



# Leicestershire Learning Disability Market Position Statement 2016-2020



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# Foreword

## By Sandy McMillan, Assistant Director Strategic Services

I am pleased to present our Adults and Communities Learning Disability Market Position Statement, which sets out Leicestershire County Council's vision for care and support of individuals living in the County.

We recognise and value the organisations that work within the provision of learning disability services and we anticipate that this statement will be of benefit to Providers by informing them of likely future services and support requirements.



## Our Vision

Leicestershire County Council recognise that living with a learning disability (LD) at any age, should not be a barrier to living a full, independent and successful life. This should include the opportunity to live a healthy, safe and fulfilling life within the community. A learning disability affects the way an individual understands information and how they communicate. Around 1.5m people in the UK have a diagnosed learning disability.

This means individuals with a learning disability can have difficulty understanding new or complex information and learning new skills, which can affect their ability to cope independently. With the right support at the right time, individuals will be enabled to have greater employment opportunities, better health and community relationships, increasing independence and control over what they want to do and how they wish to be supported.

Our overall vision (Promoting Independence, Supporting Communities; Our vision and Strategy for Adult Social Care 2016 – 2020) is to:

*'make the best use of the available resources to keep people in Leicestershire independent. Our focus will be to promote, maintain and enhance people's independence so that they are healthier, stronger, more resilient and less reliant on formal social care services.'*

This cannot be achieved without a diverse range of care and support services to ensure that individuals with learning disabilities and their carers have choice over how their needs are met and are able to achieve the things that are important to them.

With the right support at the right time, individuals will be enabled to have greater employment opportunities, better health and community relationships

# Introduction

This Market Position Statement (MPS) is aimed at both current and potential Providers of Learning Disability Services who are potentially thinking about operating within Leicestershire. Individuals included in the scope of this report are children and adults of all ages with:

- A learning disability and/or autism and their families/carers
- Complex needs and/or behaviour that challenges and their families/carers.

It is intended to give an insight into the needs and aspirations of individuals within this group and is based on current commissioning trends, future population growth, anticipated demand and commissioning intentions over the next 3-5 years. The MPS should be read in conjunction with Leicestershire County Council's Adult and Community Services overarching MPS the associated MPS for Mental Health and the MPS for those with a physical disability and people with sensory impairment aged 18-64.

Leicestershire County Council is committed to stimulating an effective and responsive supply of services in the area of learning disability to meet the needs of children, young people and adults and their families. The way individuals with a learning disability have traditionally been supported is changing. At different stages in life, people should be able to access the right level and type of support at the right time, to help prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing formal support and to maximise independence. Where possible, this support should be delivered in a community based setting.

The purpose of this document is to provide useful information for Providers so that they can tailor their business objectives and to stimulate the creation of innovative care solutions. In this way, any future gaps in services can be met and ensure quality improvements are made to service delivery across the County.

At different stages in life, people should be able to access the right level and type of support at the right time, to help prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing formal support and to maximise independence.

## Future services in Leicestershire must be:

- Preventative so that people can regain independence and move away from formal support or on to less intensive support.
- Encourage personal and community resilience.
- Offer short term interventions that increase independence where appropriate.
- Be flexible, person centred and developed with service users and carers.
- Identify and achieve outcomes for service users and carers.
- Be developed in partnership with the Council and other commissioners of services and with other Providers to identify best practice

# How to use this MPS

This document is an overview giving Providers a direction about what we want from the Market to help us to meet our local priorities for the learning disability service user group. It is part of a suite of documents that provide the key information and statistics on needs, demand and trends for the County. It should therefore be read in conjunction with the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment <http://www.lsr-online.org/leicestershire-2015-jsna.html>, which contains the detailed demography of Leicestershire.

## Background and Strategic Context

In accordance with the Care Act 2014, the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Sustainability Transformation Plan (STP) and the Adult Social Care Strategy 2016-2020, we will continue to work in partnership with health services and actively seek ways to improve services through working together. We envisage that in the future there will be greater opportunity to develop our joint commissioning and integration approach, particularly in relation to:

- joint commissioning of services,
- integrated commissioning for prevention,
- further development of place based integrated teams, and
- integrated health and care personal budgets

## The Care Act 2014

The Care Act 2014 provides a coherent approach for the delivery of Adult Social Care services in England; it sets out duties for local authorities and their partners, new rights for individuals and carers and the requirement to integrate care and support offered by local authorities with that provided by health services. Local authorities are also now required to consider the concept of an individual's 'wellbeing', for example, the suitability of accommodation where care and support may take place. This is particularly relevant for individuals with learning disabilities, who may have traditionally received services in a residential setting.

