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**Report of the Director of Adult Social Services and the Director of Children's Services**

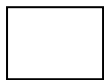
**Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care)**

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010**

**Subject: Directors Response to Inquiry Recommendations - Transitional arrangements for Disabled Young People into Adult Social Care**

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**



Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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**Executive Summary**

This report provides the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) with details of the recommendations from the recent inquiry into Transitional Arrangements for Disabled Young people, and details how the Directors propose to respond to these.

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) with the response of the Director of Adult Social Services and the Director of Children's services to the recommendations resulting from the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) inquiry into Transitional Arrangements for Disabled Young People into Adult Social Care

**2.0 Background**

2.1 At the Scrutiny Board meeting of the 17 June 2009, the Scrutiny Board expressed the wish for an inquiry into the transitional arrangements in place to support young people aged 14 to 25 years with long term needs who were likely to be eligible for Adult Social Care support. Scrutiny Board wanted to determine if a sufficient transitional service was being provided and if structures, policies and procedures are in place to facilitate effective multi agency service delivery.

2.2 Terms of reference for the inquiry were agreed at a Board meeting on 16 December 2009.

- 2.3 At its meeting on 13 January 2010 the Executive Board received a report on the work undertaken in Leeds to establish a transition service for young people with a Disability. The report outlined the current arrangements and the Draft transitional procedure for young disabled people in Leeds.
- 2.4 In order that the inquiry was held jointly with Children's services, participation from the Children's Scrutiny Board was invited and Councillor Brenda Lancaster attended as the nominated representative.
- 2.5 On 11 May 2010, the report resulting from the Inquiry into Transitional Arrangements was published. The Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services was asked to report back on progress and actions around the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care).
- 2.6 The report makes six recommendations for action. The Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services have accepted these recommendations and actions are underway or planned to address them.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

- 3.1 This section lists each of the Scrutiny Board's six recommendations, along with a response from the Director of Adult Social Services and Children's Services.

#### **3.2 Recommendation One:**

*That the Director of Adults Social Services and Children's services establish and publicise the provision of a Transition Peer Support Group before 31 March 2011*

This recommendation is agreed. Workers in the transition team will ask young people and family members who have gone through the period of transition to join a peer support group which would then offer support to people entering into the transition process. A bid has been submitted to the National Transition Support Programme to enable us to develop peer support for service users and parent/carers to become experts by experience. This would focus on the development of person centred reviews. This would enable service users and parent/carers to offer advice and training sessions to other young people and their carers who are going through the transitions process. We believe this will help to support people in a network to complement the work of professional workers.

#### **3.3 Recommendation Two:**

*That the Directors of Adult Social Services and Children's Services before July 2010 investigate additional methods of promoting the Transitions Service to raise the awareness of those young people and families who may benefit from the service.*

This recommendation is agreed. Scrutiny Board suggested that the Council website, DVD or multi-agency information packs be produced. We have published three leaflets – general information, easy read general information and a transitions team leaflet for professional workers to ensure a range of people have access to the information. We have also developed Transitions pages on the Family Hub and also on the Council Website. The Transitions Team have also submitted information on the transitions

process to be included in adult service publications. A formal launch of the new transitions service is being planned for early Autumn. This will include Children and Adult Social Care, partner agencies, service users and parent/carers. We will pursue the idea of a DVD in the coming months.

#### 3.4 Recommendation Three:

*That the Director of Adult Social Services establishes a Transition Service Action Plan before July 2010 to enable progress against key development objectives to be monitored.*

This recommendation is agreed. The transitions services is newly formed and has a number of targets to meet over the next 12 to 18 months; amongst these are the development of partnership working, becoming more involved in the regional work around transition planning and the need to deliver a robust induction programme for new staff in both Children's and Adults Services. As such an action plan which determines key objectives for achievement and target dates against which progress can be monitored will be helpful in moving the service forward.

#### 3.5 Recommendation Four:

*That the Director of Adult Social Services introduces a mechanism for measuring, monitoring and reporting the performance of Transitional Services in Leeds before July 2010*

This recommendation is agreed, however as the team was only established in its current format in April 2010 and is still at an embryonic stage, reporting will be at a localised level to ensure that progress is being made in accordance with the above Action plan.

The regional forum for transitions has not yet published any performance information or targets for transitions services for us to benchmark ourselves against; we will continue to be involved in the forum in order to be part of this information at the appropriate time.

#### 3.6 Recommendation Five:

*That the Director of Adult Social Services review the Draft Transitions Procedure before July 2010 to adequately reflect Safeguarding, Risk Management and Mental Capacity requirements for young people in Transition.*

This action has been completed and the procedure has a revised and strengthened section on Safeguarding and implications of the Mental Capacity Act.

#### 3.7 Recommendation Six:

*That the Executive Board member for Adult Health and Social Care identifies an Elected Member to undertake the role of Transitions Champion before August 2010.*

This recommendation is accepted and the Director of Adult Social Services will work with the Executive Member for Adult Social Care to ask her to nominate an Elected Member to take on this role.

#### **4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance**

4.1 There are no immediate implications for Council Policy and Governance.

#### **5.0 Legal and Resource Implications**

5.1 The recommendations will be resourced from within existing Adult Social Care and Children's Services budgets, and funding is secured within the approved budget for 2010/11.

#### **6.0 Conclusions**

6.1 The Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board inquiry into Transitional Arrangements has identified some important learning for Adult Social Care as it develops a new transitions service. The recommendations it makes will help the service to strengthen practice and enable the Scrutiny Board to monitor progress in this area. The actions proposed in response to these recommendations will ensure that this is the case, and that work with staff and service users relating to the Transitions service is taken forward effectively in the future.

#### **7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 Members are requested to consider the proposed responses as outlined in this report.

**Background Papers** -There are no specific background papers relating to this report