

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Strategic Planning Advisory Group		
Held on	20 April 2021		
Agenda Item:	6		
Title:	Adult Learning Disability Strategy		
Summary:			
<p>This report seeks approval by the South Ayrshire Strategic Planning Advisory Group to provide oversight and strategic direction to a new, dedicated Adult Learning Disability Strategy for South Ayrshire. The report sets out why the timing is right for the work to begin and what the HSCP's ambitions will be for Learning Disability Services and other services that impact on the lives of people with a learning disability.</p>			
Author:	John Wood, Senior Manager – Planning and Performance Sandra Rae, Service Manager – Learning Disability and Sensory Impairment		
<p>It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agrees to provide oversight and strategic direction to a new Adult Learning Disability Strategy for South Ayrshire; and ii. Notes that progress reports on the revised strategy will be brought to SPAG until the strategy is approved at IJB by the end of 2021. 			
Route to meeting:			
A report was presented to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) on 24 March 2021.			
Directions:		Implications:	
1. No Directions Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

Adult Learning Disability Strategy

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval by the South Ayrshire Strategic Planning Advisory Group to provide oversight and strategic direction to a new, dedicated Adult Learning Disability Strategy for South Ayrshire. The report sets out why the timing is right for the work to begin and what the HSCP's ambitions will be for Learning Disability Services and other services that impact on the lives of people with a learning disability.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group:

- i. **Agrees to provide oversight and strategic direction to a new Adult Learning Disability Strategy for South Ayrshire; and**
- ii. **Notes that progress reports on the revised strategy will be brought to SPAG until the strategy is approved at IJB by the end of 2021.**

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 South Ayrshire IJB has delegated authority for all adult learning disability services within South Ayrshire, currently working under the existing [Adult Learning Disability Strategy](#) which runs to 2022. The existing strategy applies to all adults with learning disabilities, including those aged from 16 years onwards who are in transition into adult services. The Strategy sought to signal a change in what people can expect and a shift to being supported within the community; and details how communities can support this shift. It was developed with a clear reference to the 2013 Keys to Life national strategy for learning disability.

3.2 People with a learning disability, their families and carers have the right to be valued as individuals and lead fulfilling lives. They have the right to access and participate in their communities and benefit from a fair and inclusive society as well as contributing to the local economy. Within South Ayrshire HSCP we are proposing to continue our progress with a revised, comprehensive Learning Disability Strategy.

Current provision of services (pandemic response)

3.3 As with all other areas, Learning Disability Services have had to adapt through the various 'lockdown' and physical distancing measures in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.4 The Learning Disability nursing and social work services remained open during lockdown to support our people we support to comply with or follow guidance and

our staff played an active role in the first months of lockdown to support families, carers and service providers to adapt to the measures.

3.5 The HSCP introduced a community connector post at the outset of lockdown to ensure we kept in touch with service users and their families. We also took meals to those who lived alone or were a risk to self or others and had their care provision cut or paused. We also used respite for our complex supports whose family were shielding and there was a crisis in care.

3.6 We are now providing bespoke micro-break visits which are increasing in compliance with social distancing. We are also offering day services in different, innovative ways. Our revised strategy and future models of service (commissioned and in-house) will build on what we have learned over the course of the past twelve months.

4. REPORT

4.1 South Ayrshire HSCP has made good progress on delivering the extant Learning Disability strategy (reported to the Performance and Audit Committee) but with the policy landscape changing (e.g. the recent publication of a refreshed national learning disability strategy 'Keys to Life' and the implications of the Review of Adult Social Care), and our services having to adapt to the impact of COVID-19, the time is now right to draft a new strategy. This follows the publication of the IJB Strategic Plan, allowing for alignment to the HSCP's overall strategic objectives.

4.2 At its meeting on 24 March 2021, the IJB agreed that work will begin to develop a revised Adult Learning Disability Strategy for the HSCP; that the drafting should be taken forward by officers in close collaboration with a range of partners (including the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability) and be overseen by the IJB's Strategic Planning Advisory Group. The revised strategy will be brought to the IJB for approval by the end of 2021.

4.3 The strategy will be reviewed in its entirety and our intention is to publish a new strategy by the end of this year. Meaningful engagement with the people we support and with carers will be fundamental to our approach and, if agreed, the HSCP will employ a staff member dedicated to engagement. The staff member will run a Learning Disability Champions Board and ensure we have dedicated resource to understand the needs and aspirations of people with learning disabilities.