## The Children and Families Act 2014

The Children and Families Act 2014 puts a much greater emphasis on bringing together support for children and young people up to the age of 25, focusing on outcomes beyond school or college. The Act also introduces major changes to support for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN), creating education, health and care (EHC) plans to replace SEN statements. Families with EHC plans will be offered personal budgets. The Act also places a duty on local authorities to identify all children in their area who have SEN or disabilities.

The overall aim is to give families a greater involvement in decisions about their support and to encourage social care, education and health services to work more closely together in supporting those with special needs or disabilities.

As part of the changes local authorities are required to publish a 'local offer' setting out what support is available to families with children who have disabilities or SEN. The local offer should also explain how families can request personal budgets, make complaints and access more specialist help. Details of Leicestershire's local offer can be found here:

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs-and-disability>

## Sustainability and Transformation Plan 2016 (STP)

The Spending Review 2016 announced that by 2020/21 every area is required to develop a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for the integration of health and care. The STP for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) is one of 44 plans nationally. A draft STP, published in November 2016, builds on the work of the Better Care Together Programme and is shaped to respond to the challenges facing health, adult's and children's social care services across LLR and in particular, "how services can be changed for the better to improve care and the patient experience, while addressing the problem of demand for services continually outpacing the resources available".

Details of the STP can be found at [www.bettercareleicester.nhs.uk](http://www.bettercareleicester.nhs.uk)

We envisage that in the future there will be greater opportunity to develop our joint commissioning and integration approach and these are some of the areas we are going to explore:

- Joint commissioning of residential care placements
- Integrated commissioning for prevention
- Development of place based integrated teams supported by integrated points of access
- Integrated health and care personal budgets including integrated personal commissioning

## The Adult Social Care Strategy 2016 – 2020

Our focus will be to meet our responsibilities under the Care Act to promote, maintain and enhance individual's independence so that they are healthier, stronger, more resilient and less reliant on formal social care services.

We will work with partners to ensure that individuals have the right access to housing, health and community services so that they can have a good quality of life and make a positive contribution to their communities. Our aim is for individuals to have access to work, housing, and social networks which support them to be independent, improve their wellbeing and reduce isolation and that where needed, the care and support they receive is of high quality.

We aim to deliver services which will enable individuals to gain or regain skills to help them to live independently and we will do this in the most unobtrusive and least restrictive manner possible. We will provide 'just enough' support to assist individuals to build on their current strengths and develop their abilities to look after themselves without becoming overly dependent on Council support.

## Transforming Care Programme

In line with national guidance, 'Transforming Care for People with a Learning Disability; The Next Steps', Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Transforming Care Programme (LLR TCP) aims to see more individuals with a learning disability and/or autism and/or mental health issues (including individuals with behaviour that challenges), who are currently receiving assessment and treatment in a hospital setting, transferred into live in community based support and accommodation. The LLR focus is on making sure there is the right support for individuals discharged from inpatient facilities and hospital care at the right time.

The programme aims to ensure that people are discharged from hospital when they are ready to leave, into suitable accommodation with support and to support individuals who are at risk of being admitted to hospital as a priority.

There are on average 20-40 individuals at any one time who are residing in a local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or NHS England Special Commissioning inpatients in hospital placements, at any one time. This figure changes frequently depending on the number of admissions and discharges. An example of the number of inpatients in hospital as of 31st May 2017 can be seen below.



# Summary and Key Messages from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR)

Over the next five years in LLR we will work alongside Providers to:

- Take a Whole Life Approach, reducing the impact of transition between different ages and stages of life, focus on early help, intervention, integration and prevention. We will aim to ensure that disabled people and their families have access to the right information and support, to enable them to be valued and involved within their local community.
- Deliver our duties under the two social care accommodation strategies: 'A Place to Live – My Home. Accommodation for Working Age Adults 2017-2022' and Accommodation Strategy for Older People 2016-2026'; which are intended to guide and facilitate stakeholders and Providers across the market around housing needs for disabled, vulnerable and older citizens of Leicestershire.

