

## Health and adult social care working together: staff views of benefits so far

Health and adult social care staff are now co-located at 12 sites across Leeds. Even though it's only the first step in our journey towards fully integrated services, this is a great achievement in itself and has already started to make a positive difference for many staff. People working at the various sites have shared their thoughts over the past year about the benefits they've experienced so far, and some of these have been captured below.

### Communicating with colleagues has become easier

- Working from the same office base makes it easier to have conversations straight away
- It's easier to get access to background information on a patient/service user before a first visit
- It's easier to arrange joint visits
- There have already been some positive outcomes through the joint working approach: "If we hadn't worked together, he would have been in residential care by now".

### Things can be done more quickly

- Problems can get sorted out more quickly because it's easier to have a conversation
- Referrals can be arranged more quickly

### There's less duplication and an opportunity to work more effectively

- More opportunity for joint visits
- Staff from health and social care not having to ask people for the same information.

### Getting a better understanding of each other's roles

- Opportunities for work shadowing
- Getting a better sense of what colleagues from other services do

### More support available and better links with other services

- Ability to get support from colleagues with the most complex patients
- Support from interface geriatricians
- Building better links with primary care, e.g. through attending risk stratification MDT meetings
- Stronger links with wrap-around services – e.g. intermediate care; joint care management.

