

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal T19 Adults Learning Disability & Mental Health
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Department Adult Services
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Description of Service / Policy

The County Council provides additional care funding for adults with learning difficulties and mental health needs which cannot be supported through universal services. Needs are identified through an assessment process which defines an individual's support plan, personal budget and any financial contribution they are required to make. The council currently supports c 3400 care packages for these client groups.

The proposal is to review all care packages, including aftercare delivered under s117 Mental Health Act, to provide funding only where eligibility criteria has been met and ensure recipients make appropriate financial contributions to their support.

Geographical impact* All Hampshire

Description of proposed change

The service provision delivered to people with learning disabilities, mental health and substance misuse needs will be reviewed, including transport, traditional respite services, day services and leisure activities in favour of voluntary community groups and self directed opportunities.

These proposals are designed to deliver sustainable models of progressive care and supported living, which will increase independence, sense of wellbeing and significantly reduce use of residential care for people with learning disabilities and mental health conditions. These proposals will also reduce the costs of meeting eligible needs.

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

No specific consultation has been carried out on this proposal, however, the County Council carried out a major public consultation exercise over the Summer 2017 on a range of options for finding further budget savings including increasing council tax, using reserves and making changes to the way in which services are delivered, which may mean reducing or withdrawing certain services. The outcome of this consultation will be presented to Cabinet in October 2017.

When decisions are made to pursue the options, further specific consultation will be carried out with stakeholders on the detailed options where required.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Statutory considerations	Impact
Age	Neutral

Disability Impact	<p>Medium</p> <p>People living in residential care may be enabled to move into supported living. People receiving intensive levels of care, could see the rollout of less intrusive/restrictive care models</p> <p>People with learning disabilities could receive lower levels of support or alternative support (telecare, voluntary sector support etc). People attending day services could receive different types of services, or services provided by different organisations. For people receiving 1:1 support to participate in leisure activities, levels or type of support may change.</p> <p>People using mental health services may see some support they receive through domiciliary care and direct support from mental health staff change. A separate piece of work will focus on engaging with district council partners to redesign Social Inclusion services for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to release savings when the current service comes to an end in March 2019. As proposals are developed a separate EIA will be completed as the impact on different groups emerge.</p>
Mitigation	<p>The proposals are designed to promote independence where possible; learning disabilities day services may act as transitional, rather than long-term services; mental health teams will work with wellbeing centres to enable people become more independent. Packages of care will continue to be personalised to the needs of the individual and Direct Payments will be actively promoted to maximise service user choice. All assessments, reviews and support plans will be undertaken in accordance with Care Act guidance. We will try to ensure other agencies are delivering their statutory responsibilities / universal services eg clinical input, housing etc</p>
Sexual Orientation	Neutral
Race	Neutral
Religion and Belief	Neutral
Gender Reassignment	Neutral
Gender	Neutral
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral
Other policy considerations	
Poverty	Neutral
Rurality	Neutral

Additional Information