- Promote supported accommodation and assisted living for adults with a learning disability, ie, Supported Living, Shared Lives and Extra Care provision, which can offer a positive alternative to traditional residential care options. It is our intention to make sure individuals are living in the best place to suit their needs (please see accommodation options later in this document).

As of January 2017, there were approximately 450 individuals living within a community based Supported Living setting, nearly 400 of which have a learning disability. There are also 360 people under the age of 64 living within a residential care placements. The majority of which have a learning disability. Around 14 individuals under 64 with a learning disability are currently living within a County Extra Care scheme.

Since May 2016 to the end of June 2017 there have been 11 new residential care placements for adults aged 18-64 who have a learning disability. Leicestershire County Council expects this trend to continue with an intention for the number of working age adults in residential care to decrease year on year from 2017 onwards (a target being 30 individuals moving to the community per annum) and subsequently the number of individuals accessing Supported Living, e.g Extra Care or community based supported accommodation to increase. It is Leicestershire County Council policy to not place anyone under the age of 64 in residential care on a permanent basis, unless strictly necessary for an individual.

As of January 2017, there were approximately 450 individuals living within a community based Supported Living setting





- Further integrate health and social care services and budgets. At present, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) and health share a pooled LD budget, with the Council being the lead for commissioning services. All three local authorities across LLR also provide Direct Payments or Personal Health Budgets (PHB) to children and adults, many of whom are also receiving an element of their package of care/funding from a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Across the two local CCGs, a target was set to have Personal Health Budgets rolled out to 48 people with LD across LLR in 2016/17. For 2017/18 this figure has been reached. As of January 2018 the total number of individuals with a PHB are as follows:

CCG Areas	Individual with a PHB (LD only)	Total no of PHBs
City	20	60
East	15	75
West	15	86
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>221</b>

Direct Payments via Leicestershire County Council are a well-established and this option is being used by an increasing number of Service Users and their families. This will require Providers to work more closely with individuals and their representatives.

- Further to the work of the LLR Transforming Care Partnership, preventative work will continue to identify those in danger of being admitted to hospital prior to an emergency admission. Requirements around Care and Treatment Reviews will also continue, collaboratively across health, social care and the provider market to ensure the successful transition of individuals moving to and remaining within a community setting.

From April 2015 CCG's were tasked with holding a register of anyone at risk of admission to hospital due to their learning disability/ and or autism. (This is not a register of people at risk, e.g. safeguarding, abuse, exploitation). A professional should only consider placing someone on the Risk of Admission Register when:

- A person is placing themselves or others at serious and/or significant risk of harm
- Their community placement or tenancy is at risk of irretrievable breakdown and where this would pose a significant risk to the safety of the person and/or others
- A hospital admission (deterioration in mental health) is being considered as an option
- People have had an unplanned hospital admission in the last year
- People have been managed by a crisis team or similar to avoid a hospital admission in the last year
- A significant life event (e.g. bereavement, divorce, change of care provider/carer, change of school)

Since the development and roll-out of the LLR online Admission Avoidance Register in January 2016, 129 people across LLR have been identified as being 'at risk'. When someone is identified as being 'at risk' or when a request is made for admission onto the register, they will have a named care coordinator (under Care Plan Approach) with responsibility, regardless of geographical residence, or if the person is in a community or hospital setting. They will also receive an appropriate package of support, or indeed increased support to try and prevent an unnecessary admission to an inpatient setting. For example, improve accommodation options for people in the community and develop closer working relations with integrated LD health and social care teams within their geographical area.



