

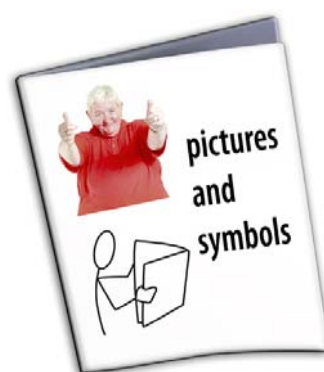
Department of Community Services
Wiltshire PCT

The plan for making things happen for people with
learning disabilities

2008 -2010

Easy Read Version

August 2008



This Strategy (Plan) has been written by the County Council and
Wiltshire Primary Care Trust

WHAT IS A COMMISSIONING STRATEGY?.....	3
COMMISSIONING	5
1. COMMISSIONING TARGETS	6
2. WHAT IS IMPORTANT?	8
3. WILTSHIRE IN 2008.....	10
4. HEALTH AND WELLBEING.....	13
5. A PLACE TO LIVE	15
6. SUPPORTED TENANCIES/HOUSING OPTIONS.....	20
7. ADULT PLACEMENT	22
8. HOMESHARE.....	22
9. SHORT BREAKS SERVICES	23
10. WHAT PEOPLE DO DURING THE DAY (AND EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS)	24
11. TRANSPORT	26
12. EMPLOYMENT	26
13. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	27
14. TRANSITIONS.....	28
15. COMMUNITY TEAMS.....	29
16. INVOLVING PEOPLE	30
17. JOINT COMMISSIONING BOARD	31
18. ADVOCACY.....	34
19. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	35

What is a Commissioning Strategy?



It is a plan about how Community Services and the Primary Care Trust will work together.

The Plan tells you:-

What is happening now!

What will happen over the next 3 years.

The Plan will make sure;



That the right services that service users want and need will be in place.



That we offer people a choice of service that meets their needs at a price we can afford.



That we work with people who provide services to make sure that their services are what people want.



Through this plan we will make sure that the most important services are funded. To do this we may have to change the services we have now. This will be done by stopping some services and buying new services that meet peoples' needs.



We will do this by working together with the Primary Care Trust and other partners. We will include people with learning disabilities through the Local Partnership Board and its District Groups.



Other main partners will be Wiltshire People First, Salisbury Independent Self Advocacy Group and Open Minds.

Commissioning

Commissioning is all about how we plan and buy our services.



Our services need:

- To meet the needs of users
- Help people to be more independent
- Give people more choices
- Be good use of money
- Support the whole community



We need to look at the services we have now and at the services we will need in the future.





1. Commissioning Targets

We will use the targets in Valuing People Now to help us plan and buy services for people with learning disabilities.

These are:



- Choice and control (Personalisation)



- What people do during the day (and evenings)



- Better Health



- Better housing to live in



- Advocacy and rights



- Partnership with families



- Including everyone



- People as local citizens



- Transition to adulthood



- The staff that support people (workforce)



These are our priorities for developing services:



To give people with learning disabilities more choice and control over their lives.



To provide good quality services which are checked regularly.



To make sure that health services are good and are easy for people with learning disabilities to use.



To help young people move from children's services to adult services as smoothly as possible.



To develop a range of services in people's local communities.

2. What is important?

We must make sure that;



We involve service users and carers when we plan services.



We support people to be more independent by giving them more choices about where they live and what they do in the day.



We provide a service that we can show is good value for money.



We support and encourage providers to put more money into their services and make them better.



We make sure people with learning disabilities using our services are safe from harm.



We make sure we are doing more to make things better for people from black and ethnic minority communities.



We check to see what difference services are making to people's lives.

It we get this right we will: Help people to have a life, not a service!



3. Wiltshire in 2008

The people who live in Wiltshire



There are 433,000 people who living in Wiltshire. 345,000 of those people are adults aged 18 years and above.



The Government thinks that 2% of the general population has a learning disability. This means that there could be nearly 7,000 adults with a learning disability in Wiltshire.



How much does Wiltshire spend on Learning Disability Services?



In 2007/2008 we spent 27 million pounds on Learning Disability services.



We are spending more each year on services.

People with learning disabilities who we know about



The community teams know 1650 people. We think that there may be more people with a learning disability living in Wiltshire.

Looking ahead to the future

Every year the number of people who need adult services is going to get bigger. This is because:-



People are living longer because health care has got much better.



More babies with lots of needs will grow into adults because special care baby units are more successful.



There has been an increase in the number of school age children with autism. Some will have learning disabilities.



Research tells us that some people with learning disabilities are more likely to have the same sort of problems that older people have. But this will happen at a younger age.



More money is going to need to be spent on young people when they reach 18, who come through transitions.

4. Health and wellbeing



The County Council and the Primary Care Trust have to plan and buy services together.



