



## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

### Cabinet Report

**Report of:** Barbara Carlisle, Head of Commissioning

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date:** 22 July 2015

**Subject:** **Framework Agreement. Day opportunities for adults with a learning disability.**

**Author of Report:** Richard Parrott

**Key Decision:** YES

**Reason Key Decision:** Expenditure over £500,000

#### **Summary:**

The report seeks agreement to establish a Framework Agreement for day opportunities for adults with a learning disability. The volume of business that will be carried out through the Framework will exceed £500,000 in the lifetime of the arrangement, through individualised purchasing including the use of Direct Payments.

#### **Reasons for Recommendations:**

The Framework is a key element of our approach to developing the local offer of day opportunities. It will

- increase the diversity, effectiveness and quality of the current offer
- support groups of people, as well as individuals, to access day opportunities and short breaks
- improve on the current contractual arrangements
- assure best value

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**Recommendations:**

- Cabinet approves the establishment of a Framework contract for day opportunities for adults with eligible needs, by way of a tender process.
  - Cabinet delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning (Communities) in consultation with the Executive Director (Communities), Director of Adult Social Services, Director of Commercial Services and the Director of Legal Services, or their nominated representatives, to agree the Invitation to Tender documentation including the terms of the Framework contract and any call off contracts.
  - Cabinet delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning (Communities) to award the Framework contracts to the successful tenderers.
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**Background Papers:**

- Commissioning Strategy for services for people with a learning disability and their families (2015 – 2018)
  - Equalities Impact Assessment - Framework Agreement - Day opportunities for adults with a learning disability
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**Category of Report: OPEN**

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## Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

<b>Financial Implications</b>
YES Cleared by: Samantha Dunker, Finance Business Partner, Communities
<b>Legal Implications</b>
YES Cleared by: Nadine Wynter, Legal Service Manager, Resources
<b>Equality of Opportunity Implications</b>
YES Cleared by: Phil Reid. Development Manager, Communities
<b>Tackling Health Inequalities Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Human Rights Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Environmental and Sustainability implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Economic Impact</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Community Safety Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Human Resources Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Property Implications</b>
NO Cleared by:
<b>Area(s) Affected</b>
All
<b>Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Lead</b>

Cabinet Member for health, care and independent living
<b>Relevant Scrutiny Committee</b>
Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee
<b>Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?</b>
NO
<b>Press Release</b>
NO

## **Framework Agreement. Day opportunities for adults with a learning disability**

### **1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Communities Portfolio proposes to tender for a Framework Agreement for day opportunities for adults with a learning disability. Co-production with people who use services, their advocates, family carers and service providers will be at the heart of our approach. We will maximise opportunities for joint work with partners, including Children, Young People and Families and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 1.2 Day opportunities help people with a learning disability and their families to have a good life. They are available during the day, in the evening and at the weekend. They provide support that helps people stay active, make friends, learn, make a contribution to their communities, and enjoy life.
- 1.3 They also provide important support to family carers, helping them work, have regular short breaks, and lead a good life outside of their caring role. They sustain family resilience and prevent avoidable breakdown in family caring situations. They must meet carers' needs for reliability, safety and flexibility, alongside providing meaningful opportunities for their disabled family members.
- 1.4 They are not solely focused on personal care. They range from support to help people access mainstream community activities and volunteering, to specialist support in a range of settings, including building based settings, for people with complex needs and behaviours that challenge. They can support individuals or groups of people. They are funded by the Council for people eligible for adult social care, and provided in the public, voluntary and private sectors.
- 1.5 A Framework will
  - specify an aspirational vision for day opportunities for people with a learning disability and their families
  - bring quality under a single set of standards for the first time
  - increase diversity of provision and encourage new, innovative providers into Sheffield.
  - provide a quality framework for people accessing services through Direct Payments but who want independent assurance about quality and standards.
  - allow the Council to purchase well specified support for individuals and, where this is the best option, for small groups of people
  - establish a best value market rate for day opportunities
- 1.6 We have a specific need to develop a Framework for adults with a learning disability; however we have an aspiration that our future direction will include a framework for day opportunities across all adult social care.
- 1.7 The volume of business that is anticipated will be carried out through the Framework will exceed £500,000 in the lifetime of the arrangement, through individualised purchasing including the use of Direct Payments.

