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1. Summary

- 1.1.** This report summarises Adult Social Care’s continuing development of the Promoting Independence model of delivery for people with a Learning Disability. We are realigning our Strategy to support this continued development. The accompanying presentation provides further detail surrounding the operational and commissioning model that is continuing to be developed.
- 1.2.** As in all Adult Social Care services our vision is to ‘Promote Independence in Learning Disability services this is often translated into the Progression Model. A strengths-based approach that focuses on the strengths of individuals, families, social networks and communities. Also, central to our approach, is what matters to individuals and their families. We continue to empower people to take control of their lives and their care and support, work with people and their communities to identify and provide sustainable local solutions to help them stay as well as possible and as independent as possible, for as long as possible. The Learning Disability Plan aims to maximise independence and raises ambition to ensure people are supported in the most effective and appropriate way.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1.** Members of the Scrutiny Committee to note and comment on the updates captured within the cover report and supporting presentation.

3. Background

- 3.1.** Adult Social Care in Somerset work to support, promote and enhance strong communities in order that people can live their lives as successfully, safely and independently as possible.
- 3.2.** We want all Somerset residents to be able to have equal access to mainstream support within their local community, and tailored assistance to support where they require it. As such, a key priority for the service is the experience of and outcomes achieved by individuals with Learning Disabilities.

3.3. The Learning Disability Plan 2019 has been developed alongside the six key areas contained within the Promoting Independence & Person-Centred Approaches in Adult Social Care, 2018/19 Strategy:

1. Prevention and early intervention
2. Managing demand and capacity
3. Short term interventions
4. Long-term care and support
5. Workforce
6. Governance and management

In practice, our strategy focuses on:

- Maximising independence to support people to remain in their homes and communities, without formal social care support wherever possible
- A changed relationship with the public where we manage expectations and are realistic about what we can do and what we expect from individuals, families and communities
- Working differently with partners to support people to get the right level and type of support at the right time
- Asking staff to think and practice in new and different ways, and to change the conversations we have with those requiring our assistance
- Ensuring we have the right enablers in place to achieve our ambitions.

4. Current Position within Somerset

4.1. Utilising available information and the support of Professor John Bolton we have reviewed Somerset County Council's position against that of other councils the key areas to highlight are –

- Total number of people support with a Learning Disability within Somerset is – 1,794
- Total number of Learning Disability providers within Somerset is - 89 providers that we commission.
- Total number of Out of County Placements - 52 Out of County placements breakdown as follows:
33 in neighbouring counties (mainly Devon, North Somerset and Wiltshire),
19 in other counties that don't directly border Somerset.
- Somerset has the largest number of people with a learning disability receiving care per 100,000 of population in comparison to other Shire counties.

- Somerset has the highest cost per person supported at £18,013pa against the national average of £14,446.

4.2. Over the last few years we have been working towards an integrated Adult Social Care service that supports individuals into mainstream services. We are now taking the next steps in this transformation journey as we recognise that our practice both operationally and commissioning needs to align to a delivery model that is more progressive and ambitious for people with a Learning Disability.

4.3. We need to strengthen our communities to ensure they are inclusive and progressive. We need to enhance the way in which we commission not only services but also creative solutions within the community, transport and housing. Our workforce requires continued development to achieve best possible outcomes for individuals and their families.

5. Operational/Commissioning Developments

5.1. Workshop - Learning Disability workshop held in February with attendance from operational workforce, commissioning and specialist health colleagues. The aim of the day was to develop a collaborative approach to improve the lives of people with a Learning Disability. Explore 'what does promoting independence mean for people with a Learning Disability'. Identify short-term, medium-term and long-term targets and identify the key priorities. Three main themes were discussed – Community Development, Market Shaping and Whole Service Practice Development.

5.2. We know that reablement and rehabilitation has a significant impact on a person's long-term social care needs. We have achieved great successes in working with our older people to support people to remain independent and in their own homes for as long possible by implementing effective, short-term interventions. We know this model can work for everyone in Somerset who needs it.

5.3. We want to enable people to retain their independence and support people to learn new skills. The people we support tell us that they want a life like everyone else; have real friends, real lives and real opportunities for education and employment. We want all people to have opportunity and meaningful lives while recognising that this does not mean long term support services for all.

5.4. Where we have learnt from other areas of adult social care (older people) we want to replicate this and ensure that we are exploring all community solutions, short-term interventions and all other options before commissioning long-term support options for people.

5.5. We want to offer a service to people that can work with to meet specific targets and for that service to be withdrawn once that target has been met. This could be learning to cook, attending the gym, learning to use public transport or accessing the same employment opportunities as everyone else. We want providers to be able to identify strengths and develop people's skills for independence particularly those living in their own home, we aim to work with providers that support this. Where providers are wanting to work towards this we want to work differently and creatively.

5.6. Measuring success – Measuring success is fundamental, The Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) is used both locally and nationally to set priorities for care and support, measure progress and strengthen transparency and accountability.

