

Services for Children with Complex Needs and Adults with Learning Disabilities to Get Funding Boost

An exciting opportunity has arisen through the Intermediate Care Fund, Social Care (ICF) to support enhanced delivery for children with complex needs and adults with learning disabilities across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The aim of the 2016-17 ICF is to drive and enable integrated working between social services, health and housing and the third and independent sectors.

It should be noted that at present commitment for this resource is currently for one year only although it is fully expected that this will be extended into future years.

Through earlier and ongoing consultation with parents, young people and service users, in addition to consultation with practitioners and staff across all areas of delivery, the ICF will bring additional resources to support improvements in a number of areas across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, including the following:-

WHAT WE'LL BE FOCUSING ON - PRIORITY IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Disability expertise front-door services – To improve initial access to Information, Advice and Assistance services to parents and carers of children with a disability.

Co-ordination and support services for young people with neurodevelopmental conditions – Provision of additional support to provide an early intervention, coordinated approach to those identified with additional needs through the neurodevelopmental pathway

Regionalised integrated complex needs service for children and young people
Holistic multi-agency approach to co-ordinate integrated assessment, planning and allocation of resources. This will reduce duplication, join up service delivery and support a seamless transition into adulthood for those young people with the most complex needs across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

Parenting support for parents with learning difficulties and young children – Direct work to enable parents with learning difficulties to develop the skills to be able to meet the care and support needs of their children, reducing the likelihood of their children being removed into local authority care.

Enhanced transition arrangements – Supporting adult services with additional capacity to undertake earlier assessments and contribute to a seamless care and support plan. This approach will support better longer term planning for those with more complex needs, enabling a home first approach and prevent the need for young adults to live out of area.

Enhanced learning disability enablement (previously funded through RCF) – To continue to review care packages for adults with learning disabilities ensuring that appropriate and cost effective, innovative, solutions to meeting need are being provided close to home, and within the local community.

Enhanced day opportunities for adults with a learning disability – To support adults to access day opportunities locally, reducing spend on out of area day opportunities to maximise services. Enhancing day opportunities with additional nursing support allowing for staff to be more confident in delivering complex care and support plans for those adults who have a higher level of need.

Supported accommodation for young adults with complex needs – This will provide local and specialised accommodation for young adults with learning disabilities and complex needs. This model will work towards a local delivery model of care and support to enable young people to return to their local area to live, within their local communities, reducing the need for out of area placements.

Bespoke flexible respite provisions – To support and maintain carers to be able to continue in their role, Adult Placement Schemes delivered regionally would provide more adults with the opportunity to receive their respite locally in a home based community environment. Existing respite provision would be enhanced in order to facilitate this. For individuals who require more specialised respite, a remodelling of provision on a regional basis will support a regional approach to meeting the specialised respite needs of adults with complex needs.

HOW ICF WILL SUPPORT THE PRIORITIES

As a result of new funds a number of new posts are being developed across the Social Services Directorates and the Health Service to support the implementation of the programme. These include a Project Manager post, hosted within Cardiff and Vale UHB to work under the guidance and direction of the Integrated Operational Change Manager and Regional Operational Manager for Adult Learning Disabilities.

A number of other posts will be advertised in the near future and **applications would be welcomed from enthusiastic people who are open to a new challenge** to apply your passion for achieving positive outcomes for people in a way that will see significant and lasting improvements in the way our services are delivered.