4.4 We hope a new strategy will allow us to consider what the needs and aspirations of those with a learning disability are, to better understand the make-up of our learning-disabled community, and to work together with a range of partner in achieve these ambitions. The strategy will take into consideration the funding pressures currently places on public services

4.5 Importantly, while basing the strategy on the needs of our local population, we will incorporate the [Keys to Life](#) national LD strategy and the [Coming Home](#)

[Report](#) (on out-of-area placements) as well as the recent recommendations of the [Independent Review of Adult Social Care](#) as appropriate.

Proposed drafting process

4.6 Following agreement by the IJB, HSCP officers have started work to draft a revised Learning Disability Strategy for South Ayrshire in collaboration with the people we support, carers, local partners and staff. It is also proposed that we formalise a strategic partnership with the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability (SCLD) to support us through the drafting process with their expertise.

4.7 It is proposed that the drafting process follows a series of steps, broadly set out below:

1. Engagement

- A Steering Group/Champions Board comprising people with learning disabilities and family carers will be established. This group will meet approximately monthly throughout the period of developing the strategy.
- Having a development time of one year will allow us to implement good practice in engagement e.g. more than one phase of engagement, employing a range of engagement methods to reach as many people as possible.
- The methods we use to engage with people depends largely on when and how lockdown restrictions are eased. A full range of citizens, partners and stakeholders will be encouraged to participate.

Governance

- A Strategy Development Group should be set up to: develop and agree on the scope and vision of the strategy; oversee the development of the strategy document; develop arrangements for the implementation and review of the strategy; oversee the communications strategy.
- This group should meet monthly, and should include representation from: HSCP managers; managers from other parts of the local authority with responsibility for services that people with learning disabilities use e.g. Housing, Education, Third sector organisations; and the Strategy Steering Group.
- Regular oversight and input will be provided by the IJB Strategic Planning Advisory Group.

Communications

- A communications plan should be developed to make sure all stakeholders are aware that a strategy is being developed, and are aware of the part they can play in its development. As people with learning disabilities are key stakeholders, communications will need to be made accessible.

Review, Plan and Monitor

- The next step will be to assess the current position. This involves undertaking a strategic review of the implementation of the current strategy.
- After assessing the evidence of the current position, the next stage will be to plan activities and services that will help move towards the strategic outcomes and vision of life in South Ayrshire for people with learning disabilities. Engagement with people with learning disabilities at this stage will be useful to hear, not only people's life experiences, but views about solutions and the kind of support that would be most useful
- It will be important to know how well the implementation of the plan is progressing. Therefore, the implementation plan should include detail on measurable performance indicators and outcomes, agreed responsibilities with timescales, a clear reporting process, a feedback loop process that ensures the HSCP learns along the way and enables it to change course when needed, and a plan for people with learning disabilities and other stakeholders to continue to influence the plan (engagement is not just for the strategy development phase).

4.8 Monitoring and review will be undertaken between the IJB and its subcommittees (SPAG and Performance and Audit as appropriate).

5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 Learning disability services are a core service for the HSCP and are vital to driving our strategic objectives and improving outcomes for the community. The IJB Strategic Plan outlines seven key objectives and the Learning Disability Strategy will align clearly with these.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

6.1.1 There will ultimately be significant financial implications of the Learning Disability Strategy but these implications will be brought to the IJB as appropriate.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no HR implications to agreeing this report.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no legal implications to agreeing this report.

6.4 Equalities implications

6.4.1 A full equality impact assessment will be undertaken on the strategy.

6.5 Sustainability implications

6.5.1 There are no sustainability implications to agreeing this report.

6.6 Clinical/professional assessment

6.6.1 The views of professional groups will be taken into close consideration as the strategy is developed.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 7.1 Proposals for consultation and a partnership approach are set out above and will be further developed.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 There is no risk associated with agreeing this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

Coming Home Report, Scottish Government (2018)

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coming-home-complex-care-needs-out-area-placements-report-2018/>

Keys to Life, Scottish Government & COSLA (2019 update)

<https://keystolife.info/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Keys-To-Life-Implementation-Framework.pdf>

Independent Review of Adult Social Care, Scottish Government (2021)

<https://www.gov.scot/groups/independent-review-of-adult-social-care/>

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