## **2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE?**

- 2.1
- People with a learning disability and their families will work with commissioners and service providers to co-produce the vision for day opportunities in Sheffield, and in the procurement and monitoring of the services.
  - People will have more choice of innovative, diverse, and high quality day opportunities that help them be independent, safe and well. People will have more 'ordinary life' opportunities within their wider communities. Opportunities will build on existing resources and assets, reducing people's dependence on care services as their only form of support.
  - All adults with a learning disability in Sheffield will be able to access good quality day opportunities locally, whatever their level of need.
  - Family carers will benefit from a more diverse and flexible offer, that provides them with short breaks at the times they need them.
  - People will be assured the services they access through the Framework are underpinned by clear and measurable quality standards.
  - People will have more choice about how they can access support. This will include opportunities to pool their personal funds and do things together.
  - Day opportunities will provide best value for Sheffield people.
  - The progression for young people with a learning disability to adulthood will be positive.

## **3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY**

- 3.1 The Framework is based on commitments in the 2015-2018 Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy. This takes into account the current and future needs of local people with a learning disability and their families, and the resources available to meet their needs.
- 3.2 The Framework will stimulate new models and offer new businesses who deliver high quality services the opportunity to develop in Sheffield.
- 3.3 The Framework will not guarantee any level of business, therefore provides flexibility to the Council as requirements change over the life of the Framework. It also aims to make sure local services are personalised and flexible, so they can adapt as people's needs change in the future.
- 3.4 The Framework will make sure day opportunities provide best value for Sheffield and contribute to a sustainable budget.

## 4.0 MAIN BODY OF THE REPORT

### The case for change

- 4.1 The needs of local people with a learning disability and their families are changing. The number of people with a learning disability using care and support is increasing. At least 60% of new demand on social care for adults with a learning disability is from young adults with a learning disability in progression to adulthood, including young adults with the most complex needs and with behaviours that challenge. There are more people with a learning disability from our black and minority ethnic communities. People have higher expectations, want more choice and control over their lives and want good quality personalised support.
- 4.2 The 2015-2018 Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy, approved by Sheffield City Council Cabinet in December 2014 was based on extensive consultation with local people. People said they wanted
- A coordinated approach between partners
  - Effective support for family carers
  - To be able to live in their own home
  - To be engaged in their local community
  - To be supported to do things together
  - The Council to manage the impact of reductions in available funding
  - Greater choice in day opportunities and short breaks services
  - Quality assurance of all services in all sectors
  - Time to adjust to any new arrangements
  - The Council to address barriers to paid work
  - Local services to meet the needs of all people irrespective of their level of need
  - The Council to recognise there will be a continued need for 'building-based' day opportunities and short breaks services
  - Our future plans to include plans for advocacy services.
- 4.3 The Strategy made commitments to improve quality, choice and value for money in the local service offer for people with a learning disability, including in day opportunities. We are using people's feedback from the consultation to help us develop the local offer in day opportunities.
- 4.4 Approximately 350 adults with a learning disability use day opportunities provided directly, or purchased on their behalf, by the council from Independent Sector organisations. The total spend is approximately £3m per year.
- 4.5 Many people also use Direct Payments to arrange their own services, purchasing them from day opportunities providers or arranging one to one support through personal assistants. At this stage, detailed information on the level of and spend on Direct Payments for day opportunities is limited.

