

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

19 NOVEMBER 2010

**STATISTICS RELEASE: ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES IMPLEMENTATION
OF “THE SAME AS YOU?” 2009**

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1** To update Governance and Scrutiny Committee Members with respect to East Ayrshire Council’s performance in terms of services to adults with learning disabilities, and to seek approval for future reports to be presented in this area of provision.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** “The Same as You?” review of services for people with learning disabilities was introduced by the former Scottish Executive in 2000. It provided a clear message that people with learning disabilities and their families should have access to the same opportunities as every Scottish citizen.
- 2.2** In order to monitor progress, Scottish Councils have been providing information with respect to implementation of key elements of the policy since 2003 providing opportunities to benchmark progress locally and against other areas.
- 2.3** Since 2008 the data collection has been coordinated by the Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability.
- 2.4** There continues to be differences in what details individual councils submit in spite of a data set being published. An example being that some authorities describe any form of assessment such as single shared assessment as a person centered plan rather than as an assessment. The statistics should therefore be considered with a note of caution.
- 2.5** In general East Ayrshire continues to show a positive move towards the aspirations of “The Same as You?” while continuing to show a growth in demand for support and services.

Referrals for People with learning Disabilities

East Ayrshire	East Ayrshire	East Ayrshire	East Ayrshire
2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
36	38	56	89

2.6 The latest statistics published on 31 August 2010 relate to 2009, and show a percentage increase of 147% between 2006 and 2010.

3. STATISTICAL INFORMATION OVERVIEW

3.1 The numbers of adults with learning disabilities known to East Ayrshire Council social work services has increased between 2008 and 2009 from 513 to 522. It should be noted however that recent activity connected to the Integrated Resource Framework pilot which considered G.P learning disabilities registers identified 723 people with learning disabilities known to G.P practices in East Ayrshire

Numbers Known

COMPARATIVE POSITION			
	East Ayrshire	South Ayrshire	North Ayrshire
2006	478	453	521
2007	519	503	527
2008	513	501	497
2009	522	496	528

3.2 People who are diagnosed as having Autism are recognised as having particular needs and a separate count is maintained of people who are on the Autistic Spectrum and known to services. This number has increased between 2008 and 2009 from 27 to 39. It should however be noted that The Scottish Government in 2008 published a report “Commissioning Services for People on the Autism Spectrum: Policy and Practice Guidance” and prevalence of people on the Autistic spectrum is estimated as 1,074, the difference being largely in respect of definitive diagnosis.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder

COMPARATIVE POSITION			
	East Ayrshire	South Ayrshire	North Ayrshire
2006	Information not collected	Information not collected	Information not collected
2007	Information not collected	Information not collected	Information not collected
2008	27	32	40
2009	39	36	51

3.3 There are 60 people recorded as accessing our Local Area Coordinator Service, while an increase from last years total of 39 this does not reflect the fact what everyone with a learning disability and their families can access the service. The figure 60 represents the number having direct contact with our three Local Area Coordinators at a point of time.

Local Area Coordination

COMPARATIVE POSITION			
	East Ayrshire	South Ayrshire	North Ayrshire
2006	29	40	180
2007	22	45	174
2008	40	30	160
2009	60	Information not available	185

- 3.4** The number of people with personalised life plans has increased slightly between 2008 and 2009 from 179 to 202 comparing favourably with North Ayrshire (130) and South Ayrshire (195).

Person Centred Plans

COMPARATIVE POSITION			
	East Ayrshire	South Ayrshire	North Ayrshire
2006	150	180	104
2007	188	191	112
2008	180	185	125
2009	200	195	130

- 3.5** There has been a general downturn between 2008 and 2009 of people not in employment from 250 to 337, with a slight increase in people attending day centres five days per week from 39 to 47.

