living well with a disability

Future services for people with a physical disability

MARCH 2013
FOREWORD

This document has been developed following an extensive period of consultation with people with a physical disability and their carers regarding the way in which Scottish Borders Council (SBC), NHS Borders and the voluntary sector provide services for people with a physical disability living in the Scottish Borders now and in the future.

Our aim is to work in partnership to provide quality services that support the health and well-being of people with a physical disability and which enables them to live well with their disability. We are committed to providing a range of services which can offer choice and increase confidence and independence whilst maintaining the safety of people with a physical disability living in the Scottish Borders. The purpose of this document is to outline the way in which we will achieve this.

The document focuses on a number of key areas to improve services for people with a physical disability which are based on feedback received during consultation and which have been developed in partnership with the Borders Voluntary Community Care Forum (BVCCF).

It includes recommendations which focus on the development of services which improve health and well being, opportunities for active involvement in the community, accessible accommodation, choice and control, access to information and support during the transition from young person to adult.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the way in which services will be delivered for people with a physical disability living in the Scottish Borders now and in the future. Whilst the principles of this document are not age specific it does not include services for children (0-16yrs) affected by a disability. It focuses on a number of priority areas for service development and improvement which were identified during a period of consultation with people with a physical disability and their carers and which have been developed in partnership with BVCCF.

The following priority areas for development and improvement have been identified:

- access to health promotion and improved well being
- opportunities for active involvement in your community
- access to accessible accommodation;
- opportunities for greater choice and control;
- access to information;
- access to support for young people moving to adult services (transition).

This document states how we will commit to meeting those priorities within the context of changing needs and expectations.

It is one of a number of documents including the Carers Strategy which outline the plans to develop and improve a broad range of services across SBC, NHS Borders and the voluntary sector. These documents are listed in Appendix One. This document does not duplicate this work and should be read in conjunction with other documents.
2. BACKGROUND

For the purposes of this document ‘people with a physical disability’ refers to those who have one or more physical disabilities which may be present from birth, acquired at any age, be temporary or longer term, stable or fluctuating. Physical disability is unique for each individual in the way it impacts on their life. Services therefore need to be person centred and recognise an individual’s rights to independence and self-determination, dignity and respect.

LOCAL PROFILE OF PEOPLE WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY

The current population in the Scottish Borders is estimated to be 114,268. This is a population projection based on the data collected in the 2001 census. Figures collated in the 2011 census have not yet been released. It is known that the current population includes a significant number of people with a physical disability, and that people with multiple and complex physical disabilities are living longer.

There is limited information available regarding the exact number of people with a physical disability living in the Scottish Borders and no single source of information which easily demonstrates this. Detailed information regarding the number of people with a physical disability accessing specific services is available and this information is presented in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>No in Borders</th>
<th>% of Borders population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census (2001)</td>
<td>Individuals with a long term limiting illness, health problem, disability which limits daily activity or work they can do</td>
<td>18,613</td>
<td>16.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair service</td>
<td>Number of wheelchair users registered with service</td>
<td>2064</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMART Centre Edinburgh (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borders Brain Injury Service BBIS (2010)</td>
<td>People known to the BBIS who have a brain injury</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work Database (2012)</td>
<td>People with a physical disability who receive a Social Work service (under 65)</td>
<td>1385</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DLA Claimants (2012)</td>
<td>People claiming Disability Living Allowance</td>
<td>5700</td>
<td>4.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. WHAT WE ARE COMMITTING TO DO

SBC and NHS Borders are committed to working in partnership with the voluntary sector to provide good quality services that support the health and well being of people with a physical disability and which enables them to live well with their disability.

Based on the key priority areas for service development and improvement identified following consultation with people with a physical disability and their carers we commit to developing and improving services for people with a physical disability with a view to achieving the following outcomes:

**Health Promotion and Well Being**

1. We will develop approaches across partner agencies to enable people with a physical disability to live as independently as possible, respecting their choices (reablement).
2. We will extend the use of future planning for people with a physical disability, which will reflect decisions/wishes should there be a sudden and unexpected change in their health and wellbeing or that of their carers (anticipatory care).

