



Main responsibilities:

ADULT SERVICES

For all adults aged from 18-65 years the department provides support services where required for vulnerable groups such as adults with mental health problems, learning disabilities or physical and sensory impairment by –

- Assessing the care and support needs of adults and their carers.
- Providing support to enable people with special needs to live as independently and as safely as possible in their own homes and communities and to safeguard them from abuse and neglect.
- Providing choice in daily living through the promotion of self-managed care or the provision of personal assistant services, housing support, equipment and adaptations to promote independence, residential and day services, home-delivered meal services and housing support services.
- Ensuring appropriate care for those most vulnerable people through the provision of residential and day care services.
- Providing assessments, services and support for carers.

OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES

For people aged 65 years or over the department provides a range of services suitable for this client group. These include –

- Assessing the care and support needs of older people and their carers.
- Arranging and directly providing help for older people to live as independently and as safely as possible in their own homes and communities and to safeguard them from abuse and neglect.
- Promoting independence and self reliance in daily living through the promotion of self managed care or the provision of home care services, extra care housing support and equipment and adaptations.
- Managing the care of those older people eligible for statutory social services.
- Ensuring appropriate care for those most vulnerable older people through the provision and purchase of specialist nursing, residential and day care placements.
- Providing assessments, services and support for carers.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

For children and their families the department supports the most vulnerable young people in our city – those in need, disabled, requiring protection, in trouble with the law, need to be cared for away from home, who are leaving care, or are homeless by –

- Assessing the care and support needs of children in need and their families.
- Supporting families and children in their own homes.



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- Providing a range of family support services, including family resource centres, to prevent the need for children to become looked after and to re-establish them with their families where this is appropriate.
 - Arranging and supporting foster care and adoptions for children.
 - Providing or arranging care in children's homes.
 - Co-ordinating and managing the Safeguarding responsibility in the city to assist children most at risk from harm and neglect.
 - Supporting the Youth Offending Service

Budget highlights 2007/08:

The Social Services budget for 2007/08 has increased by £6.0m compared with the 2006/07 budget and reflects the continuation of the challenging programme of service improvement and business reconfiguration across the department.

Additional funding of £2.1m has been provided through the Partnerships for Older People Grant and £0.7m by the Assistive Technology Grant, both of which will support vulnerable people to remain within the community. Additional provision of £1.8m has been made for the Joint Commissioning Service for People with Learning Disabilities, with a further £0.6m within the Department's supported living schemes to provide improved staffing ratios. Provision of £1.0m has been made for Roseville Enterprises to reflect providing work opportunities for disabled people within the context of trading difficulties being experienced with door and window production.

Additional funding of £1.6m has been included for children's placements to reflect trends in placement numbers and increasingly complex needs. An increase of £0.5m has been provided in the staffing budget for children's residential care and an additional £0.5m is included within the Children's Services Grant relating to the implementation of 'Every Child Matters'.

Provision of £1.0m has been made to reflect revised timescales and financial impacts of the major programme of service improvement and business reconfiguration. A further £1.5m relates to the transitional phase within the directly provided home care service as it responds to the revised eligibility criteria implemented in April 2005 and develops a focus on recovery and enablement services. Expenditure within adult services has reduced by £0.8m whilst residential care facilities are being converted to extra care housing provision. A further reduction of £0.9m within adult services reflects realigning staff to better reflect service requirements.

Efficiency savings across the department amounting to £3.3m have been identified and included within the 2007/08 budget. Central charges have increased by £0.9m, whilst capital charges have reduced by £2.8m, mainly due to new accounting requirements introduced in the 2006 SORP.