50 individuals with an LD have a PHB

- Embed the progression model and focus on individual's own outcomes being achieved, across commissioned services, such as the Supported Living Care Framework, Community Life Choices and the LLR Mental Health Wellbeing and Recovery Service (formerly referred to as Mental Health Resilience and Recovery Hubs). Providers will be asked to demonstrate evidence of achievement. Progression aims to reduce care and support provision as an individual becomes more independent, resulting in hours of support being reduced over time.
- Work toward the aims of the Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy 2016-2020, which is intended to support social care workers across Leicestershire, to understand the mission, principles and strategic approach within the Leicestershire Adult Social Care Strategy 2016-2020, and how they and their employers can contribute towards its delivery, within their role.  
<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=126950>
- Continue to support and reflect the principles of the Leicestershire Community Strategy 2014 across the work of the Adult Social Care department, by helping communities to support themselves and to work with public services to deliver better outcomes for people, help the voluntary and community sector to be an effective provider and ensure the Council is outward focussed, transparent and open to new ways of working. Providers are encouraged to support the work of Local Area Co-ordinators (LACs), which signpost vulnerable people to advice and support, through forging links with their nearest LAC and identifying individuals who may benefit from their help. Where appropriate, Providers are encouraged to apply for Leicestershire Community Shire grants to access additional funding for communities and voluntary groups to increase community provision in their area. Work in this area aims to reduce reliance on statutory services.

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-grants-and-funding>

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/protecting-vulnerable-adults/local-area-co-ordinators>

- Support Public Health initiatives such as smoking cessation, weight management, sexual health and substance misuse treatment. Providers are encouraged to use the First Contact scheme, a tool for practitioners to alert support Providers if you have contact with a vulnerable adult who could benefit from additional help or services.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/protecting-vulnerable-adults/first-contact-scheme-for-practitioners>

Also to signpost individual and families to First Contact Plus, which gives access to free information and advice on many aspects of life including health, money and relationships.

<http://www.firstcontactplus.org.uk/>

The Council intends to work in partnership with Providers to achieve these key messages and also to promote recognition of the changing landscape within health and social care services, as a result of increased demand and reducing resources. We will work collaboratively with the market to find innovative cost effective solutions to the challenges we face and strive to make services more personalised and flexible as part of a continuous cycle of review and improvement.

# Current and Projected Demand and Use of Services

It is useful for Providers to understand the potential demand for services, current supply and usage. The following is a selection of relevant demographic and market information, taken from PANSI, POPPI, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and other secondary data sources as well as data recorded by Leicestershire County Council in relation to individuals currently supported by us.

The public sector has historically been the main purchaser of service to support learning disability needs, hence there is little current information about how much private individuals (or self funders) pay for support from their own resources. The information below relates mainly to individuals who opt for Leicestershire County Council or other statutory services to 'manage' the purchasing of their support.

## Key themes show:

### Under 18s and transitions

The number of young people with a Learning Disability who are leaving school in July 2017 is 85. This gives an indication of the numbers of future young people who may potentially require social care support.

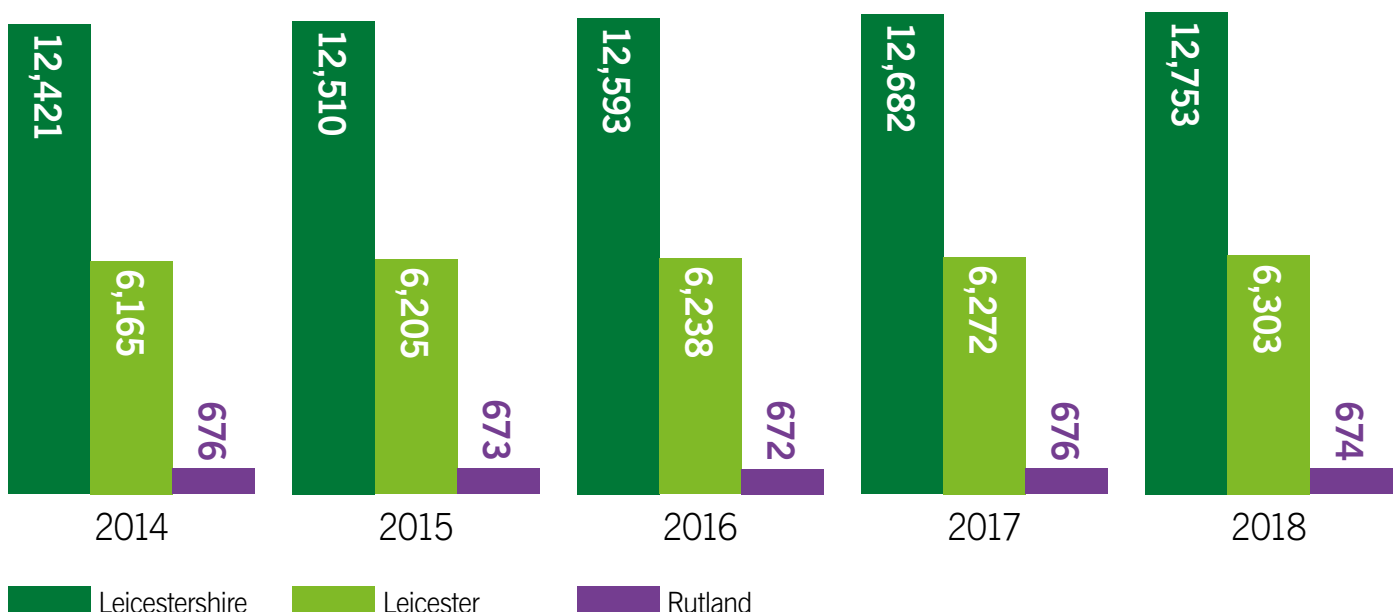
As of January 2017, Leicestershire County Council's Transitions team are working with 34 individuals and their families who will turn 17 by 2019, who are currently living in a residential placement. It is not possible to predict what level of support will be needed from Adult Social Care. Eighteen of these young people have a learning disability.