- 4.6 There are significant pressures on Sheffield's adult social care budget for adults with a learning disability. There is a pressing need to make sure all services provide best value; however there is no established market rate for day opportunities, and costs vary significantly.
- 4.6 In the past some people have had to leave Sheffield to access the services they need. In line with the 'Winterbourne Concordat' and subsequent documents, we need robust local community-based services that can support people well in Sheffield however complex their needs.
- 4.8 We have a range of day opportunities in Sheffield, provided by all sectors. However, many services are out of date and need to change if we are to meet people's expectations for the future.
- Some day opportunities are based on a 'traditional' model of service with a focus on keeping people safe and well, rather than on promoting their personal development, independence and social inclusion.
  - Many people, in particular younger people with a learning disability progressing to adulthood (and their families) have told us that the current offer doesn't meet their needs and expectations.
  - Many day opportunities offer limited hours, not operating in the evenings or at weekends when many people and their carers might need or choose to access support.
  - The diversity of providers is limited, with few new entrants to the local market in recent years.
- 4.9 Many people and families use Direct Payments to pay for day opportunities or personal assistants. This includes a high proportion of people from BME communities. For many this is a positive choice, but we know some local people use Direct Payments because they find the 'mainstream' day opportunities service offer inadequate or unattractive. Some families have also told us they find the task of managing Direct Payments stressful, and would welcome an improved local offer that could be arranged for them by the Council.
- 4.10 Some people using Direct Payments and Personal Budgets have also said they would like to move from 'individualised' arrangements and would value opportunities to pool their personal funds to help them do things together.

#### **Developing the local offer in day opportunities**

- 4.11 Our overall approach to improve local day opportunities is to develop the local offer, to review existing services, and make changes and improvements. We are developing the local offer in a range of ways
- Working in co-production with people with a learning disability and their families to understand what best meets their needs, and the challenges the current arrangements present.
  - Working through our provider networks to share our market intelligence



and our vision for the day opportunities offer.

- Market development work, supporting new innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs), social enterprises, and the voluntary and community sector.
- Partnership working with Children, Young People and Families to ensure consistency between children's and adults' services, aligning our developments, and developing joint contracting arrangements.
- Partnership working with the CCG to make sure the development of the offer includes responding to people's health needs, and to the needs of people who are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare.
- Working with supported living providers to make sure their services are in line with our vision for day opportunities.

We also propose to establish a Framework Agreement for day opportunities.

### **Why do we need a Framework?**

- 4.12 We are using the term "Framework" to refer to a contract arrangement whereby we engage interested providers to sign up to a Council contract, then evaluate providers from whom we can purchase ("call-off") services for individuals or groups of individuals. This offers flexibility in the amount of business we do, and in choice of providers.
- 4.13 There is currently no Framework for day opportunities in Sheffield. The current arrangements by which the Council purchases day opportunities do not set out our aspirations for promoting people's independence and social inclusion, or offer flexibility and control to service users. There is also limited control over fee levels, other than on an individually negotiated basis. A Framework will offer a contracting tool for the Council which will replace the current arrangements.
- 4.14 A Framework will stimulate the local market and encourage new high quality providers in to the city, as well as building on existing providers' expertise and experience. It will encourage a level of competition which will keep prices within an affordable range and offer best value for the Council and Sheffield people.
- 4.15 Frameworks have been helpful in establishing a market and driving service standards in a number of social care areas. In 2014 Sheffield established a Framework Agreement for Supported Living Services for people with a learning disability. This is based on positive outcomes, with new and higher quality standards. It increased the number of providers in the city and established a best value market rate. It has provided the platform for de-registration of traditional residential care services and changing them to modern supported living settings.

## **What will the framework be based on?**

- 4.16 The framework will be based on
- A clear vision based on what local people with a learning disability and their families tell us 'good looks like' in day opportunities.
  - The 'Think Personal Act Local' Making it Real "I" statements
  - The principles of the New Economics Foundation 'Five Ways to Wellbeing'.
  - Evidence from research and good practice.
- 4.17 Day opportunities delivered through the Framework will be:
- Innovative, personalised and focused on promoting positive outcomes.
  - Delivered by a more diverse range of providers, and through a more diverse range of models.
  - Delivered by organisations that have been robustly evaluated as being fit for purpose and financially stable.
  - Delivered by properly trained and supervised staff with up to date and requisite knowledge.
  - Robustly monitored and contract managed. This will include collation and analysis of information from a wide range of stakeholders with particular importance being attached to the views of service users.

