



Support for people who do not meet the eligibility criteria
For adult social care

DRAFT Report - October 2010

1. Background

In common with all Local Authorities, Dorset County Council applies FACS criteria (Fairer Access to Care Services) when assessing the needs of disabled and vulnerable people. At present only people assessed as having substantial or critical needs under these criteria are eligible to receive services from the local authority. This arrangement extends to services for people with a learning disability. The Department of Health recently reissued FACS guidance - Guidance on Eligibility Criteria for Adult Social Care, DH, February 2010

Dorset Learning Disability Partnership Board is a multi agency group that includes substantial representation of self advocates (through Dorset People First, the local self-advocacy organisation) and family carers. The Board seeks to improve the lives of people with a learning disability in Dorset, in line with national objectives set out in Valuing People (2001) and Valuing People Now (2009). In January 2010 the Board set up a small task group to look at the situation around people with a learning disability who do not use or are non eligible for our services. The group included representatives of: Dorset Advocacy, Dorset People First and family carers together with statutory agencies. The findings of the group and action plan are set out below.

1.1 Purpose of group

- To see what is currently in place to direct & encourage families to see services received from children's and/or adult social care as a means to an end, that being to 'achieve as much independence as possible and utilising the same natural community capital/assets as those who do not meet the eligibility criteria for ASC'.
- To identify where there are gaps in resources, support and information
- To ensure from an early age that children and their families are encouraged to embrace the possibilities and opportunities available to them

1.2 Actions

- To map where current and future individuals live to enable focused targeting of resources, support and information.
- Pool all sources of data collected by involved stakeholders
- Audit information available

2.0 Services available to those people who are FACS eligible

There are around 1300 adults (18 years and over) with a recognised learning disability known to Community Teams. These numbers are based on the Learning Disability Database survey completed in June 2009 and additional notification of individuals known to local GPs.

Dorset County Council currently delivers day services to support people with a learning disability eligible for support through six day services. Increasingly, due to the dispersed nature of the population in much of rural Dorset, and in line with Dorset's Day Service Strategy and Valuing People Now (2009) guidance, all of these services operate satellite hubs to support people to access activities within their immediate local communities. There are a growing number of small independent day services. Community co-ordinators have been recruited to support people with a learning disability to find out about and access activities and opportunities in their areas. This strategy has been very successful in developing local, community based services, reducing travelling time and costs.

There are a range of accommodation and support services provided by both DCC and independent providers. These include residential care, supported housing and the shared lives scheme (formerly known as adult placement). There are 580 people independently accommodated, the vast majority in Dorset or adjoining counties. There are about 60 new accommodation and support packages each year.

Work is also well advanced to support all those people with a learning disability to move on from NHS campus accommodation. Person centred solutions have been identified for all 55 people for whom Dorset has responsibility; 20 individuals have now moved house, and the move on process is well underway for the other people within the scope of the project. It is intended that everyone will have successfully made the move into their own homes by the end of March 2011.

A 3 year programme of work is nearing completion to move to personal budgets for people who need and qualify for help through FACS (the "Transforming Social Care" programme). These new opportunities for a more personalised approach to their care will apply to all social care eligible groups including people with a learning disability. There are currently around 200 people with a learning disability with a personal budget allocation. NHS Dorset is a pilot site for personal health budgets.

A new Joint Commissioning Strategy for Learning Disability Services (2010-13) has been produced by Dorset County Council and NHS Dorset. An Easy Read version has been produced and can be found on the Learning Disability Partnership Board's website.

2. Support currently available for people who fall outside services.

There are 2 areas in particular that have been flagged up by adults with a learning disability and their families as priorities for people who do not meet FACS criteria: friendships/relationships and housing.

Through Dorset People First, the Learning Disability Partnership Board has used Development Fund money to pilot and roll out a Friendship Club across Dorset, which is open to anyone with a Learning Disability. It organises regular gatherings in local community venues where individuals can guarantee to find someone to talk to, as well as events that people purchase tickets for. There is a leader at the event, but those that need support bring their own. Currently membership stands at 420 and is still growing. Up to one third of members are not users of adult social care services.