### Adults 18+

In general, the population of Leicestershire is growing, and it is predicted to reach 753,100 by 2037, an increase of over 96,000 from 2012. However, the population is not growing uniformly for all age groups. Unlike the predicted increase in over 65's, the growth in the younger age group is less significant, with the adult population aged 25-64 years due to reduce by 2% (339,900 to 333,900).

The number of adults with a learning disability is set to continue in line with historical rates and predicted population rises. Across LLR, the following table shows the prevalence of individuals with a learning disability over recent years, alongside the numbers predicted by 2018.

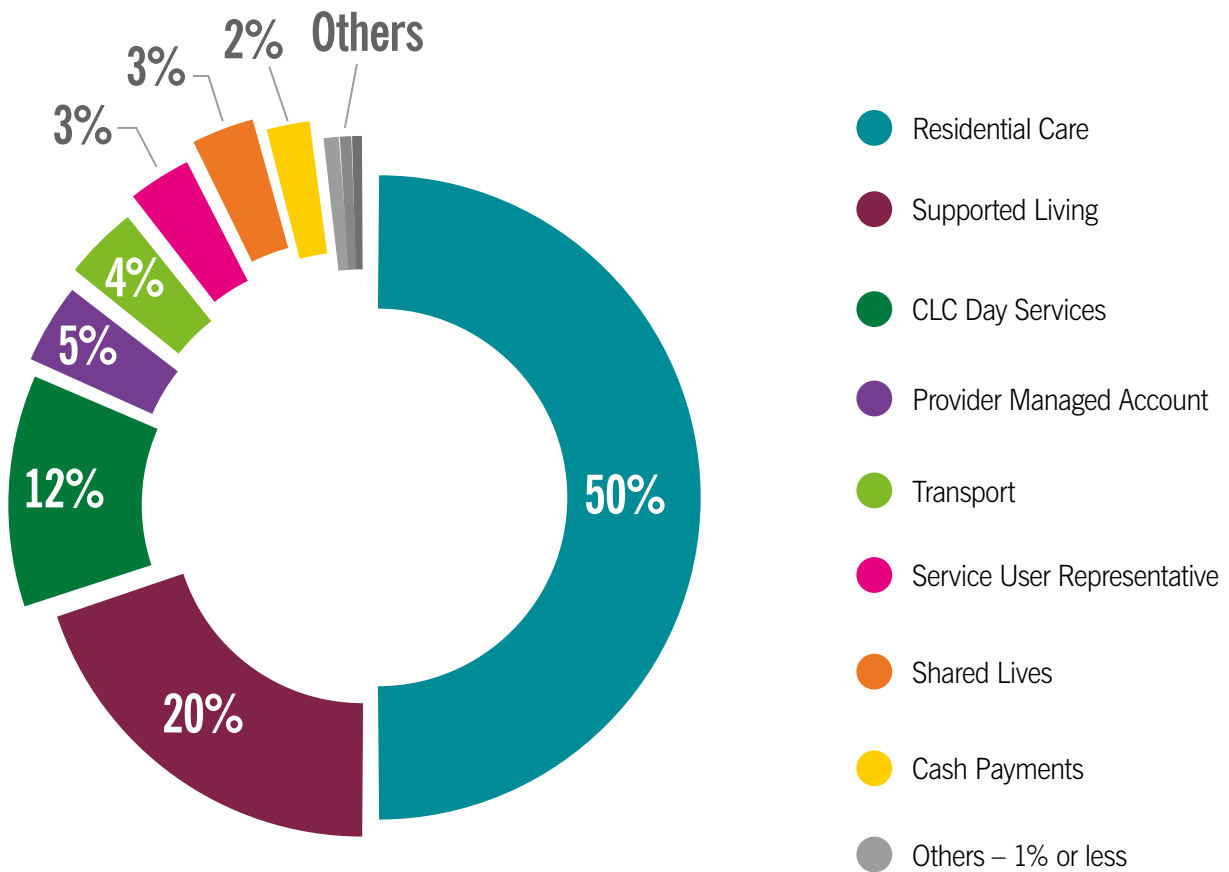
### 18+ predicted to have a learning disability



