

ADULT CARE AND WELL BEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 27 JANUARY 2020

SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

- **PACKAGES OF CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH COMPLEX NEEDS (HIGH COST PACKAGES)**
 - **REGIONAL PEER REVIEW**
 - **TRANSFORMING CARE PROGRAMME**
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Summary

1. The Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel is to receive a report regarding a number of areas relating to adults with Learning Disabilities in Worcestershire. This includes an overview of packages of care for people with complex needs, an overview of the upcoming peer review of Adult Social Care, which has a learning disability and autism focus, and an overview of the Transforming Care Programme.
2. Senior Officers from the Directorate of People and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Adult Social Care have been invited to the meeting.

Background

3. The Panel has previously received regular updates about services for adults with learning disabilities, including Day Services, Replacement Care, Supported Living and Supported Employment.
4. From regular in-year budget updates, Panel members are aware of concerns about the cost pressures around the budget for support of adults with learning disabilities. The Panel has therefore asked for more understanding about high cost packages of care for adults with learning disabilities, and how Adult Services is working to manage these cost pressures.

Packages of care for people with complex needs

5. The base budget for 2019/20 for adults with learning disabilities is £66 million. This represents 43% of the total care packages budget for adult social care in Worcestershire. The budget funds packages of care for approximately 1,450 clients with learning disabilities who are eligible for services under the Care Act 2014 because of their assessed needs. The average size of a care package is £850 per week but there is a significant variation in packages ranging from £30 per week to over £6,000 per week.

6. Packages of care for people with learning disabilities include a range of services, including residential and nursing care, supported living and shared lives, day services, home care, replacement care and transport. Approximately 600 people live with a family carer, with an average package cost of around £450 per week. While a few people living at home with a family carer receive packages in excess of £1,500 per week (5% of the total), the majority of high cost packages are supporting people in residential care (58% of the total), supported living (29% of the total) or living in their own accommodation, typically with 24/7 support (8% of the total).

7. There are currently (as at October 2019) 239 learning disability packages of care funded by the Council costing over £1,500 per week, with 117 of these being over £2,000 and 56 over £2,500. The number of high cost packages has increased since 2017. High cost packages (above £1,500 per week) represent 16% of the people who are being supported, but make up 43% of the total learning disability budget cost.

8. While there is significant variability in need for people with learning disabilities, a higher cost package typically funds someone with complex profound and multiple learning disabilities and/or behaviours which challenge services. The cost of support can include 1:1 or 2:1 staffing (or in exceptional cases 3:1), therapies and behavioural support. Hourly rates are typically higher than for a standard package of care because of the level of training required from staff and a recognition of the additional skills needed by staff working with people with complex needs. Services are often in more rural locations and there is therefore in some cases an increased overhead in relation to additional travel costs etc.

9. Adult Social Care senior officers are managing the ongoing cost pressure in a number of ways, which are also aligned to improving outcomes for people with learning disabilities who have complex needs. There is a high level of scrutiny of new or increased packages of care, through Learning Disability Funding Panel, Complex Needs Review Panel and from senior managers. There is also considerable work in progress with the care market to develop provision in Worcestershire, ensure good quality and maximise cost effectiveness. The Complex Needs Pathway, referenced below, is a key part of this, working across health and social care. Long-term planning for managing need and re-integrating people with complex needs into their communities, with a model of step down through services, enables better outcomes for people with complex needs as well as proactive management of financial pressures.

10. The peer review will also allow a system-wide examination of trends and pressures (see below), working with partners such as health commissioners and Worcestershire Children First to ensure a planned and partnership-based approach.

Adult Social Care Peer Review

11. The Panel will also be briefed on the upcoming peer review of Adult Social Care. The Interim Director for People has invited the Association of Directors of Adults Social Services (ADASS) to undertake a Peer Review in Worcestershire during the period 5-7 February 2020. The aim of the Peer Review is to support self-evaluation and service development. Reviews are undertaken by a team of peers from across

the region, led by a Director of Adult Services. This is an opportunity for sharing and support across focus areas.

12. It has been decided that Learning Disabilities and Autism will be the focus areas for the Peer Review and the Key Lines of Enquiry are as follows:

- Is there a collective understanding, across the County Council and partners, of the profile of spend and demand pressures we face from increasing complexity and demand from people with Learning Disabilities and Autism?
- Is our current model for service delivery and support for people with Learning Disabilities and Autism fit for purpose and affordable?
- What opportunities do we have to work in partnership to co-produce a sustainable model for delivery?

13. An intention of the Peer Review is to analyse and explore in more depth the reasons for the increasing costs of learning disability social care packages and whether Worcestershire is in line with other comparator local authorities or an outlier in particular areas, and if so what the reasons are for any differences. This will then provide an evidence base for proactive planning, with partners, to manage future cost pressures effectively and ensure the long-term sustainability of funding for support for the most vulnerable adults in Worcestershire.

Transforming Care Programme

14. The third area on which the Panel will be briefed is the Transforming Care Programme. Worcestershire's Transforming Care Plan (TCP) has been successfully implemented in line with the national policy to transform care for people with a Learning Disability and/or Autism. The focus of the TCP is to avoid admission to inpatient locked and secure services and Worcestershire has been recognised nationally as one of the best performing TCPs in the country.

15. One of the key focusses of the TCP is the development of a new complex needs pathway across health and social care, with the aim to develop sustainable community-based provision with a range of providers that are skilled to manage risks and behaviours that challenge, allowing residents of Worcestershire to remain near to their families and be part of their communities.

16. Worcestershire has 11 people in total in locked and secure hospitals with five planned discharges over the next 6-9 months.

Purpose of the meeting

17. Members are invited to consider and comment on the information discussed and agree:

- whether any further information or scrutiny work is required at this time
- whether there are any comments to highlight to the relevant Cabinet Member/s

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844964 / 844965

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agendas and Minutes of the Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 23 January 2019, 18 July, 18 May, 21 March, 22 January 2018 and the 16 March 2017