The other topic identified as of central importance to their quality of life by people with a learning disability is housing – being able to choose where you live and who you live with. The Partnership Board has supported a new project to work with a small group of people with a learning disability to look at helping people to think about moving on and putting together information for others, particularly for those moving from supported accommodation to more independent living. The Partnership Board has also decided to have Housing as the topic for its annual day conference on 7th October this year. This was attended by housing representatives of all six District Councils in Dorset and each area has developed an action plan to improve access to mainstream housing. Some other areas of support are set out in Appendix A. An action plan for people not eligible under FACS is included in Appendix B.

There are within the area served by Dorset County Council a further group of people who have a learning disability but who do not qualify for services under the FACS criteria. Dorset Learning Disability Partnership Board has therefore set out to find out what is already in place through universal services (accessible to everyone) that enables someone with a learning disability who falls outside of the FACS criteria to link up with/ access support and resources that are provided in their community.

Appendix A

Support for people who are not eligible for adult social care support.

HOUSING

- Vulnerable people can access supported accommodation funded by Supporting People. This funding has different criteria from FACS - person needs to be 'a vulnerable person with housing need'.
- Dorset Advocacy meet people who are in crisis (some funding has been made available from the Learning Disability Development Fund - LDDF). They can support people whose parents are very elderly/have died or where there is a risk of the loss of a family home/support
- The Moving On Project is a pilot project to support people moving from care homes/supported accommodation to main stream housing. This is an LDDF funded project to include making the "choice based lettings" system operated by District Councils more accessible to those with learning disabilities.

SAFEGUARDING

- There is now a single point of access for safeguarding alerts for all vulnerable adults
- There is an I.C.E. (In Case of Emergency) cards scheme in a number of areas developed by Dorset People First. A radio link scheme for Dorchester will link up with the I.C.E. scheme, including Pub Watch.

FULFILLING LIVES

- Websites for available for all such as DOT community and the LDPB accessible website and People & Places
- The Fulfilling Lives group works to support individuals to achieve their goals and has also developed projects in the areas of arts and sport
- The Friendship Club is open to all.
 - ❖ Trying to support those who want to do more/take a leading role in the club (a lot of these people are outside the criteria) and sending representatives to Dorset V, new Mencap group etc.
 - ❖ Not over-protecting club members!
 - ❖ Educating providers of services in the community (e.g. pub and café staff) and club members about how to handle various situations (advice sheets to pub staff, etc).
 - ❖ Good volunteers are vital to the Club's work.

- People and Places – anyone can join in if they have computer/internet access.
- Changing Places – there are now two in Dorset with others planned.

TRANSITIONS

- Person Centred Reviews/ person centred planning in schools. At Year 9, some young people will not be FACS eligible, but this may change by the time they leave school. It is hoped to extend PCP to all Dorset schools.
- Connexions offer support to all young people
- Transitions information feeds into the LD Housing strategy

HEALTH

- The annual health check by GPs has picked up some people not known to services who will be offered an annual health check
- Information for people to give hospital staff to tell them important things about themselves (Traffic Lights)
- A Self Care Booklet in Easy Read

EMPLOYMENT

- Stepping Stones/Workstep support many people who do not meet FACS criteria.

PERSONALISATION/INDIVIDUAL BUDGETS

- Lot of people self fund their own support. DCC is developing a new website “Source” to list information on the range of providers in Dorset.

ACTION PLAN TO DEVELOP SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WHO FALL OUTSIDE SERVICES (FACS CRITERIA)

ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION	Action	Name of person/s responsible	By When	Linked/written in to other strategies
<p>Easy Read information available for all universal services: Training for organisations so that there will be more Easy to Read information in Dorset around Health, Education, universal social care, emergency services, benefits/money, social & leisure opportunities:</p>	<p>Train more people to develop Easy Read information. Purchase 10 licences initially for "mini site" between NHS, Dorset County Council and other partner organisations such as Dorset Police, hospitals</p> <p>Agreement from all stakeholders for a consistent approach across county, keep information up dated and easily accessible by location/on request</p>	<p>A. Evans C. Tarling</p> <p>Monitoring by DPF Mystery shopper</p> <p>Brian Ironside D4U Open objects Libraries</p>	<p>First set of training and follow up by 31.12.10</p>	<p>Day service strategy</p> <p>Transforming Social Care</p> <p>Transition strategy</p>
<p>Signposting to information: CAB Advocacy services CTLD teams 3rd sector/community groups LD community coordinators POPPs workers DPF Friendship Club Education services On line websites: Dorset 4 u Open objects/ Dot.community P&P LDPB</p>	<p>Awareness training for generic advice agencies.</p> <p>Signposting training for volunteers and supporters at community groups/Friendship Club so they know who to tell people to go to for help with particular issues (e.g. Learning Disability Community Co-ordinators/ CAB, Advocacy etc)</p> <p>Keep a basic log of requests/feedback on any recurrent issues coming up to evidence need and influence strategic placement of resources</p>	<p>DPF CAB DWP</p> <p>L. Kerr CCordinators POPPS A.Waller</p>	<p>Laura Kerr to be invited to a LD Community Co-ordinators meeting</p> <p>Target to offer training to all volunteers in 20010/11</p>	<p>POPPS</p> <p>As above</p>

