working groups such as the Cambridgeshire Deaf Partnership, information and records held in the social care teams have informed the strategy. Additionally, feedback was gathered from a survey of Service Users and direct and indirect contact with a small number of individuals supported through some of the services commissioned by the PDSS Team.
- 1.4 This draft strategy is being presented to the Adult Committee for Member's comments prior to consultation that will be carried out through the Physical Disability and Sensory Services Partnership Board and supported by the Cambridgeshire Alliance. This consultation will build on the feedback from service users that has already been used to inform the draft strategy.

2.0 MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 In line with the drivers listed above in 1.2, the way that the service is delivered has to change. The Physical Disability Team (PD) has started the first innovation site for Transforming Lives, exploring new way of engaging with people based upon their strengths, their community networks and promoting independence. Transforming Lives is a three tier model consisting of:
- Tier One - Helping People to Help Themselves – provision of easily accessible information, links to local community resources and support.
 - Tier Two - Help when People need it – support through a crisis, and where long term decisions about Care are not made until the individual is through that crisis.
 - Tier Three –Ongoing Statutory Services for those who need them.
- 2.2 The focus on prevention and developing links with local communities will continue to be developed as the model for Transforming Lives is progressed and rolled out during 2015. Community and voluntary sector and housing partners will play an important role in this work, helping by intervening early to prevent, delay and reduce the need for care and support. The extension of the Community Navigators scheme to cover all adults will support this work too.
- 2.3 The focus on supporting people to remain in their own homes rather than moving into residential or nursing homes will continue wherever possible and appropriate. Reablement, equipment, adaptations and assistive technology will continue to play an important part in achieving this. Further promotion of these services and training the PD and SS Teams as trusted assessors for assistive technology will assist in making greater use of technological advancements to support independence. Trusted assessors are staff who have been trained by the specialists in the assistive technology team and are then able to identify assistive technology that can be used to support the people with whom they are working.
- 2.4 Where people have eligible needs for care and support following a statutory assessment the PD Team will work to maintain, regain, develop or enhance their skills so that they can maintain or increase their independence and require less support. Reablement services play a key role in this, particularly in maintaining and regaining skills, and where people are supported to develop new skills to become more independent, this is often referred to as the progression model.
- 2.5 The Sensory Services Team has recently restructured to focus on preventative activities and rehabilitation. Raising the profile of the team with Older People's Teams and the Learning Disability Partnership will ensure that these services can be accessed when required by these teams. Greater engagement with other Council colleagues e.g. Transport and New Communities are also important to

ensure that all parts of the Council takes the needs of those with a sight impairment into consideration.

- 2.6 Although only a small number of young people move from children's services into adult services each year, PDSS will be developing improved processes with children's services to develop single plans that will support young people in the transition to adulthood.

3.0 ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

- 3.1.1 The draft Strategy for Physical Disability and Sensory Services aims to support individuals with a disability and /or long term condition to live a fulfilling life and enhance their wellbeing where possible. Individuals and families will be able to access appropriate information and advice on eligibility to benefits and financial support and support to remain in work wherever possible. Additionally those in receipt of ongoing statutory services will have personal budgets and their informal carers will be supported through the carers services.

3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives

- 3.2.1 The draft strategy aims to support individuals with disabilities and long term conditions to maintain and strengthen their natural community links and thus promote their health and wellbeing. Use of Assistive Technology, input from Sensory Services and links to community resources will help people to lead healthy and independent lives.

3.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people

- 3.3.1 Delivery of this strategy and committing to the strengths based approach of Transforming Lives will enhance early intervention and support for people when they need it. This should then reduce stress and uncertainty for the individual and any family / informal carer. General efforts to keep people safe (Buy with Confidence Scheme, Soft Concerns and Safe Employment practices) as well as Adult Safeguarding work all contribute to protecting vulnerable people.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resource Implications

- 4.1.1 The overall budget for the Countywide Services is £14,353,000 for 2014-15. The expectation is that the strategy will be taken forward within the expected budget for the next few years.

4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications

- 4.2.1 This draft strategy is driven by both the requirements set out in the Care Act 2014, which primarily comes into effect in April 2015, and by the realisation that continuing to operate as per the status quo is not

sustainable.

- 4.2.2 Under the Care Act there are new responsibilities for Councils to ensure the provision of
- Services that prevent, reduce and delay support needs from becoming more serious.
 - Good quality information that is readily available in different formats, to enable individuals to make sound decisions about care and support.

4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications

- 4.3.1 This draft strategy focuses upon individuals with physical disabilities, long term conditions and or sensory impairments and aims to enhance awareness of the needs of these people. Beyond that there are no identified equality issues.

4.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications

- 4.4.1 There has been some engagement with service users in drafting the strategy, but wider consultation is required with partner organisations and through the Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Board.

4.5 Public Health Implications

- 4.5.1 This draft strategy will contribute to improve health outcomes and wellbeing as a result of early intervention, a preventative approach and improved access to information.

4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

- 4.6.2 This draft strategy is very much based on the Transforming Lives approach and hence necessitates a more localised way of delivering services and support. This aims to build upon people's strengths, capacity and natural coping strategies where safe to do so. Support for individuals should therefore be more personalised.

Source Documents	Location
NONE	

