



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board

Date: 16th December 2009

Subject: Terms of Reference – Transitional Arrangements for Children into Adult Social Care

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At the 17th of June 2009 Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board meeting members expressed their wish to conduct an inquiry into the transitional arrangement in place to support young people aged 14 – 25 with long terms needs who are likely to be eligible for Adult Social Care support.

In Leeds, a Childrens Transitions Team was formed in the year 2000 in response to recommendations made following an inspection in 1999 that highlighted a lack of future planning for disabled young people. More recently the Social Care Services board has agreed that a joint transitions team should be put in place in order to improve the continuity of care up to the age of 25.

The Transitions Team is seeking to establish and recruit five additional staff funded by the Social Care Reform Grant who will become operational by the 31st of March 2010.

Members of the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board are now asked to consider the proposed terms of reference.

Guidance has been sought from the Chief Officer – Learning Disabilities in order to recommend specific areas of focus for the inquiry.

In line with Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 12.4 the views of the relevant Director and Executive Member have been sought and views will be communicated to the board at the December 2009 meeting by the Principal Scrutiny Advisor. Full details will be available on request to the Scrutiny Support Unit.

2.0 SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY

2.1 It is recommended that the inquiry focuses on those aged 14 – 25 who have long term needs and are currently eligible/receiving children and young peoples social care, paying attention to:

- a) Differences in Children and Young Peoples Social Care and Adult Social Care eligibility criteria, the difficulties this creates, how this and service user expectations are managed.
- b) The current service provision up to the 31st of March 2010 and planned service changes (directed nationally or locally) and how this will impact on service provision.
- c) National and Local Performance indicators and targets and performance data, including comparative data to other similar authorities. (This should include case resolution, assessment and review targets and actual performance).
- d) Self Directed Support - Choice and control for the individual or their representative.
- e) Care Planning and Safeguarding arrangements during the transitional period.

3.0 TIMETABLE FOR THE INQUIRY AND SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE

3.1 13th January 2010 – Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board.

The inquiry will be undertaken during the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled for the 13th of January 2010. The majority of the meeting will be dedicated to focus on this single item. Subject to the Scrutiny Board approval of the scope of this inquiry evidence will be submitted as detailed at 2.1 of this report.

There is a range of available approaches to evidence gathering which the Board could seek to adopt as part of the scrutiny inquiry process. Approaches include:

- Discussion with key stakeholders
- Visits to selected establishments, as appropriate, to engage with service users and staff
- Visits to and/or discussions with other organisations identified as delivering best practice, as appropriate

4.0 WITNESSES

4.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry:

- Experts from Experience
- Leeds City Council Employees

5.0 POST INQUIRY REPORT MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 Following the completion of the Scrutiny inquiry and the publication of the final inquiry report and recommendations, the implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored by the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board (or its successor) or a specific working group as stipulated by the board.

5.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for how the implementation of recommendations will be monitored.

6.0 MEASURES OF SUCCESS

6.1 It is important to consider how the Scrutiny Board will deem if their inquiry has been successful in making a difference to local people. Some measures of success may be obvious at the initial stages of an inquiry and can be included in these terms of reference. Other measures of success may become apparent as the inquiry progresses and discussions take place.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board is recommended to:

7.1 Note the information contained within this report, make further recommendation to update the terms of reference where necessary and agree the terms of reference for the Transitional Arrangements for Children into Adult Social Care inquiry.

7.2 Note that the terms of reference may incorporate additional information during the inquiry should the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board identify any further scope for inquiry within the area of Transitional Arrangements for Children into Adult Social Care. The work programme would be updated to reflect further work as deemed necessary.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None