

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 33

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: *Commissioning review of services for disabled children*

Date of Meeting: 10th November 2010

Report of: Terry Parkin Strategic Director – People

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Children , Youth and Families

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report is produced to enable the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) to review and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's Plan and the Section 75 Improvement plans i.e.

CYPP Initiative 2b Provide support to families of children with disabilities or complex health needs through universal and specialist services and by delivering on the commitments made by the city council and NHS Brighton and Hove by signing the Every Disabled Child Matters charter

Section 75 Improvement Plan:

1. Improving support to children and young people with a disability or complex health needs and their families
2. To redesign services for children with disabilities
3. The implementation of the Every Disabled Child Matters Programme

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 CYPOSC is asked to note the progress within the commissioning review and agree emerging recommendations and plans for transformation of services
- 2.2 CYPOSC is asked to critically challenge officers in relation to the commissioning review and any key risks or issues arising

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 In 2009, a Commissioning Team was formed within BHCC children's services and was charged with reviewing services for disabled children. This process began in May 2010 when the scope and process for the review was agreed. The scoping document and project brief for the review was taken to CYPOSC.

3.2 Key outcomes of the review:

Through partnership working and in the context of financial restraint, to develop a refreshed 3 year strategy defining commissioning activity, improvement plans and establishing clear outcome measures.

3.3 Key priorities ;

- Provision of timely interventions which meet the needs of individual children.
- Empowering parents and carers – equipping parents and carers with information and skills and strengthening family-focussed networks in order to build resilience in parents and carers
- Supporting parents to look after their children at home or, wherever possible, in the local community. We seek services that make early intervention a priority - in order to prevent families reaching crisis point, and to plan well in advance for the future, especially where a child's needs are complex.

To explore further the emergent agenda around personalisation and choice in children and young people's services.

To ensure the children's workforce is competent and equipped to meet the needs of disabled children.

To ensure that children and young people with disabilities are effectively protected and safeguarded.

To deliver Value for Money (VFM), ensuring that the council is able to provide good outcomes and services whilst demonstrating efficiency and cost effectiveness compared to similar authorities or service providers.

To identify options for a 15% cost reduction across the Pooled Budget set out in the S75 Agreement between the council and the PCT and including the use available external grant funding.

3.4 **The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)** produced in 2010 provides detailed analysis of current and predicted demographics and identified that :

- The resident population of Brighton and Hove is 256,300 with 22% of the population aged 19 years or under.
- The population as a whole is younger than both England and the South East, although the 15 years or under population is smaller.
- The greatest proportion of children and young people with disabilities and complex health needs in the city are aged 11-16 years.
- Estimates of the number of children and young people with a disability in Brighton and Hove range from 1,299 to 3,787, the variation being due to the lack of an accepted definition of disability and based on national % ranges.
- The Compass database, the voluntary city register for children and young people with disabilities and complex health needs, currently holds information on 1,606 children and young people.
- Consistent with the national picture it is expected that the numbers of children and young people with disabilities will increase over coming years.

3.5 **Recommendations for commissioning:** The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment led to a number of recommendations for commissioning. Via a series of partnership meetings, key principles, priorities, outcomes and plans for transformation have emerged and been pulled together into a Draft Commissioning Strategy and Transformation plan.

It is the intention that services will be redesigned and remodelled to deliver against the following key outcomes:

- ✚ To demonstrate increased resilience in parent carers of children/young people with disabilities
- ✚ To show an increase in the independence of children and young people with disabilities
- ✚ To reduce social isolation of children and young people with disabilities and their families
- ✚ To reduce poverty and ensure a better standard of living for families with a disabled child
- ✚ To increase inclusion within mainstream services
- ✚ To minimise impairment and disability

- ✚ To improve participation of children, young people and parent carers in the design and delivery of services
- ✚ To improve the quality and transparency of decision making

3.6 To achieve the outcomes a transformation plan is being developed to address the need to:

- Reconsider the balance of qualified and non-qualified staff in teams
- Consider how best to move towards a greater degree of flexibility and control for families/young people over their individual packages and budgets
- Remove overlaps in services
- Ensure current services are fully utilised and represent value for money
- Ensure the current integrated care pathway is effective and timely in its response
- Ensure the drive towards inclusion is maintained
- Take a strategic approach to the provision of residential services, considering all options and taking into account market forces
- Ensure a focus on building parent carer resilience
- Work strategically with third sector partners to seek innovation and work together towards meeting key outcomes and priorities

3.7 Services are being redesigned within a partnership approach to commissioning and this includes discussion of financial efficiencies and achieving Value for Money.

3.8 Timescales: Commissioning Strategy to the Children's Services Strategy Group November 25th and Cabinet Member Meeting 17th January 2011.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Consultation is being carried out on an ongoing basis via the Strategic Partnership Board which includes all key stakeholders and parent carers. Parent carers' s views are also being sought via the Parent Carer Council
- 4.2 Young people have been consulted via a pre-existing advisory group called the AHA! Group and their views will be gathered against the emerging recommendations in Autumn 2010

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1

One of the key elements driving the review of services to children with disabilities in the above report is to achieve financial efficiencies, ensuring best value and generating savings, with options for cost reductions of up to 15% across the pooled budget. Whilst there are a number of proposals for

service redesign outlined in the report, it is not possible at this stage to accurately calculate the potential for specific savings. A savings target of 15% will prove extremely challenging, particularly as a number of services are currently underpinned by government grants, for which future funding is likely to be reduced or withdrawn. It will be important that any service redesign, as well as decisions concerning ongoing service provision are tested and benchmarked to evidence best value for money has been achieved.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 25.10.10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report is produced to enable the Committee to review and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's plan and the section 75 improvement plan, and so meet the responsibilities towards disabled children and their families within the budget constraints identified.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date:29.10.10

5.3 Equalities Implications:

Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the strategy

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

It is expected that the outcome of the review of service will enhance community sustainability, increasing resilience and independence in children, young people and their families and thus promoting economic wellbeing.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Will be included in the strategy

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The report addresses strategic Improvements within the CYPP which in turn support the council's key priorities .

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