ASCOF Measures –

- 2A(1) shows the number of people aged 18-64 placed in Residential & Nursing per 100,000.
- 1C1A is 'Self-Directed Support'.
- 1E – Adults with LD in Paid Employment
- 1G – Adults with LD who live in their own home or with their family

5.7. Over the last few years we have been working to support people to move out of residential services to supported living services. Within this financial year we have supported 23 people to move into a community-based setting. Having a home guarantees a place in the community and is part of how people are accepted as equal citizens. People with learning disabilities are one of the most socially excluded groups in our society and this is primarily a result of an historical segregation of services that unintentionally deny people their own home, choice and control and a decent income; factors which ultimately deny citizenship and social inclusion.

5.8. Transforming Care – The NHSE / ADASS Transforming Care (TC) programme aims to improve the lives of children, young people and adults with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviours that challenge, including those with a mental health condition. The objectives of the programme – incorporating the lessons learnt from the Winterbourne View abuse scandal – are to reduce the overreliance on specialist beds in secure settings or 52 week residential places. Many people in these specialist placements don't need to be there, and many stay there for far too long – sometimes for years.

5.9. The TC programme requested Local Authorities and CCGs to work closely together, including other relevant partner agencies such as housing and specialist providers, in Transforming Care Partnerships (TCPs) to enable this group of people to be discharged from secure settings and move back into Somerset. These discharges can only take place by designing and commissioning specific community service provision, in line with well-established best practice, to give this group of people the support they need closer to home and within their own community.

5.10. Since the start of the programme (2016) Somerset TCP has discharged 11 patients back into the community: 2 patients in CAMHS beds, 7 patients in CCG beds and 2 patients in NHSE Specialist Commissioning beds.

In March 2019 Somerset TCP has the following Transforming Care in-patient group: 10 patients who are in NHSE Specialist Commissioning beds (of which 2 are CAMHS beds) and 2 patients who are in CCG commissioned beds. Of the total number, 11 in-patients are placed out of county. Within the next 6 months a further 5 discharges are planned to take place. (3 patients from NHSE Specialist Commissioning beds, and 2 from CCG commissioned beds)

5.11. Our Voice Somerset - The Learning Disability Partnership Board wanted to better represent people with learning disabilities and their carers in Somerset, by talking to more people. The "Our Voice Somerset" support networks will work with

the LD partnership board to improve communication and engagement with people with learning disabilities and their families.

The overall aim of the networks is to:

- Give people with learning disabilities in Somerset a stronger voice
- Create links between the partnership board and networks so people can share their experiences and views across the county
- Create stronger links with local communities, empowering people with learning disabilities

5.12. Transformation Board – The launch of the Learning Disability Plan will be implemented in April, this has been discussed within Adult Social Care's Transformation Board with representative from the Registered Care Provider Association. The Transformation Board will continue to monitor delivery, outcomes and benefits alongside the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

6. Next Steps

6.1. Mapping - Working in collaboration with a parent carer representative and using the application Power BI, we have mapped all customers with a Learning Disability and providers. This will enable us to have a greater understanding of where people are and what resources and services are used. This will enable us to understand what is possible in local areas and where areas of intervention could be. This will continue to support us in developing strong communities and community resources.

6.2. Workforce Development – We recognise that we need to strengthen our operational workforce to deliver the outcomes identified within our plan. We will be working with our operational teams to build and develop practice that improve outcomes for individuals with a Learning Disability. We have practice development sessions scheduled throughout the year with the first session being held in May 2019.

6.3. Strengthen Community Connect Approach – Our community connect approach has been instrumental to the achievements made within Adult Social Care. This approach will be fundamental to meet the needs of individuals with a Learning Disability. We will aim to utilise the skills and knowledge within Community Connect to support individuals with low-level needs to access universal services. We will support this development through continued training and engagement within our workforce development sessions.

6.4. Market Place – Adult Social Care have been supporting the development and growth of local organisations and care providers, to help people live progressive and independent lives. There is a well-established Learning Disability Provider Forum, that is well attended throughout the year. ASC are now working in partnership with the Registered Care Provider Association to Co-Chair the forums, bringing a better representation of issues that face the sector.

6.5. Commissioning Development – We have strengthened our commissioning approach and introduced two specific roles to support our continued delivery.

One will be a dedicated reviewing officer that will effectively link between both operations and commissioning. They will work in collaboration with the operational teams completing person-centred reviews, liaising with providers and support in achieving best practice. Another role will focus on provider development and negotiations to support in stimulating and developing the provider market.

- 6.6. Learning Disability Partnership Board** – Consultation from the Learning Disability Partnership Board is essential, we will be presenting the plan to the board in April.
- 6.7. Registered Care Provider Association and Learning Disability Providers** – Collaboration and engagement from our providers will be key to successful delivery of our approach to supporting individuals with a Learning Disability within Somerset. We will be holding an engagement event to share with providers and RCPA members.

7. Background papers

Presentation included to provide further information.

Note For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author