## **Co-production and partnership working**

- 4.18 Our aspiration is for a diverse, innovative, flexible and sustainable offer of day opportunities. It will include a variety of models supporting people with a wide range of needs and aspirations. The success of the Framework will depend significantly on it being developed in co-production with all stakeholders. We are committed to a co-production approach throughout the development and implementation. This will include
- people with a learning disability and their families influencing service vision, specifications and quality standards;
  - service providers influencing service vision, specifications and quality standards;
  - processes to represent the views of people who are not able to be involved in co-production.
- 4.19 We are working with the Council's Communications Service to produce accessible and visual representations of the vision for the Framework. This will assist co-production, helping us engage with people of all abilities.
- 4.20 We are committed to partnership working in developing the Framework.
- We will engage with Children, Young People and Families to align the Frameworks. Providers of short breaks services and enrichment services on the Lifelong Learning contracts list will be encouraged to develop support for adults, and vice versa, for the new adults' Framework Agreement list. We will enable 'call off' from either list (adults' and

children's) through joint 'call off' arrangements.'

- We will engage with the Clinical Commissioning Group to make sure the Framework addresses the health needs of people with a learning disability, and the specific needs of people eligible for Continuing Healthcare.

### **Options to be explored**

- 4.21 A diverse and innovative Framework with a variety of models for people with a wide range of needs will require a range of pricing models. We are exploring pricing options with Commercial Services and Financial Business Partner, and will include this in our engagement and co-production with providers prior to specifying and tendering for the Framework.
- 4.22 We are exploring options to make sure the Framework encourages community sector and small/medium enterprises (SMEs) to enter the market. We are also exploring options to make sure mainstream organisations are aware of the potential opportunities they might offer to local people with a learning disability through the Framework.
- 4.23 We are exploring the benefits of an electronic 'Dynamic Purchasing System' (DPS) with Commercial Services, with a view to this system being used for the tender and contracting process rather than a traditional Framework. A DPS is like a Framework except that providers may join at any point during its lifetime, supporting ongoing market development. This is a means of encouraging continued innovation and development of the offer, particularly local SMEs, social enterprises and the voluntary and community sector. In considering this option, benefits need to be balanced with the resource implications of ensuring the market and Council are confident with the system, and the need to make sure the system can deal with the likely diversity of the requirements.
- 4.24 We are committed to respond to people telling us they wish to do things together and pool their personal funds. We are exploring options to purchase services for groups of people, as well as for individuals. For example a group of friends could receive some shared care (both helping people do things together and achieving efficiencies) with purchasing arrangements that support this flexibility. This will build on the recent success of the 'deciding together' process for people who live together in supported living settings.

### **The tender process**

- 4.25 The vision and specification for the Framework will be developed in co-production with people with a learning disability, their families and service providers. It will be informed by evidence from research and good practice.
- 4.26 The tender process will be run in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and EU Procurement Regulations ('Light Touch Regime').

4.27 We aim to have the Framework in place by the end of December 2015.

### **Legal Implications**

4.28 The establishment of a framework agreement will assist the Council to comply with its statutory duties. The Care Act 2014 places a duty on local authorities to stimulate a diverse market of continuously improving, high-quality services, including a range of different service provider organisations to ensure genuine choice. Councils must commission a diverse range of services that provide best value for local people.

4.29 The Care Act 2014, along with the Children and Families Act 2014 requires local authorities to ensure effective progression to adulthood. There is a need to align the offer for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 18-25 with the adults' offer and so ensure continuity and assist positive progressions to adulthood.

