

Early Intervention & Prevention (EIP) **All Age Disability Service**

Keeping you in the picture

As part of our new council work, we will be looking at our approach to supporting people with disabilities – both children and young people and adults.

We are working hard to develop our new council approach and this will mean doing a great many things differently.

We will work more effectively with current and new partners and enable people to live their lives as independently as possible, whilst making sure that people who need support still get the help they need.

Our approach will give us an opportunity to redesign an integrated disability service, taking into account people's views. This will help ensure easy access to services which are fit for the future.

We will be talking with you, people who use services, councillors, partners and other interested groups to gather views and feelings about how a new service may look and feel.

Many councils have already taken this approach making the most of the new policy that supports this direction of travel; for example Staffordshire County Council, Coventry City Council, Wolverhampton City Council, Manchester City Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council.

What we want to do

The proposal is to create an "All Age Disability Service" (working title) which will lead to...

- improved quality of life for people with learning and physical disabilities, autism, and their families
- improved multi-disciplinary support
- fewer people placed in residential or day care services; and supported in alternative housing options.

This service will include multi-agency disability teams covering the age range 0 – 25 years and 25 to end of life.

Why do it now?

For many years we have been told by parent carers, disabled adults and young people that delivering integrated services across all ages would help to ensure consistency, clarity and ultimately better quality services and support for people living in Kirklees with a disability.

The work we are doing also links to various national policies and reports. Including:

- Transforming care: a national response to Winterbourne View Hospital (Dept of Health 2012)
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Ensuring quality service 2014 (NHS England/ Local Government Association)
- Better Care Fund, 'Integrated care and support'
- Care Act 2014

Need more information, or want to give feedback? Please contact balwinder.kaur@kirklees.gov.uk



What would this change mean for people with disabilities and their carers?

- adopt a whole family approach
- provide seamless support for children, young people and adults with disabilities
- avoid service duplication and share what we do best across all service areas
- encourage people to be as independent as possible from a young age
- promote easy help for people doing more for themselves with support from the council only when needed
- talk to people about their expectations

And...

- change the balance from assessing to understanding people's need

- build community relationships
- help people to take more responsibility, rather than referring automatically to services for support
- promote early intervention and prevention support to maximise independence and build resilience for children and young people and adults
- prescribe packages of care towards improving people's wellbeing
- identify needs which recognise and build on people's strengths.

It is important to note there is some good practice already taking place in services.

What next?

The main focus of these proposals are to improve how we work with people with disabilities and embed the early intervention and prevention offer across the district.

This will mean the consolidation of existing activities in relation to disability, concentrating and locating activity in a seamless way. This will help integration and more effective and flexible working with families.

You may, or may not know, that all social work disability teams (adult learning disabilities, children with a disability, services for people with physical disabilities, early years support and transitions etc) are not located altogether in one building.

This means that people who use our services have to access support from different locations. We will be exploring this more in the future and looking for the potential for colocation.

Financial savings will be made through shifting the balance to enable more people to live in Kirklees in supported accommodation. As the service develops there may be further consideration of the skills and grade mix.

We are talking to cabinet members and also our NHS partners about the linkage of other professionals into the new "All Age Disability" Service. The proposed changes are a first step towards more integrated service provision to deliver the objectives outlined above.

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