There will also be an increase in older adults with a learning disability who will live longer than in previous years, due to reduced health inequality. A 44% increase of adults over 65 with a learning disability is likely to be seen from 2014-2030, as shown below.

Older adults with a learning disability	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030
People aged 65-74 predicted to have a learning disability	1,547	1,594	1,716	1,692	1,891
People aged 75-84 predicted to have a learning disability	828	845	998	1,256	1,346
People aged 85 and over predicted to have a learning disability	323	337	410	510	651
<b>Total population aged 65 and over predicted to have a learning disability</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>2,776</b>	<b>3,124</b>	<b>3,458</b>	<b>3,888</b>

In Leicestershire we currently support up to 1,400 adults who are accessing one or more learning disability service. Most are utilising community opportunities/day services, residential care, Supported Living services, transport provision, Shared Lives Carers and home care services, or a combination of all of these service. The local authority proportion of spend in each service area can be shown below.



# Current Supply of Adult Learning Disability Provision

The following services are commissioned by the County Council to support people with a learning disability. These services are a mix of specialist learning disability support and those which offer support to a range of client groups including learning disability:

- Supported Living Framework (independent Providers)
- Leicestershire County Council in-house Supported Living Service
- Community Life Choices Framework (day opportunities)
- Residential Care
- Domiciliary Care
- Advocacy
- Short Breaks (respite services)
- Mental Health Wellbeing and Recovery Service
- Learning Disability Partnership Board

Health Services for individuals with LD are as follows:

- Agnes Unit – Inpatient Specialist Learning Disability Assessment and Treatment Unit
- LD Outreach Team
- LD Community Nurse Team
- LD Autism Service
- LD Health Short breaks
- Primary Care Liaison Nurse Team

The provider market in this area is varied and is made up of a mix of statutory provision, independent sector Providers and voluntary and community organisations. Across LLR there are 333 registered learning disability services according to data collected by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

**Residential Care** – From the 183 care homes in Leicestershire, there are 123 registered to support adults with learning disabilities. These are provided by 107 different organisations who provide a total of 1723 beds. As of end of 2016 there are approximately 360 people under 64's living within a residential care placements, the majority of which have a learning disability.

From the latest Leicestershire Adult Social Care financial return for 2016/17 it is estimated that average weekly gross expenditure per person on learning disability support, for clients aged 18-64 who are in long term residential and nursing care is £1225. This equates to a total cost of £ 22,487, 000 for younger adults with a learning disability who are in long term residential or nursing care to the year-end 31st March 2017. For adults over 64, the equivalent figures are £530 per week per person, £2,154,000 per annum. This figure is significantly lower than for under 64's due to 'top-up's.

Overall, spend on individuals with a learning disability within residential and nursing care for 2016/17 is £24,641,000. This makes up a significant spend for Leicestershire County Council and as such is a target for reduction in the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/16. <http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1040&MId=4924&Ver=4>

The top 100 highest cost placements for this group have an average cost of £2,012 per week (some of which are 100% Continuing Healthcare funded or receive joint funding with the NHS or are funded solely by Adult Social Care). Annual spend is approximately £10.5m a year. Savings can be achieved, with assistance from Providers across social care and health budgets (pooled budget arrangements exist across this area in Leicestershire).

