

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING:	Wellbeing Policy and Development Scrutiny Panel
MEETING DATE:	27 January 2012
TITLE:	Report from the Strategic Transitions Board
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appendix 1 – Main Report and supporting Appendices.</p>	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the work and activity of the Strategic Transition Board, noting areas of achievement and highlighting future priorities.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel is asked to agree that:

- 2.1 It receive an update report from the Strategic Transition Board on the work of the board and progress toward improving transition planning and outcomes for children with a Statement of Educational Need.
- 2.2 The summary and conclusions of the report are accepted by the panel

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications of this report. However, the work of the Strategic Transition Board as highlighted in the report will have an impact on the Council's medium term service and resource planning. Developing person centred approaches to improving transition planning for young people is expected to enable people to maximise their independence as they move into adulthood,

4 THE REPORT

- 4.1 The Strategic Transition Board was originally established in 2007 following a review commissioned from an independent organisation – Lifestyles – to review transition processes for the transfer of young adults (all client groups) from Children's to Adult services.

In summary the report found a number of barriers to effective service delivery including:

lack of strong leadership and commitment to transition planning processes,

no strategic overview

Mixed criteria for accessing services

Lack of understanding of roles and responsibilities of the different sectors and agencies involved in the transition

Lack of resources and clear, collated and easily accessible information and communication systems.

Lack of person centred planning and user involvement

- 4.2 The board's original remit was to implement the recommendations from the Lifestyles review and a workplan was put in place to address the issues above.

In 2008/09 a three year National Transition Support programme was launched, which aimed to raise the standards of transition support and provision in all local areas. Support was provided to all local authority areas to meet their statutory requirements and minimum standards in transition and go on to develop good practice, as one of the 5 work streams that made up the DCSF/DH Aiming High for Disabled children agenda to transform disabled children's services.

- 4.3 Over the course of the three year programme Bath and North East Somerset moved from Band 3 (the lowest rating, noting need for high support) through to Band 1(the highest rating), as the improvements being driven by the Strategic Transition Board were recognised by the National Transition Support team. During this period the workplan of the Strategic Transition Board was regularly amended to reflect the emerging recommendations from the National Transition Programme and the yearly self assessments. The workplan has been continued and is overseen by the Board. Responsibility for implementing the plan sits with a 'core group' of the

board which is currently chaired by the Associate Director for adults with learning disabilities and PSI.

4.4 Further detail is contained within the main report attached as Appendix 1 and supporting appendices.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment was initially completed when the Board was established. It is recognised that this needs to be refreshed as the workplan of the board has changed significantly and this will be completed as a matter of priority.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 *Overview & Scrutiny Panel*

7.2 Consultation with the Wellbeing Policy and Development Scrutiny Panel carried out as a result of receiving this report.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 *Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Young People; Human Rights; Corporate; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations*

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	
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