

How can we develop support for people with Learning Disability and Autism?

What we're doing

Adult Services (Learning Disability and Autism) is gathering information to help inform, shape and plan how support is provided sustainably to meet people's needs in the future.

The areas that Adult Services (Learning Disability and Autism) delivers on includes:

- Supported Accommodation through the Supported Living and Outreach and Assertive Community Transitions services
- Short Breaks and Respite at Newcraigielea
- Supported Vocational Activity at Eric Gray @ Seafield
- Some aspects of the Learning Disability Nursing service

This leaflet is the start of a conversation with those who use services (and future users), their families and unpaid carers. We will include sector wide collaboration, and be working alongside Social Work colleagues throughout

The next step is a series of in-person and online sessions which will give you the opportunity to share your views and ideas on how you feel support could be provided in Shetland, and consider the changes we may make to ensure there's sustainable provision in the future.

We will use your feedback to consider how we provide support now and into the future.

Background

Shetland's IJB Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan ('the Strategic Plan') describes how health and social care services are delivered, jointly across the services that make up the Shetland Islands Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP).

The Strategic Plan includes a high-level vision that:

- The people of Shetland are supported in and by their community to live longer, healthier lives, with increased levels of well-being and with reduced inequalities.

The Strategic Plan also includes 'Directions', which give details of how the HSCP services will help achieve the vision and outcomes across the Plan. Each Direction includes an Improvement Plan, setting out how individual service areas will do this.

Why is this work happening?

Last October, a report to the IJB said that there are areas that are struggling to meet the level of need. We know that there are increasing numbers of people with Learning Disability, Autism and complex needs in Shetland. We also know that unpaid carers need support to enable them to continue caring. Availability of workforce and financial constraints also mean we need to consider how best we meet needs in future.

As a result, the Improvement Plan for Adult Services (Learning Disability and Autism), needs to include further actions to:

- Meet the increase in the number of people with LD & ASD eligible for support in adulthood
- Provide services that support people with LD/ASD to achieve their outcomes
- Ensure people with LD/ASD experience fewer health inequalities and are supported to have improved health outcomes

And ensure that support and care will be provided to enable people with learning disability and autism achieve best outcomes in having:

- a healthy life
- choice and control
- independence
- active citizenship

Why do we need your input?

Recognising that there are finite resources, the recommendation from the IJB was that the most appropriate way of tackling these issues is to produce a Business Case (or Business Cases) exploring options around:

- Access to short breaks
- Sustainable housing and staffing models
- Access to flexible day opportunities
- Transition planning

And

- To consider options around the sustainability and funding of the Neurodevelopmental Diagnostic Pathway

Recommendations will be reported back to the IJB and Council Committees as required.

How you can help

To help inform this work, we need to make sure we meaningfully involve communities around how we design and develop services, taking feedback into account.

In the weeks to come we will be setting up a series of in-person and online sessions to give you the opportunity to share your views and ideas on how you feel support could be provided in Shetland, and to consider the changes we may need to make to ensure there's sustainable provision in the future.

Session dates are as follows:

- **In person** - Wednesday 24th April - 11.00 am – 12.30
Main Hall, Lerwick Town Hall, Hillhead, Lerwick
- **In person** - Wednesday 24th April - 1.30 pm – 3.00
Main Hall, Lerwick Town Hall, Hillhead, Lerwick
- **In person** - Thursday 25th April - 8.00 pm – 9.30
Islesburgh Community Centre, King Harald Street, Lerwick
- **Online** - Thursday 2nd May 2024 - 6.30 – 8.00pm.
Please phone us on 01595 744308 or email to community.care@shetland.gov.uk to register for this session

Links to Self-Directed Support improvement programme

Alongside this work by Adult Services (LD & ASD), the HSCP is also undertaking a Self-Directed Support (SDS) improvement programme. This is to look at how social care resources are used in order to make sure that resources are allocated equitably and sustainably, while at the same time promoting increased choice and control for those who access social care. You may also be asked to contribute to discussions around that work.