Darlington Borough Council, Disability Equality Impact Assessment re: The Learning Disability Strategy, 2011 to 2014, completed Jan 2012

(Proposal)	(Positive impacts)	(Negative impacts)	(Mitigation)
What we want to happen	Good Things Comments	Bad Things Comments	What will be done to limit impact
People with a learning disability will have real choice and control over the health and social care support they receive.	People will be able to get the support and services they want rather than have what is available	Some people will need some help to have choice and control	The Council commissions a direct payment support service
	People and family's will be able to buy the help that makes sense to them	What happens if there aren't any choices? (Anxiety)	The Council has regular meetings with providers advising them of what people are asking for
	People can use a personal budget to help them be a part of their community	We cant get a health budget at this time	Personal Health Budgets may be an option under the Special Educational Needs (SEN)) Pathfinder Project
	People will get confident and become more independent.	What happens if things go wrong? (Anxiety)	Clear information will be made available that outlines what a direct payment can and can not be used for.
	In time people will choose what works for them	Budgets might be reduced	
	People want to maintain their friendships	Might lose contact with friends (Anxiety, isolation)	

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Young people with a learning disability will get the support they need to move into adulthood.	Some young people and their families need support to move into adulthood because there is a lot of change going on.	This has to be the right type of support. Support that works for people and their families	The new life stages model of support has been developed. Individuals are supported within the same team from 13 – 25 years old. The team has dedicated transitions workers. The second phase of this project will include further partnership with specialist health services.
Professionals and carers will work together to make sure that they can continue to support the person they care for, while also having a life beyond their caring role.	Recognises the importance of carers	Carers are important, however the person needs to be at the centre of support and its their choice and control that's the most important (loss of person centred approach)	Person centred plans/reviews will continue to be undertaken. Every carer will be offered a carers assessment
	Carers are an essential part of the support that people with a learning disability have Carers are equal partners with the individual and services	Sometimes carers take on too much or too much or too much is expected of them (extra pressure on carers)	A new partnership will be developed with carers that balances caring with having a life beyond the caring role. A joint carer breaks plan has been developed between Primary Care Trust and the Local Authority offering carers additional opportunities to take a break

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More people with a learning disability in Darlington will have a paid job.	Having a job is a good way of being part of the community.	Might get less money if work rather than benefits (loss of some benefits)	Working with Accept Care to develop a Daisy's Café locally
	Having a job is good because you have more money, more friends,	Some people might not be able to or want to work (anxiety over choice)	Developing a clear pathway to employment.
		The support needs to be there to support people at work	Future employment needs to be on the agenda for every school review.
		There are not many jobs out there	Working with Connexions advisors to ensure that employment is part of any proforma review.
		More resources are needed, there is only one job coach	Developed a partnership with the local Foundation Trust to develop a "Project Choice" service locally.
			Look to reconfigure current inhouse services to use resources to develop social enterprise and support people to develop their own business. Job Centre Plus are represented on the Learning Disability Partnership Board and Employment Sub Group

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People with a learning disability in Darlington will receive the support they need to keep healthy.	People with a learning disability often do not get the help and support they need to keep healthy.	Do Gps understand the support that people need?	The Health Facilitation Team works closely with providers. Annual Health Checks are available
	Having a learning disability sometimes means that you are likely to get some illnesses or health conditions	More people will need a health check	A clinical lead for Learning Disability is being identified within the new Clinical Commissioning Group.
			Darlington continues to complete the Health Self Assessment Framework and reports to the Strategic Health Authority on progress.
People with a learning disability will have choice about where and with whom they live	People should choose who they live with	People might not want to live alone	There are a good range of housing providers locally, including a range of options through the Council
	You can live with your friends	I might have to live with someone as support can be expensive	The Council is developing a Housing Matrix that looks to plan for future accommodation.
	If you don't get on with someone you can leave	No one should have a hospital as their home	The Council is looking at its range of services including sheltered
		There needs to be a Housing Plan Can people have a tenancy if they do not have capacity to do so?	accommodation and looking to change the rules on age if required.
		Contracts are difficult to read and understand	

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People with a learning disability are living their lives within their own community making use of universal services to meet their social care and health needs	People can be citizens and use the same services and go to the same places that non-disabled people do.	The Community doesn't understand about the needs of disabled people Some people like being with other disabled people	People will still have the opportunity to spend time with their friends if that's what they choose e.g. at Gateway. Local services will be offered training to meet the needs of disabled people.
		People cant use their bus pass before 9.30 This might mean more pressure on carers and family (anxiety for carers)	Carers won't be expected to do any more than they do now.
People will experience the health and social care support they receive as joined up and seamless	Telling your story once is best It wont be as confusing	None identified	Work is progressing on bringing together the health and social care community teams. The SEN Pathfinder will assist this process.

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The Local Authority and National Health Service will work together to ensure that any local resources are used most effectively and offer value for money	Will be able to make the money go further		The joint strategy identifies the outcomes that people want to have met. If the Local Authority is using their resources in a different way then individuals can challenge this either through the Partnership Board or directly to the Council or Primary Care Trust.
People with a learning disability will be treated as equal citizens and have the support they need to lead a fulfilling life	People will get the lives they want with the support they need. There will be no need for people to live outside of the Borough (unless that's their choice)	This is sometimes seen as very expensive which is why people end up in residential homes or in services that they don't choose to be in.	We will continue to work in a person centred way to make sure that people have their needs met in the best way. The needs of people with a learning disability will continue to be met through the development of mainstream services. Only if they can not be met through these ways will there be specialist services. The Peoples Parliament are key partners in decision making.
Work is undertaken with people at an early stage to stop problems from arising or getting worse (early intervention and prevention)	This means people will get the help and support they need when they need it, which will stop when		Proactive health screening is in place to monitor health and wellbeing and to identify diseases such as cancer and early onset dementia as soon as possible,