

PE1179/FF

Dumfries and Galloway Social Work Services- Acquired Brain Injury Provision Briefing Paper to Director of Social Work Services.

16/05/2012.

The Public Petitions Committee is currently considering the above petition on Acquired Brain Injury (ABI). The Committee received information from the Association of Directors of Social Work (ADSW) which highlighted the approach taken in West Dunbartonshire in relation to the provision of social care and support for people with ABI's (PE1179/AA on the petition web page). The Committee now wishes to hear from all local authorities on how they each provide social care and support for people with ABI's.

Social Work Services based at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary work in partnership with NHS Dumfries and Galloway to assess people diagnosed with an Acquired Brain Injury. The multi-disciplinary team which supports the Acute Rehabilitation Ward consists of the Rehab Consultant, Social Worker, Neuropsychologist, Associated Health Professionals as required and Nursing Staff. This includes day care together with a specialist outreach service supporting people in their own homes. The service is well integrated into the pathway for people with acquired brain injury in Dumfries and Galloway and has effective links with neuropsychology and social work services'.

If there is a need for further specialty assessment, the NHS would facilitate a referral to the Astley Ainslie, Specialist Unit in Edinburgh. The person will at this point be discharged either back to DGRI or directly to home with identified supports in place, which will be co-ordinated by the relevant Locality Adult Care Social Work team.

The multi-disciplinary Single Shared Assessment will identify appropriate need which can identify supports such as

- Advocacy (Commissioned Service)
- Carers Assessment
- Carers Support (Commissioned Service(s))
- Outreach Support (Commissioned Service)
- Specialist Social Care and Support such as offered by Headway (Commissioned Service)
- Care At Home Services (Commissioned Service(s))
- Short Breaks Support
- Specialist Residential/ Nursing Care (Commissioned Service)
- Income Maximisation and Benefits

Social care services for people with acquired brain injury in Dumfries and Galloway are centred on the services jointly commissioned from Headway Dumfries. This includes day care together with a specialist outreach service supporting people in their own homes. The service is well integrated into the pathway for people with acquired brain injury in Dumfries and Galloway and has effective links with neuropsychology and social work services.

Headway House (Dumfries & Galloway) Association Ltd work across the whole of the Dumfries and Galloway region supports individuals who have an acquired brain injury, their families and/or carers to understand their injury, the recovery process and to assist in their rehabilitation goals and strategy.

- Initial referral is made to the Adult Outreach service who meet with the brain injured individual and their family/carers in their own home or within hospital, offering advice, information and support on recovery following their brain injury.
- The day service runs within Headway House, operating 4 days a week Monday - Thursday. Headway House offers each client the opportunity for slow stream rehabilitation, assisting in regaining independent living skills while working towards the persons own goals and targets. Headway Centre offers a wide choice of activities, striving to meet service users needs, interests and choices.
- Community Support Service assists people to live in their own homes as independently as possible, offering assistance with day-to-day tasks including budgeting, cooking and paperwork.
- Open Minds is an 8-week programme which offers detailed and clear information about acquired brain injury, helping people understand their brain injury and the way it impacts on their lives.
- The Child and Family outreach service offers support, advice and information to the child, their parents or carers, siblings and extended family members. The child and family outreach worker works alongside schools, health and social services to help all involved understand the difficulties the child may have.

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