### **Equalities implications**

4.30 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out for the LD Commissioning Strategy. An EIA has also been carried out for this proposal. The overall impact is assessed as positive/medium. People will have more choice of innovative, diverse, and high quality day opportunities that help them be independent, safe and well. People will have more opportunities to be included within their wider communities. All people with a learning disability in Sheffield will be able to access opportunities locally, whatever their age, background, or level of need; however the positive impact will only be achieved if a more diverse range of quality providers deliver day opportunities through the framework. We will carry out provider engagement to encourage this.

The full EIA is attached as a supporting paper.

### **Risks**

4.31 The Framework itself does not commit the Council to any expenditure, nor does it oblige the Council to take any particular spending decisions in future.

4.32 If existing providers choose not to tender or are unsuccessful then some people may need to change their providers. This will be managed in consultation with providers and the affected individuals.

## **5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 'Do nothing'

- The current arrangements do not meet our need for a diverse and innovative offer of day opportunities.
- The current arrangements do not support robust quality monitoring and improvement or assure best value.

## **6.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The Framework is a key element of our approach to developing the local offer of day opportunities. It will
- increase the diversity, effectiveness and quality of the current offer
  - support groups of people, as well as individuals, to access day opportunities
  - improve on the current contractual arrangements
  - assure best value.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Cabinet approves the establishment of a Framework contract for day opportunities for adults with eligible needs, by way of a tender process.
- 7.2 Cabinet delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning (Communities) in consultation with the Executive Director (Communities), Director of Adult Social Services, Director of Commercial Services and the Director of Legal Services, or their nominated representatives, to agree the Invitation to Tender documentation including the terms of the Framework contract and any call off contracts.
- 7.3 Cabinet delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning (Communities) to award the Framework contracts to the successful tenderers.

Author: Richard Parrott  
Job Title: Commissioning Manager, Learning Disabilities  
Date: 8 July 2015

## EIA - Framework Agreement - Day opportunities for adults with a learning disability

### What are the brief aims of the proposal and the outcomes you want to achieve?

#### Introduction

This EIA identifies the impacts of a framework contract for day opportunities for adults with a learning disability. It also identifies actions in progressing this work to ensure that we meet our Equality Duty.

The framework is based on commitments in the 2015-2018 Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy. It is a key element of our approach to developing the local offer of day opportunities. It will

- specify an aspirational vision of day opportunities for people with a learning disability and their families
- increase the diversity, effectiveness and quality of current offer
- support groups of people, as well as individuals, to access day opportunities
- improve on the current contractual arrangements
- bring quality under a single set of standards for the first time
- assure best value.

Day opportunities delivered through the framework will be innovative, personalised and focused on promoting positive outcomes for all.

We aim to have the framework in place by the end of December 2015.

### 1 Health and wellbeing

**IMPACT – positive / medium**

#### Will the proposal have a significant impact on health and wellbeing including its effects on the wider determinants of health?

A better range of daytime opportunities provision will bring positive impacts to the health and wellbeing of people with a learning disability and their carers. Providers will be expected to develop opportunities for paid employment, a key determinant in people's wellbeing. Services should be proactive in promoting people's social inclusion, helping them access mainstream opportunities, sustain personal relationships and enhance emotional wellbeing.

See also Section 3 - Disability and Section 10 - Carers.

#### Health and wellbeing action plan; action and mitigation

The specification will be informed by 'Five ways to wellbeing'. We will continue to seek information about impacts on health and wellbeing as we develop the specification.

### 2 Age

**IMPACT – positive – high**

**Provide details on age impact**

At least 60% of new demand on social care for adults with a learning disability is from young people with a learning disability in progression to adulthood, including those with the most complex needs and with behaviours that challenge.

There has been considerable engagement with people who use services over recent years. The transition from Children's to Adults' services is a cause for concern for young people and their carers. The Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014 require local authorities to ensure effective progression to adulthood. Many younger people with a learning disability progressing to adulthood find that the current offer doesn't meet their needs and expectations. Many people and families use Direct Payments to pay for day opportunities or personal assistants. For some this is a positive choice, but we know that others use Direct Payments because they find the 'mainstream' day opportunities service offer inadequate or unattractive.