Savings are to be made through the setting clear of goals as part of a Provider led progression model, to reduce staffing costs and by ensuring that assistive technology and equipment is integral to the placement. Further benefits will be delivered by identifying the potential for individuals to be moved into Supported Living where appropriate. The target is to reduce weekly costs, which it is estimated would deliver savings of £1million per year. **Supported Living** care services are provided via Leicestershire County Council's Framework of Providers, which sees 5 independent organisations allocated across 5 geographical areas. These areas were designated based on demand for support, as at summer 2016. The approximate spend on the Framework is £9 million per year (£36 million for the duration of the contract). The following table shows the Provider for each area, who are contracted until 2021.

Area	Details	Provider	Value of Lot per annum in £	No of total weekly hours	Individuals in lot (approx.)
Hinckley	Hinckley, Earl Shilton, Barwell	Aspirations	1,710,000	2,681	50
Harborough	Harborough, Oadby, Wigston, Blaby	Creative	2,030,000	3,094	60
Coalville	Coalville, Ashby, Glenfield	Affinity	2,480,000	3,734	50
Loughborough	Loughborough, Hathern	Royal Mencap	1,350,000	2,070	35
Melton	Melton, South Charnwood	Lifeways	2,290,000	3,443	50

The following provides a summary of information recorded on the Leicestershire Adult Social Care Information System as of 11 October 2016 for people accessing supported living via a managed budget. It shows a total annual spend on adults with a learning disability on Supported Living to be £8,193,000. The table below shows percentages, numbers and spend per annum on learning disability clients, alongside all client categories of need by area as of November 2016.

	Hinckley	Market Harborough	Coalville	L'borough	Melton	Leics
<b>Learning Disability</b>	90% 45 individuals £1,539,000	80% 48 individuals £1,624,000	74% 37 individuals £1,835,200	84% 29 individuals £1,134,000	90% 45 individuals £2,061,000	83% 204 individuals £8,193,000
<b>Mental Health</b>	2%	7%	4%	3%	4%	5%
<b>Physical disability (incl sensory loss)</b>	6%	9%	19%	11%	6%	11%
<b>Other</b>	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%

**Community Life Choices** (day services provision) is delivered via 25 independent Providers, 20 of which specifically support individuals with learning disabilities, via 60 different services across the County. The approximate total spend over the current contract period (2017-2020) is £18.5 million. The gross spend in 2016/17 for LD specific services within CLC is £3,881,237.

A total of 820 individuals were accessing CLC support as at 1st January 2017 via independent provision and in-house Council day services. The table below details service user profiles. The largest group accessing services are of working age adults with a Learning Disability.

Primary Category of Need	Age		Total No. of Service Users
	18-64	65+	
Mental Health	7	64	71
Learning Disability	470	62	532
Physical Disability & Sensory	84	162	246

Individuals and families can access **Short Breaks** provision, or 'respite' services on a monthly basis, across a period of months or 1 or 2 times a year. During July/August 2016 approximately 56 individuals utilised this service in Leicestershire. Thirty eight had a learning disability plus another condition, for example epilepsy. The remaining 18 cited learning disability as their primary need.

### During 2016/17 LCC spend on Short Breaks is as follows;

<b>Nursing and Residential (Short stay and respite)</b>	<b>£1,198,562</b>
<b>Shared Lives (short stay and respite)</b>	<b>£156,780</b>
<b>Leicestershire County Council In house Short Breaks Provision (estimate)</b>	<b>£1,879,477</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,234,819</b>

Families of individuals can also access support in their caring role. From April 2015 – March 2016 data shows just over 4,000 unpaid carers made contact with Leicestershire County Council via a Carers Assessment. Approximately 150 indicated their loved one had a learning disability. (It should be noted that a large proportion of carers did not specify the primary need of the individual they care for).

## Other Services

Our strategic approach is designed to ensure that people can get the right level and type of support, at the right time to help prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support, and maximise their independence. This can be reflected in a number of more generic services that individuals with a learning disability and their families can access:

**Preventing Need:** We will work effectively with families and communities and Providers to signpost people to resources, facilities and services that improve their wellbeing.

- Information and advice (including the use of NHS England's accessible Information standards) - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/accessibleinfo/>
- Support for Carers - <http://vasl.org.uk/our-projects/support-for-carers>



**Reducing and Delaying Need:** Through early intervention in partnership with service Providers, we will reduce further needs for services and avoid dependence on formal support. We will focus on Service Users who may or who have experienced a crisis, to minimise the effect, through working in a reabling way across all agencies and people involved.