TRANSITION	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
Person centred Planning tools: Available for ALL families	PC Reviews for ALL students PCP tools/templates available Examples/stories to inspire	Stories being written up.	January 2011	Joint Commissioning Strategy
Transition Pack: Extra leaflets added for non eligible young people around community connecting/solutions, P&P/friendship club, Adult Learning courses etc	All the universal stakeholders need to provide a one page handout on their service in easy read.	Sally Hunt	March 2011	Transition Strategy
ROLE OF PARENTS/CARERS	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
Support for parents whose children are not eligible for services.	Support group, peer mentors/speakers, practical examples of successes	Connexions Rachel Mason	Ongoing	Transitions Strategy
SELF ADVOCATES Choice & control	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
TRAINING ON Keeping safe Independence skills Tapping into your community Making choices/consequences Coping strategies/assertiveness ICT skills (P&P) Photography Using the internet Healthy eating Volunteering Friendships & relationships Developing reading & writing skills Money matters Catering skills	Develop Adult skills and Learning courses to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Benefits advice (all courses free to those on benefits) ✓ 10hrs> 30 weeks ✓ Course materials fee (£12 per term) ✓ Community venues, reduces Transport ✓ Bus links ✓ Driven by learner feedback/ identified clusters of clients/students requirements of the course outcomes 	Dorset Adult Learning	September 2011	Adult education Community building

Employability Something from nothing (recycling) Family history Storytelling Current affairs Many leisure choices				
INFORMATION ON NEED	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
Voluntary database/registration Identify those with LD and Autistic Spectrum Conditions	Held by ULO/community GP register Schools data Connexions data Set up a vol registration scheme for post 18	P St Quintin	April 2011	Autism Strategy Transition Strategy
SELF DIRECTED LIVES IN THE COMMUNITY	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
Extend advice/suggestions offer from Fulfilling Lives Group to people outside services	Raise as idea at next Fulfilling Lives meeting Peer support ULO?	Allyson Evans.	January 2011	Day Services Strategy
NETWORKING INFO About opportunities: Activities Work Volunteering Time sharing Peer mentoring – shopping Bus buddies College students looking for models to demo on	Introduce through People and Places	Penny Grigg	Ongoing	Joint Commissioning Strategy
KEEPING SAFE(Safeguarding) Police response to incidents	Publicise triage for adult safeguarding for those outside services. Awareness training in approaching someone	Marianne Turton	31.03.11	Safeguarding

Emergency services	with LD/ASD. Follow up with Police about bringing into use the generic, one-sheet reporting form created by Dorset People First. Work with Pan-Dorset Hate Crime Group which is setting up reporting centres for hate crime. Arrange for an Easy read handout to be available to people who are reporting hate crime to explain process they will experience.	Allyson Evans.	31.03.11	
HEALTH	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
Everyone with a Learning Disability to be able to have a "Yellow Book" if they wish	Make sure these are available to anyone with a learning disability who wants one Having this in electronic format on P&P so any health outcomes can be achieved alongside PCP outcomes when activities are chosen. Medication reminders/ assistive technology available	Val Cope	Ongoing	Joint Commissioning Strategy
FRIENDSHIPS	Action	Name of person responsible	By When	Linked/written in to these other strategies
NETWORK – FRIENDSHIP Where to go for Company Share activities Arrange meeting up/events Someone to live with Relationships (S) Peer support Awareness of Abuse	Tools to network with Groups to network in Communities learning from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out reach from centres • Care providers/PAs trained in Community connecting Shared resources held in the community	Roll out through Day Services and Friendship Club	Ongoing	