

Efficiency, Improvement & Transformation

Review of Learning Disability & Mental Health Service provision

Outline Scope

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Select Committee: Health	Type of Review: Scrutiny Review

1. Background and proposed change to original scope

At its meeting on 4 January 2011 the Executive Scrutiny Committee agreed to include an EIT review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services in the work programme for the Health Select Committee. A draft scope for the review was considered by the Health Select Committee on 8 March 2011. The agreed scope was to review day, respite and community support service provision for mental health and learning disability. With the forthcoming election it was agreed that officers would undertake baseline preparations to present to the new Committee post-election. The new Health Select Committee is scheduled to meet 13 June 2011.

However, a recent review of the Learning Disability Independent Living Project (LDILP) has concluded that there is a significant over-lap with the proposed EIT review. The LDILP was established in the spring of 2010 in response to the findings of a review by CSED. CSED concluded that the number of people with learning disabilities in residential care was high and that steps should be taken to increase levels of independent living. The key underlying issues identified by the LDILP have been that:

- The approach to assessment and care management has been found to be too paternalistic, risk averse and focussed on traditional approaches, leading to expensive care and support packages;
- The ability to take more innovative, community focussed and cost effective approaches is significantly constrained by commissioning and the availability of alternative local services that would enable independent living.

The LDILP has identified a number of actions that need to be taken to improve Learning Disability Services and ensure greater cost effectiveness, including:

- Developing a revised approach / strengthened arrangements for assessment and care

management - the independence checklist (the 6 questions) – risk policy – placement panel – the aim of these arrangements is to overcome the risk-averse / paternalistic approach that had been identified.

- Developed a detailed user database for Learning Disability Services – to understand in detail individual care packages and costs – to provide key information for commissioning - to track cost improvements.
- Identified changes required in the existing commissioning approach setting out what needs to be done to improve future commissioning

The LDILP is currently developing implementation proposals to progress these actions and ensure service transformation within Learning Disability Services.

Underpinning the proposed EIT review of day services was to be a detailed review of care needs and provision i.e. is day care the right thing for the individual or are there better and more cost-effective alternatives, and commissioning i.e. are the required alternative services available and what needs to be done to develop them.

These are the same issues currently being considered by the LDILP. It is therefore proposed to combine the current Independent Living project with the proposed EIT review into a single Learning Disability Services EIT Review. Combining the reviews in this way will ensure that we can build on the work done to date, ensure a co-ordinated response to the issues identified and through the EIT process have a clear and focussed approach to drive forward change.

As it is proposed to expand the scope of the original EIT proposal to consider the whole of Learning Disability Services, it is further proposed to delay consideration of the Mental Health aspect of the review to the Autumn.

2. What services are included?

The review will include mental health and learning disability adult social care resources. The following services are included:

Learning Disability Services: All services including - In-house and commissioned residential care/respite care, in-house and commissioned day care, in-house and commissioned community support, supported and independent living services, STEPS.

The review will include evaluation of the key functions within Learning Disability Services including:

- Needs assessment and case management;
- Commissioning and service development.

Mental Health Services: All services including: In-house residential rehab/respite, In-house day care, Mental Health Grant, in-house community support, STEPS, commissioned residential care.

[This review has links with other EIT work including the review of Commissioned Carers and Independent Living services, review of Adult Service Structures, and the implementation of the Fair Access to Care Services review.]

3. The Thematic Select Committee's / EIT Project Team overall aim / objectives in doing this work is:

To identify options for future strategy, policy and service provision that will deliver efficiency savings and sustain / improve high quality outcomes for SBC residents, whilst ensuring maximum inclusion in line with the Personalisation agenda.

4. Expected duration of enquiry? What are the key milestones?

9 – 12 months

The review will be delivered in two phases:

Phase 1: Learning Disability Services (Commencing May 2011)

Phase 2: Mental Health Services (Commencing Autumn 2011)

5. In addition to analysis and benchmarking costs, performance, assets etc, what other processes are likely to be required to inform the review? (e.g. site visits; observations; face-to-face questioning, telephones survey, written questionnaire, co-option of expert witnesses etc).

- Summary Baseline Reports
- Briefings on each existing service/location (description/clients/staffing/assets/budgets)
- Local needs assessment
- Benchmarking (to include comparator costs, services and quality) with partner authorities and identification of good practice (for example, but not limited to: Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Sunderland)
 - Site visits to existing services within Stockton Borough
 - Site visits to explore good practice in other Boroughs
 - Feedback from consultation with service users and carers
- Awareness of Public Sector Equality Duty obligations
- Equality Impact Assessment to inform options

6. How will key partners and/or the public be involved and at what stages?

Partners including Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT and NHS Stockton-on-Tees (PCT) have been invited to contribute to the Project Board that will support the Committee's work. They will be invited to attend Committee meetings as appropriate.

Reference Groups to be identified to inform the review and be kept updated with progress:

- Service User Involvement – establishment of user involvement focus groups facilitated by Stockton Helps All Advocacy with support from STEPS (targeting age ranges 19 to 25, 25 to 50 and 50 plus, also transitions). Aim to involve 30 to 40 service users and also link into carers – engagement to commence June 2011 with key event in September 2011.

- Carer Reference Group - carers currently being identified from Carers Centre, advert in Stockton News, carers on LD Partnership Board, Disability Advisory group – consultation plan currently being drafted
- Stockton-on-Tees Local Involvement Network
- Mental Health Patient and User Group, carers centre etc (once the MH day service review commences)

7. Please give an initial indication how transformation will enable efficiencies and improvements to be delivered by this EIT review?

Identification of good practice and development of non-traditional services that are appropriate to the needs of clients within the Borough, to ensure that clients receive services that enable them to reach their full potential.