- Our ambition is to develop a Leicestershire Disability Employment Strategy. Less than half of disabled people in the UK are in employment compared to 80 per cent of the non-disabled population.

In Leicestershire of those aged 18-64 with a learning disability who are known to the Council, (1386 individuals), 11% of those are currently in employment. For April/May 2017, this equates to 40 people being paid for over 16 hours work, 123 for less than 16 hours. Forty six adults identified themselves as seeking work. The remainder are not in work or looking for work, or are involved as an unpaid volunteer. Over the past 7 years, employment rates for working age adults with learning disabilities known to social care has remained around 6 – 7 percent, indicating a rise to the current level of 11%, as encouraging. However, improving the level of employment for working age adults with a learning disability remains a priority.

The aim for the future will be to promote and support opportunities for employment, with particular focus on young people in transitions and those who experience disability later in life that may potentially impact on their employability. We will work with partners to ensure a joined up approach to overcome barriers to accessing and maintaining employment for many disabled people in Leicestershire and where appropriate, include within our contracted services for adults with a learning disability, a requirement to place the facilitation of employment readiness at the heart of progression model.

- Facilitate access to equipment, adaptations, assistive technology (AT) and Disability Facilities Grants. Leicestershire County Council expects Providers to use AT to reduce the number of staff providing support, encouraging independence and reduced reliance on formal support.

- For examples, utilisation of the Just checking Tool. <http://www.justchecking.co.uk/learning-disabilities>

Members of the public can also self-serve by using the online self-assessment tool accessed via the link below: <http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/help-in-your-own-home/equipment-and-home-adaptations>. Individuals who want to pay for support themselves or who are not eligible for social care can access information at <https://www.safeandwell.co.uk/leicester>

**Meeting Need:** We will work with individuals and Providers to provide a choice of support suitable to meet outcomes, maintain independence and which offers the best value for money.

- Individuals will be assessed and offered accommodation which meets their individual needs and supports their independence. As stated above, fewer adults of working age will live in residential care, unless it is the most appropriate and cost effective option.
- Alternative models of supported living are promoted, such as Extra Care, Shared Lives and supported accommodation. This approach is supported by the provider market.
- Cross sector co-operation supports hospital discharge, admission avoidance and reablement.



# Opportunities for Learning Disability Services Providers

Key messages for Providers and a summary of the Council's future commissioning intentions can be found in the Leicestershire County Council's Adults and Communities MPS. Relevant implications/opportunities for LD Providers include the need to:

- Support individuals of all ages, with a learning disability, to access a broader range of resources which improve their quality of life, with a focus on social inclusion and the development of relationships, within a person centred service
- Helping as many people as possible to live in ordinary houses in the communities of their choice
- Facilitate a smooth transition for individuals from support received via Children's services, to that available when they reach adulthood.
- Develop services that dovetail with the critically important care provided by family, friends and other community organisations
- Be a provider that can demonstrate high quality, progressive care (including access to employment) for working age adults with a learning disability.
- Provide information to the Council as part of their service delivery and review progress during the life of the contract
- Be open to providing services for individuals who are funding their own care and support (self-funders), individuals organising their own support via a direct payment as well as individuals who arrange their services through Leicestershire County Council (managed budgets).
- Capitalise on all available training, resources and engagement opportunities, for example via the Leicestershire Social Care Development Group, <http://www.lscdg.org/> or Skills for Care <http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Home.aspx>

## Conclusion – The need for change: 2016 - 2020

**Leicestershire County Council is committed to supporting individuals, ensuring we can support people and their families when they really need it, in ways which will ensure they can be as independent as is possible and remain within community where they live. Demand is increasing significantly; budgets are being cut and as a result, a change to the planning and delivery of Adult Social Care in Leicestershire is needed; this includes learning disability services.**

**Key to the delivery of Leicestershire's commitments will be the response of the market place, making sure that people with learning disability are supported well before crisis, in relation to finance; employment; housing and relationships. The Providers of all adult social care services are a vitally important stakeholder and we hope that you will work closely with us to provide the best possible information, advice, support and care to the people of Leicestershire.**