**Active Involvement in your Community**

3. We will work with partners to develop opportunities for people with a physical disability to fully engage in their local community.
4. We will work in partnership with local employers to maintain and develop supported employment opportunities for people with a physical disability.
5. We will recommend to all transport providers that their drivers participate in disability awareness training.
6. We will work in partnership with transport providers as they increase the number of accessible vehicles on local bus services in line with government regulation requirements by 2016.
**Accommodation**

7. We will work with partners to improve how adapted properties are allocated to people with a physical disability.
8. We will work with partners to develop a range of housing which will meet the needs of people with a physical disability.
9. We will work with partners to increase opportunities to provide specialist care for people with complex physical disabilities to prevent people having to move outwith their community/Scottish Borders.

**Choice and Control**

10. We will enable people with a physical disability to have choice and control over how they are supported to live independently.
11. We will enable people with a physical disability and their carers to access a range of options that provide a short break.
12. We will work with partners to support people with a physical disability and their carers affected by changes to the Independent Living Fund.

**Access to Information**

13. We will work with partners to enable people with a physical disability and their carers to access a range of information.
14. We will work with partners to give support, advice and information to people with a physical disability and their carers impacted by Welfare Reform.

**Young Person to Adult Transition**

15. We will work with partners to improve the experience of younger people affected by a physical disability going through the transition to adulthood.

SBC and NHS Borders, in partnership with the voluntary sector, aim to improve and develop services for people with a physical disability which reflects these key outcomes. This is in line with what people with a physical disability have told us they want and national guidance on how to improve services using a personal outcomes approach.
4. KEY PRIORITIES FOR SERVICE COMMISSIONING

A joint commissioning strategy is being developed. This will outline how services for people with a physical disability will be purchased and provided in response to the expressed wishes of people with a physical disability and their carers, within the context of changing needs and expectations and whilst ensuring the best use of public funds.

The strategy will clearly identify the joint service commissioning intentions of SBC and NHS Borders for people with a physical disability over the next five years and will focus on the key priority areas already identified.
5. ACTION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION

An action plan is being developed which will outline in detail how, by whom and within what timescale each of the outcomes identified will be achieved. The implementation of this action plan will be monitored and reviewed by a joint reference group with representation from SBC, NHS Borders and the voluntary sector and will include a service user and carer.

The reference group will meet quarterly between 2012 and 2017 and will report on progress of the implementation of the action plan to the Primary and Community Care Partnership who are accountable for the joint planning and commissioning of services for people with a physical disability in the Scottish Borders.
6. **SUMMARY**

This document outlines the way in which SBC, NHS Borders and the voluntary sector will improve and develop services for people with a physical disability and is based on feedback received by people with a physical disability and their carers living in the Scottish Borders.

A joint commissioning strategy is being developed which will outline the key priority areas for service commissioning for people with a physical disability. This will be in line with key priority areas for service development and improvement outlined in this document.

An action plan is being developed and implementation of this will be monitored and reviewed by a joint reference group who will report progress to the Primary and Community Care Partnership who are accountable for the joint planning and commissioning of services for people with a physical disability in the Scottish Borders.

This document is one of a number of documents which outline plans to develop and improve a broad range of services across SBC, NHS Borders and the voluntary sector and should be read in conjunction with these.
Appendix One

Key Documents

It is recommended that this document is read in conjunction with the following key documents which outline both the national strategic direction for service development and improvement as well as local plans to develop and improve a broad range of services across SBC, NHS Borders and the Voluntary Sector.

NATIONAL
- Better Health, Better Care, Scottish Government, 2007
- Self-directed Support (Scotland) Strategy, Scottish Government 2010
- Equality Act 2010
- Scottish Government Specific Equalities Duties 2012
- Self Directed Support (Scotland) Bill 2012
- Talking Points – A Personal Outcomes Approach, Joint Improvement Team, 2012
- Mental Health Strategy for Scotland 2012-15

LOCAL
- Strategy for the Management of Long Term Conditions, Scottish Borders Community Health and Care Partnership, 2008-2013
- Scottish Borders Carers Strategy 2011-2012
- People Involvement Strategy, Scottish Borders Council Social Work Services, 2010-2014
- Short Breaks Strategy 2012-2015
- Draft Sensory Services Strategy 2012-2017
- Joint Mental Health Commissioning Strategy 2012-15
You can get this document on tape, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

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