

Service User Event Bradford

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Delivery of housing support is now mainstreamed through the local government performance framework. The removal of grant conditions means that there are now opportunities to do more:

For vulnerable and socially excluded people

- E.g. Bournemouth Borough Council (a Pathfinder) has used its non-ringfenced funding to pay for a prison transport service to help ex-offenders make their appointments and turn up at arranged accommodation.

In delivering our shared agendas

- E.g. Outcomes data shows that housing support helped more than 25,000 people better manage their physical health in 2007/08

In making best use of funding in current climate

- E.g. Evidence shows that investment in housing support for people with learning disabilities saves significant costs to residential and health services. Timely interventions could help manage pressure on budgets – both financial and demographic

In raising local profile and understanding of housing support

- Pathfinders found that the changes offered a valuable opportunity to brief colleagues on the impact of housing support services

Examples of success to date Need to maintain and develop

- Outcomes for vulnerable and socially excluded people
 - over 18,000 people helped to access training and education
 - over 14,000 helped to better manage substance misuse.
 - 27,000 helped to establish contact with their families and friends (2007/08).
- Costs avoided - £2.7bn annually
- Quality Assessment Framework
- Value for money.
- “Local partnerships between health, probation and housing and social care bodies have improved” (Audit Commission).

Service Users to remain at the heart of the programme

- Important that as we take forward the programme Service users remain at the heart of the programme
- It has been recognised that service user involvement has helped to improve services and raise quality of services for housing related support services
- Many authorities now have service users involved in the Governance arrangements of the programme

Also many authorities have service users involved in peer assessments for QAF and some authorities like Manchester City Council have developed and produced a Charter for independent living

- **Although there has been some good work with service users there is still more to be do and the work around involving service users never stops!!**
- **Government want people to be much more empowered about what services they receive and how they receive them**
- **Supporting People are ahead of the game in delivering personalised services**
- **Some individuals now getting their own Individual budget to pay for the service they want – in some instances they may choose not to have their usual provider**
- **Impressed with what some authorities have been doing across YH**

Housing support remains a priority for Ministers

We need to continue to be able to demonstrate the value of Housing Support for individuals

Important that we continue to all work together to ensure that we can build sufficient evidence for the next time Government is looking at allocating resources to each of their programme