To be able to do this we need to get better at finding out what everyone needs.



This will be done by using a process called the **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment**. (This is a way of getting information about the current and future health, care and well-being needs of everyone).



This will help us and the Primary Care Trust agree what is most important. We can then plan our services to make sure everyone gets a fair and equal service.



The Primary Care Trust (PCT) attends the Local Partnership Board meetings.



What we want to make happen



All GP's should know of all the people with a learning disability in their surgery.



People with learning disabilities will be able to use health services.



We will offer lots more people a Health Action Plan. (This is a personal plan about what you can do to be healthy and tells people the support you may need).



Staff in all health services will be trained so that they know what the needs of people with learning disabilities are.

5. A place to live

Residential and Nursing Home Placements

Where we are now



In Wiltshire there are 532 registered care home beds.

In Wiltshire we do not have many residential care home beds that can meet specialist needs. This means that we have placed people in residential care out of Wiltshire.

Over the past few years we have bought less residential care home beds.



People now have the choice of **supported tenancies** and **shared ownership**. Some people have also had different support which has helped them to stay in their own home or their family home.

What are we doing now?



We know that each year less people are placed in residential care. There are still a lot of people who live in residential care homes who could live more independently.



We would like more people to own their own home or be living in rented accommodation with proper tenancy agreements.



We want to give more people the chance to live in independent community settings if they want to.



We think that 1 in every 4 people in residential care could be more independent. By September 2008 we will have collected enough information to know how many people could move on from residential care.



We will make sure more people are in control of their own support services. This means that more people will use **direct payments** and **Individual Budgets** to buy their own services.



Everyone has the right to live as independently as possible in the community. So we will make sure we have looked at all options before we buy more places in residential care homes.



We will close Rutland House in 2008. The people who live there will move into houses in their community with the support that they and their families have chosen.



To help us work out costs for new placements we will use the South West Fair Pricing Tool. (This gives us an idea about the correct price we should be paying for a service based on the level of need).



Each residential care provider in Wiltshire will have to sign an agreement called the **Framework Contract**.



This agreement will need providers to follow the Wiltshire Person Centred Charter.



They will also need to agree to follow the County Council's Safeguarding Adults policy. This is called "Keeping People Safe in Wiltshire".



Care Managers will be expected to make sure that all people placed in residential care have a "life plan". This will look at whether they could live more independently and what is needed to help them do this.



In 2008 we will start to plan a residential service for younger people who have autism. This will help care managers move people back into Wiltshire if they choose to.



We will work together with providers to change services to make them better value for money and meet peoples' needs.



We will also write a plan for how to place people safely in an emergency.

6. Supported Tenancies/housing options



In 2002 there were no supported tenancies in Wiltshire, but by 2005 there were over 170.



10 people in Wiltshire have successfully become shared home owners.

What we want to make happen

Not everyone has to live in residential care.



We will make sure everyone knows what choices are available to them.

We will do this by working together with the District Councils and Registered Social Landlords to make sure there is other housing available.



We will support 70 people who live in residential care to move into more independent living by 2010.



We will provide extra support for people to stay in their own homes.



Work with Housing Associations so that people with learning disabilities get supported tenancies.



Make sure more people know about shared home ownership.



Have more KeyRing schemes



Make sure more people know about Homeshare as an option.



Domiciliary support providers will have to sign up to the Wiltshire Person Centred Charter.

7. Adult Placement



There are 24 people with learning disabilities living in adult placements. This scheme will continue to develop, offering a real alternative to residential care for some people.

8. Homeshare



This new service will carry on giving people another different option about where they would like to live.

9. Short Breaks Services

Where we are now



Wiltshire has 27 short breaks beds in its own provider services.

What we want to make happen



We are going to provide different services which will help carers continue to support family members in their own homes.



We have built a new 10 bed home in Devizes. This opened in July 2008.



We will give people more choice about where they would like to have their break.



People will be able to use direct payments and Individual Budgets to buy their own services.

10. What people do during the day (and evenings and weekends)

Where we are now:



The Department has nine day centres and some outreach services. Nearly 400 people use these day services.

Over 150 people use day services that the Department buys from the independent and voluntary sector.

What we want to make happen



We will follow what the Best Value Review said we should do. We will change day services so that they are more person centred and flexible.

We will provide up to 250 day places across the county. There will be more local day places for people with high support needs.



Day services will give more people the chance to learn the skills they need to use local community services.



We will compare what people want with what we can offer and make changes.



We will give people more control of their own support services. This will be done by using direct payments.

We will look at alternative day activities for people who live in residential care homes.



The Department is busy writing its plan for how it will get jobs for people.

11. Transport



Transport is a big issue in Wiltshire.



We will look at how we can train more people to travel independently.