We anticipate positive impacts for all age groups, but particularly for young people. *For further detail see also Section 3 – Disability & Section 10 - Carers.*

**Age action plan; action and mitigation**

We will continue to engage people who use services in the development of the framework and will ensure that the feedback of different age groups is taken into account. We will carry out analysis to obtain further information about Direct Payment usage.

**3 Disability**

**IMPACT – positive - medium/high**

**Disability impact and level**

**Provide details on disability impact**

The needs of local people with a learning disability are changing. People have higher expectations, want more choice and control over their lives and want good quality, personalised support. People have told us they want better opportunities to make friends, build social networks and enjoy social activities. Many day opportunities offer limited hours, not operating in the evenings or at weekends when people might need or choose to access support. The offer is currently limited for people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities (PIMD) and challenging behaviour.

We anticipate positive impacts as there will be increased choice, and services will be more personalised, delivering better individual outcomes. They will be inclusive of people whatever their level of disability.

If existing providers choose not to tender or are unsuccessful, some people may need to change their providers. The 2015-2018 Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy, approved by Sheffield City Council Cabinet in December 2014, was based on extensive consultation with local people. One of the things that people said they wanted was time to adjust to any new arrangements, so we will ensure that any changes in provider will be managed in consultation with providers and the affected individuals and will be monitored and supported to mitigate any short term negative impact. See also Sections 2 – Age; 5 – Race; 14 – Overall summary of possible impact.

**Disability action plan; action and mitigation**

Co-production with local people with a learning disability will be at the heart of our approach, and this will take place during both the design and implementation phases.

**4 Pregnancy/ Maternity**

No specific impact.

**5 Race**

**IMPACT – Positive / medium  
Provide details on race impact**

The number of people with a learning disability from our black and minority ethnic communities is growing. There is a higher prevalence of learning disabilities amongst South Asian populations, where there is also evidence of increased prevalence of more than one person with disabilities in a family. There is evidence of increased prevalence of people with the most complex disabilities within BME communities.

Concern was expressed during the LD Commissioning Strategy consultation that there is a lack of appropriate provision for some BME communities, for example due to a lack of female-only provision and halal food. Many people with a learning disability use Direct Payments to pay for day opportunities or personal assistants. This includes a high proportion of people from BME communities. For some this is a positive choice, but we know some local people use Direct Payments because they find the ‘mainstream’ day opportunities service offer inadequate or unattractive.

We currently lack information in order to quantify the impact, but anticipate that it will be positive - medium, but moving to high, due to unmet demand and the provision of more appropriate opportunities.

**Race action plan; action and mitigation**

As the framework is developed (and informed by engagement and co-production), it will allow opportunities for improving how we commission and monitor services to reflect the needs of all equality groups within the LD community. We will ensure that the feedback of people from a BME background is taken into account and that our services are equally accessible for all.

To ensure this, we will undertake more work on BME profiling. We need to find out more about unmet need and the impact this has on families. We will carry out analysis to obtain further information about Direct Payment usage.

**6 Religion/ Belief**

**IMPACT – neutral**

The development of the framework will allow opportunities for sharpening how we commission and monitor services to reflect the needs of all equality groups within the



LD community. We will make sure that we take into account the views and needs of faith communities and that our services are equally accessible for all.

## **7 Sex**

### **IMPACT – positive; medium**

We know that more men than women receive learning disability services, because of the increased prevalence of autism in males. This may be off-putting for some women.

We anticipate positive impacts because services will be more person-centred.

### **Sex Action plan; action and mitigation**

As with other areas, we need to know more about specific impacts and requirements. We will ensure that this is incorporated into the process of co-production. We will ensure that the feedback of men and women is taken into account and that our services are equally accessible for all.

## **8 Sexual Orientation**

### **IMPACT – neutral**

We lack information but can expect that people with a learning disability who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender face a double stigma. Sexuality is generally denied, so it is often difficult to have any relationship, regardless of sexuality. Services should be proactive in helping people to sustain personal relationships. We intend to find out more during the process of co-production and development of the offer.

