

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Adult and Community Portfolio Holder**
Children and Young People Portfolio Holder

Date: 27th September 2011
18th October 2011

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **INTEGRATED TRANSITION STRATEGY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND/OR DISABILITIES**

Contact Officer: Andrew Royle, Interim Strategic Commissioner, Learning Disabilities
Karen Fletcher-Wright, Assistant Director, Access and Inclusion
Tel: 020 8461 7601, 020 8313 4146 E-mail:
andrew.royle@bromley.gov.uk; karen.fletcher-wright@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Rich, Director of Adult and Community Services; Gillian Pearson,
Director of Children and Young People Services

Ward: All

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 This report updates the Adult and Community (ACS) and Children and Young People (CYP) Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committees on the development of a draft Integrated Transition Strategy for young people with learning difficulties/ disabilities which has been produced jointly by Adult and Community Services and Children and Young People Services with input from colleagues in health.
- 1.2 The report proposes that the draft strategy be released for consultation.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members of the PDS Committees are requested to comment on the draft strategy.**
- 2.2 **The Portfolio Holders are requested to :**
- i) **agree to the release of the draft strategy for consultation for a period of 3 months from November 2011;**
- ii) **note that the results of the consultation will be reported back to the Portfolio Holders prior to the Portfolios Holders being asked to endorse the final strategy.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy.
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People. Supporting Independence
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No cost Contained within current resources
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: ACS Learning disability services; CYP SEND budget
 4. Total current budget for this head: £16,193,530 (ACS) £24,954,510 (CYPP)
 5. Source of funding: ACS and CYP budgets
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-statutory - Government guidance.
 2. Call-in: Call-in is applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): 305 Young People over the next 10 years will be transitioning from CYP services to Adult services
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 Transitions occur at various stages throughout life, from starting school, leaving primary school and starting secondary school, to preparing for independence and leaving home. The transition of young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities from childhood through to adulthood is the focus of this strategy. In Bromley we expect young disabled people to be able to maximise their potential, to live independently and to have the opportunity to have as many ordinary experiences as possible. This can include working, making and keeping friends, relationships and leisure activities.
- 3.2 This strategy sets out the context in which all agencies in Bromley will work to ensure a successful transition for young people to independence in adulthood. By successful we mean that the transition to adulthood takes account of the views of young people and their parents, is well planned and co-ordinated and enables as seamless a transition as possible across organisational boundaries. A successful transition will also support independence, choice and improved outcomes.
- 3.3 The strategy recognises the challenges that young people and their families encounter during transition and describes how, in Bromley, these challenges will be managed in ways that promote choice, participation and inclusion. This is not restricted to services provided or funded by the local authority; it includes all agencies that provide services and support, which allow young people to have the opportunities to experience life as their peers do.
- 3.4 Analysis of the future demand pressures over the next 10 years indicates an increase in both the number of young people with disabilities and in increase in their levels of need. Based on current data 305 young people will transition to adult services over the next 10 years. Over this time frame there are clear indications that not only the numbers but also the levels of need are increasing and the development of an integrated strategy that combines Social Care, Housing and Health provision is critical in helping to ensure that future services are able to meet this increase in service demand.
- 3.5 Access to publicly funded care services is based on meeting the Council's eligibility criteria (which in Bromley are substantial and critical need) and this strategy is particularly aimed at the cohort of young people who are anticipated to require adult services under Fair Access to Care criteria going forward. The strategy aims to ensure that children's and adults' services work together effectively to facilitate and commission sufficient high quality, cost effective services for young people with learning difficulties and /or disabilities as they transition from children's to adult services. The strategies main aims are to:
- maximise the independence of children and young people so that when they become adults their reliance on statutory services is minimised
 - ensure that adult and young person services have sufficient accurate information about children and young people to enable them to commission services going forward
 - monitor the pathways of young people during transition years to enable accurate planning for individual needs
- 3.6 The draft strategy has been developed jointly by Children and Young People and Adult and Community Services, in conjunction with colleagues in health. The report proposes that the draft be released for consultation with the results being reported back to the respective Portfolio Holders. The consultation will last for a period of 3 months from November 2011.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The overarching 'Improving Lives – Supporting Families: Disability Strategy for Children and Young People in Bromley' clearly identified amongst its key aims the improved transition planning for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no additional resource implications arising from the Transition Strategy. All actions arising from the consultation process will need to be met within existing resources.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The transition process is governed by a complex web of legislation, statutory guidance, government policy and good practice guidance. Appendix 2 of the Strategy details these legislative and policy drivers. Local authorities need to comply with their existing legal obligations under the statutory guidance around transition planning in relation to their social services responsibilities for children and young people set out in the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice*. Guidance, including legislative requirements and case study examples, are set out in *A transition guide for all services*.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	