12. Employment



Lots of people have told us they would like to have a job more than anything else. In Wiltshire we have helped some people but we need to do more to support people into all types of employment.



We think that this is really important and will be making this one of our main targets.

13. Mental health services



Valuing People says that people with a learning disability should be able to use NHS services.

So that we can make this happen we will:



Make sure our learning disability services work well with our mental health services.



Do a joint plan for buying mental health services for people with learning disabilities who need it.

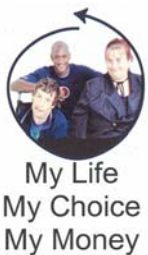


We will work together with the mental health commissioners to make sure that all services are equal.

14. Transitions



Transitions are a time of change. It applies to those people who are moving from being a child at school to becoming an adult and going to work or college.



The Partnership Board will make sure that all young people have the opportunity to get the most out of their lives.



We need to make sure that the right services are available for young people. We will do this by collecting information about young people from the age of 12.

This will help us plan future services.



The Board will work with young people's representatives and parents to make sure this is happening.

15. Community Teams



The community teams for people with learning disabilities know about 1650 people. We think that there are more people with a learning disability living in Wiltshire.

Community Team



Our Community Teams are important as they can make a real difference to the lives of people with learning disabilities.

September 2008

By the end of September 2008 we will know more about our service users in Wiltshire than we ever did before. A piece of work is being done to look at what we have now and what we need in the future.



We will find out how many of the people who live in residential care would like to or could be helped to live more independently.



The team will also look at service users of other day services.

16. Involving People



To make these plans happen we need to keep talking to and involving users and their families about what they want.



My Life
My Choice
My Money

The Local Partnership Board will have a big role in this. The Wiltshire Board is chaired by the Director of Community Services and the Chair of Wiltshire People 1st. It also has users and carers from each of the four District Groups as members.



Wiltshire People 1st



Wiltshire People 1st

Wiltshire People 1st will run forums for people with learning disabilities. These will give an opportunity for people's voices to be heard.

Salisbury Independent Self Advocacy Group and Open Minds will continue to be supported by the Council.



Carers on the Local Partnership Board link into the County's Carers Support groups.

17. Joint Commissioning Board

The Department of Community Services has set up a Joint Commissioning Board which will:-



Bring together the commissioners from all agencies to sign off the commissioning plan.



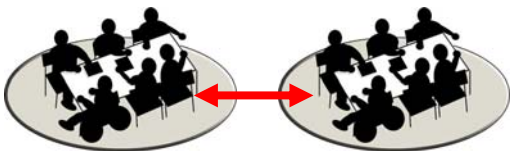
Check the plan is happening.



Make sure that commissioning decisions are in line with the commissioning plan.



Make sure that consultation has been done properly



Keep the links between the commissioning groups so that they are all working in the same way.



Make sure that the commissioning plan and its actions make things better for users and carers.



The Local Partnership Board will choose people who will link with the Joint Commissioning Board.

What we want to make happen



Make sure that users and their families have a chance to say what they think about the help that they receive and what they would like in the future.



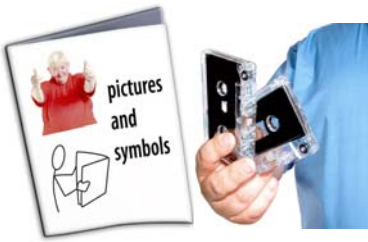
Find some money to make existing user and carer involvement groups stronger. This will help us to make better plans for learning disability services in the future.



Make the user led self-advocacy groups stronger so that they are able to involve more people. This includes people with complex needs whose voices are often least heard.



Make sure everything we do involves users and carers at every stage.



Make sure there is an easy way for users and carers views to be included in the planning process.

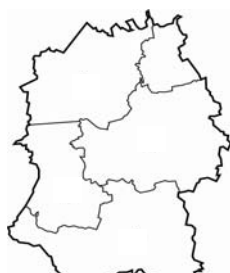


Value the skills of people with learning disabilities as “experts” and use their experiences in training and managing change.

18. Advocacy



The Local Partnership Board has put money into promoting self advocacy. Its links with the Advocacy groups in Wiltshire are getting stronger.



We have a county-wide contract for **citizen advocacy** with the South Wiltshire Advocacy Network. They also provide Wiltshire's Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy service.



What we want to make happen



More people are asking for independent advocacy and we will have to look at the best way to provide this.

We will continue to promote and fund self advocacy.

19. Equality Impact Assessment



An Equality Impact Assessment is a way of making sure that all our policies, tasks or services do not discriminate against any individuals or groups. This is something that all public authorities have to do.



A workforce strategy is a plan to make sure we have “the right staff in the right place with the right skills”. There will be a strategy for Wiltshire.

Valuing People Now tells us that we should review our staff often. This is because services in some other parts of the Country have not been very good and people have been treated badly.

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