

Appendix 5

Model for the Integrated Service for Children with Complex Needs – Paper 2.

Provision for young people with complex needs post statutory school age.

1. There are currently three main routes for funding for learners aged 16-25 with learning difficulties and /or disabilities. These are :
 - The SEN block grant which local authorities receive to discharge their statutory duties towards those aged 16-19 with special educational needs in schools
 - Additional learning support funding allocated to colleges and independent providers for learners aged 16-25 in local provision
 - Provision funded for individual learners with learning difficulties and disabilities aged 16-25 at independent specialist providers where their needs cannot be met locally.
2. The different types of funding are being brought together into a single budget as part of a national framework. During 2010/11 the Young People's Learning Agency, working with local authorities, will develop, model, test and implement a rational, integrated system for funding additional support for post-16 year olds across all types of provider.
3. Decisions about provision and levels of funding are based on individual needs of the young people. In order to ensure that the right level of funding is made available, it is vital to ensure that good quality assessments are carried out. The 139a assessment takes place when the young person is in year 9. This is then reviewed annually, culminating in a Learning and Support assessment upon leaving the Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre. This details what the young person is capable of and what their needs are.
4. Changes are being made to provision locally. Proposals for the decommissioning of Vine in its existing form will be considered by the council's executive committee in December. Work is underway to develop a menu of provision to meet the varied needs of this client group.
5. Leeds currently has 32 young people in independent specialist provision, spread over three year groups. Whilst this compares well with other West Yorkshire authorities, it is hoped that future developments will lead to an increase in the ability to meet needs locally.