See also Section 1 – Health and wellbeing.

## **9 Transgender**

### **IMPACT – neutral**

See Section 8 – Sexual orientation.

## **10 Carers**

### **IMPACT – positive/ medium-high**

Day opportunities provide important support to family carers, so they can work, have a break, and lead a good life outside their caring role. They sustain family resilience and prevent avoidable breakdown in family caring situations. Many existing day opportunities offer limited hours, not operating in the evenings or at weekends, when carers might need or choose them.

Providers on the framework must meet carers' needs for reliability, safety and flexibility, alongside providing meaningful opportunities for their disabled sons and daughters. They will have a positive, supportive relationship with carers.

We anticipate positive impacts as the improved day opportunities provision offers better breaks and resilience for carers.  
See also Sections 2 – Age; 3 – Disability and 5 - Race

**Carers’ action plan; action and mitigation**

Co-production with family carers will be at the heart of our approach.

**11 Voluntary/ Community & Faith Sector**

**IMPACT – positive/medium**

There will be positive opportunities for a range of providers to be involved in delivering services through the framework. We will extend beyond traditional LD providers.

**Voluntary/ Community & Faith Sector Action plan; action and mitigation**

We are exploring options to make sure the framework encourages community sector and small/medium enterprises (SMEs) to enter the market. We will carry out provider engagement while developing the specification for the framework.

**12 Financial inclusion, poverty, social justice**

**IMPACT – positive/medium**

Providers will tackle barriers to social inclusion and promote positive images of people with a learning disability through their work.

See also Section 1 – Health and wellbeing.

**13 Other/ Additional**

**Staffing – Impact – variable – see below**

Across the independent sector, there are likely to be positive opportunities for staff within the new range of services. Positive impacts are expected as provision will be more imaginative and flexible to meet people’s needs. This may attract different staff. The workforce may need to work more flexibly.

**Other/Additional Action plan; action and mitigation**

Specific changes to services we commission as a result of wider market development will require separate EIAs. We will continue to seek information about impacts on the workforce. *We will ensure that corporate good practice is followed.* We will maximise the opportunities to improve quality and capacity in community-based services and build the skills of the local workforce, as set out in ‘Winterbourne View – time for change.’

**14 Overall summary of possible impact**

**IMPACT – positive/medium**

There is currently no framework for day opportunities in Sheffield. The contracting model used by the Council to purchase day opportunities does not set out our aspirations for promoting people's independence and social inclusion, or offer flexibility and control to service users.

People will have more choice of innovative, diverse, and high quality day opportunities that help them to be independent, safe and well. People will have more 'ordinary life' opportunities within their wider communities. Opportunities will build on existing resources and assets, reducing people's dependence on care services as their only form of support.

All people with a learning disability in Sheffield will be able to access opportunities locally, whatever their age, background, or level of need. However, this positive impact will only be achieved if a diverse range of good quality providers wish to deliver day opportunities through the framework. We will carry out provider engagement to encourage this.

It is important that we are transparent in the EIA process that the Council faces severe financial pressures and that we acknowledge that people are anxious about the impact this might have on their own care and support: there is a need to ensure best value so people can get the most from the available resources. It is also important that we ensure a fair approach to how all adult social care resources are spent so that we meet our equality duties to existing and new learning disability customers, as well as other older/disabled adult social care customers.

If existing providers choose not to tender or are unsuccessful then some people may need to change their providers. The 2015-2018 Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy, approved by Sheffield City Council Cabinet in December 2014 was based on extensive consultation with local people. One of the things that people said they wanted was time to adjust to any new arrangements. We will ensure that any changes in provider will be managed in consultation with providers and the affected individuals and will be monitored and supported to mitigate any potential short term negative impact on individuals.

As the framework is developed (and informed by engagement and co-production), it will allow opportunities for improving how we commission and monitor services to reflect the needs of all equality groups within the LD community. This EIA will be updated (and subsequent EIAs carried out) as an integral part of the development and decision making process.

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