

Putting People First

Summary

It has been recognised that radical changes in how services are delivered are needed to meet the challenges of demographic change, more diverse communities and the higher expectations of service users. This shift has led to the Transformation of Adult Social Care (TASC) programme, announced in January 2008. This will result in significant changes in adult social care and local services over the next few years. Local authorities will be expected to move to a more personalised approach to the delivery of adult social care, including a strategic shift towards early intervention and prevention to promote people's independence and well-being.

Recommendations

Members to note this background paper for the presentation from Jeff Jerome, the national director of Social Care Transformation.

Action

As determined by the Board.

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Background

1. *The LGA has welcomed the Government's move to an increased focus on well-being, independence and choice for service users. It has been recognised that radical changes in how services are delivered are needed to meet the challenges of demographic change, more diverse communities and the higher expectations of service users.*
2. *This shift has led to the Transformation of Adult Social Care (TASC) programme, announced in January 2008. This will result in significant changes in adult social care and local services over the next few years. Local authorities will be expected to move to a more personalised approach to the delivery of adult social care, including a strategic shift towards early intervention and prevention to promote people's independence and well-being.*
3. *The sector-led programme will focus on building the strengths and capacity of individual councils to make the cultural and structural changes locally. The Department of Health will be making over half a billion pounds available locally, regionally and nationally as a ring-fenced grant over the next three years to help councils to redesign and reshape their systems. In addition, local and regional partners will be expected to use existing resources differently.*
4. *The DH and key stakeholders, including the LGA, will develop a programme nationally to support councils. The LGA, alongside the IDeA and ADASS represent local government on the DH's Transforming Adult Social Care Programme Board*
5. *There will also be an increased role for regional improvement bodies in terms of the delivery of programme, such as the JIPs and the RIEPs*
6. *This commitment to joint working to guide the transformation of adult social care was first outlined in the Putting People First: A shared vision and commitment to the transformation of Adult Social Care concordat between central and local government signed in December 2007. This ministerial concordat establishes the collaboration between central and local government, the sector's professional leadership, providers and the regulator. It sets out the shared aims and values which will guide the transformation of adult social care, and recognises that the sector will work across agendas with users and carers to transform people's experience of local support and services.*

The key role of members

7. *Reforming social care will require a huge cultural, transformational and transactional change across the whole of local government and the wider public sector. It is therefore expected that the financial, cultural shift and change management required will need strong local leadership: the contribution of lead members will be crucial. The national director should be able to outline how members will be engaged in the Programme.*

The role of local authorities

8. *The programme will require both a transfer of control to service users and, paradoxically, a stronger leadership role for the local authority. A safe and well-informed environment in which to exercise choice must be created for there to be a transfer of control and risk to service users. The evaluation of the Individual Budget pilots was published on 21 October (http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_089505) and shows the need for further development of the concept when supporting older people to have more control over their care and support.*
9. *Local authorities have a key role in ensuring people have access to information, advice and resources to take action for themselves. They also can help to build up community capacity so that people choosing their personalised care can access timely, good quality and appropriate information, assisted by independent advocates where needed.*
10. *Local authorities will also have to ensure that the transformation programme does not just focus on the provision of personalised budgets for just those within their eligibility criteria but also seeks to promote the well-being of all local people. In order to ensure that the programme truly does increase local well-being, local authorities will need to go beyond social services departments and budgets and ensure access to universal services. A description of a transformed system is attached at Annex A.*
11. *Authorities will need to develop a full understanding of the needs of everyone in the community, including the wishes and preferences of self funders. Carers' needs and rights also need to be placed at the centre of any local delivery arrangements.*
12. *The national director will be able to describe the timelines for transformation, in terms of what localities are expected to have achieved by when and the support available.*

The national director of Social Care Transformation

13. *A consortium of ADASS, the IDEA and LGA, with the support of the Department of Health, appointed Jeff Jerome to become the first National Director for Social Care Transformation.*
14. *His principal duties and responsibilities will include:*
 - *To build a programme of work, agreed by the Programme Board, to implement Putting People First.*
 - *To advise and support the ADASS Executive and membership in implementing the National and Regional Business Plans.*
 - *To develop close working relationships with members of the Concordat Consortium.*
 - *To deliver frameworks that enable and support partnership, co-ordinating across all stakeholders.*
 - *Demonstrate impact and value for money in all activities.*
 - *To liaise, co-ordinate and work with other national social care bodies including SCIE, CSCI, ECCA, UKHCA etc to ensure personalisation and Putting People First is integral to social care delivery.*
 - *To work with NHS national bodies to take forward the wider Putting People First agenda.*

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- *To work in a complementary way with the National Personalisation Programme Lead ensuring that all aspects of the national and regional delivery programmes synchronise.*
 - *To ensure coherence across all aspects of the delivery of Putting People First in the field.*
 - *To ensure that the work informs policy development where required.*
 - *To ensure that ADASS, the DH, the regional government offices/JIP and RIEPs, and other agencies are kept well informed.*
 - *To advise and report to the Social Care Transformation Board as required.*
15. *Jeff was formerly Director, Adult and Community Services for the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and was the Co-Chair of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services Disabilities Network*

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