Employment

COMPARATIVE POSITION			
	East Ayrshire	South Ayrshire	North Ayrshire
2006	35	99	39
2007	22	96	22
2008	35	55	10
2009	35	50	10

4. IMPLICATIONS FOR EAST AYRSHIRE

- 4.1** The numbers of people with Learning Disabilities known to GPs reflects a difference of almost 200 to the number known to the Council's social work services at this time. There is a potential that there will be increased demand on Council services at the point parents and carers of these 200 are no longer in a position to provide care and support.
- 4.2** Complete knowledge of the number of people affected by Autism is still not robust, however the establishment of an Autism Sub Group within the East Ayrshire Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Partnership provides a forum to develop knowledge of the needs within East Ayrshire and how services can best be adapted to meet

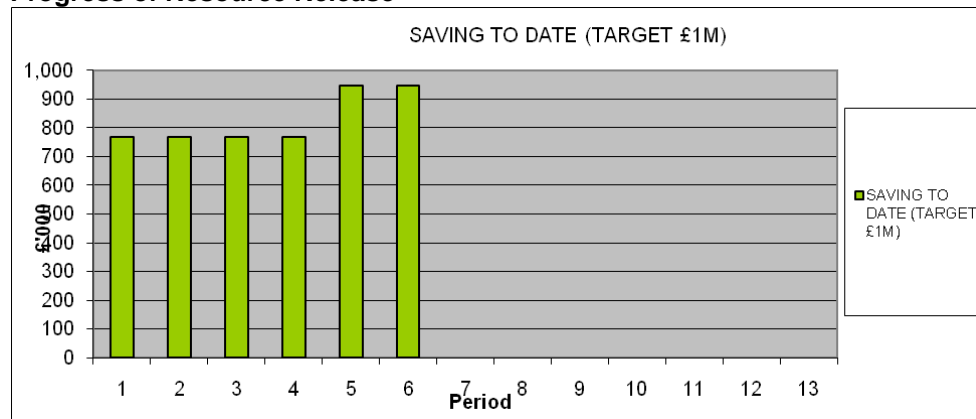
these needs. The Scottish Government has both an Autism Bill and Strategy currently out for consultation which will establish a framework for service expectation and delivery.

- 4.3** A downturn in employment opportunities reflects the wider community situation however also impacts on the requirement to provide alternative meaningful day opportunities.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** As part of the Social Work sustainability programme Cabinet in May 2010 set Social Work Adult services a target to release £1million from existing commitments to redirect towards mitigating against emerging demand. The service has almost achieved the £1million saving target (Chart 1) enabling new supports being established to young people progressing through transition, continued deinstitutionalisation and care needs of adults being cared for by elderly carers to be met.

Progress of Resource Release



- 5.2** The Autism Bill, if enacted may increase demands on Community Planning Partnerships to address identified needs of this community.

6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** Regular data collection reflecting the “The Same as You?” aspirations ensures East Ayrshire continues to follow the national policy direction for adults with learning disabilities.
- 6.2** The outcome of the Autism Bill consultation and potential implementation will require Council services to consider how resources are committed in order to meet demand.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** Continued implementation of the “The Same as You?” will help to deliver efficient and effective social work services and in so doing promote the Health and Wellbeing and Community Safety elements of the Community Plan.

7.2 The strategy and action plan for services to adults with learning disability services will be included within the Improving Health and Wellbeing Action Plan of the Community Plan.

8 RISK IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Continued public reporting against the national dataset evidences continued improvement and areas for attention with respect to implementation of a national policy. Failure to do so would remove the focus and risk a general positive development and delivery of services for adults with learning disabilities in East Ayrshire.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members of Governance and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:

- (i) note the ongoing improvement in implementation of the national learning disability strategy;
- (ii) ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to provide further updates on the development of this area of provision; and
- (iii) otherwise note the content of this report.

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services
4 November 2010

LIST OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 1.** “the same as you?” review of services for people with learning disabilities 2000.
- 2.** Statistics Release: Adults with Learning Disabilities (2009) – Scottish Consortium for Learning Disabilities.

Anyone wishing further information should contact: Eddie Fraser, Head of Service, Community Care, telephone number – 01563 576546

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