

South Gloucestershire Council
Supporting People Strategy 2005-2010
Appendix 9
Client Group: Physical and Sensory Impairment

1. Introduction

Services Provided	2008
Estimated Annual Value - Liveability (formerly John Grooms)	£7,100
Estimated Number of people supported in Liveability Service	14
Total Funding for Generic Floating Support Services (which includes support to PSI)	£140,000
Number of people with PSI supported by Floating Support Services during 2007/08	45
Total Funding for Care and Repair 2007-8	£155,818
Number of Jobs Completed by Care and Repair during 2007/08	118
Number of enquiries to Care and Repair for the year	605

Supporting People aims to work in partnership with Social Services and the Primary Health Care Trust to provide people with Physical and Sensory Impairments with specialist housing and support services tailored to their individual needs, so that they are able to

live more independent lives and enjoy privacy, dignity, choice, respect and participation.

There is a general trend away from accommodation based services towards helping people to stay in their own homes.

2. Local Strategic Priorities

The Council's Community Care and Housing Strategy 2007-2010 '*Independence, Quality and Choice*' is organised around 7 themes that when used in strategic planning and commissioning should ensure that the objectives of independence, quality and choice are consistently at the forefront of service delivery. The themes are:

- The shift towards a stronger focus on **value for money** service models.
- Further reviews of community care and housing functions to ensure services are **personal** around the needs of the individual and to provide choice.
- A renewed emphasis on **local** services where people access opportunities close to their own homes and in their own neighbourhoods.
- An ambition to make sure that access to Community Care and Housing is **fair** for all.
- How it is intended to provide services which are **forward looking** and fit for purpose.
- Measures to shape a **well skilled workforce** which can deliver modern services within our communities.
- The need to make services easy to **access** to provide up to date, good information.

South Gloucestershire Council's Social Services and the Primary Care Trust joint commissioning strategy 2004 – 2007 is now clearly out of date. The Primary Care Trust and Community Care & Housing department however continue to place great emphasis on the integration of care services and work to develop a new strategy is planned for 2008.

The Enabling Strategy includes a target to build 7% of all new affordable housing on suitable sites to wheelchair standard and 100% to the JRF Lifetime Homes Standard (Joseph Rowntree Foundation).

3. Current Supporting People Service

3.1 Existing Services

There is only one accommodation based service that is specifically commissioned for working age adults with physical disabilities. There are 14 wheelchair standard flats in a sheltered housing scheme in Thornbury provided by Liveability (formerly John Grooms Housing Association). The services provided as part of the contract are a scheme manager who provides a daily visit and is responsible for helping residents accessing services as well as a community alarm service.

A newly commissioned generic floating support service is provided by Knightstone HA (which replaced services provided by Merlin and Carr-Gomm). It is not specifically commissioned for people with PSI and during 2007/08 a total of 18 people with physical or sensory impairment as a primary reason for accessing services were recorded; A further 27 are recorded with a secondary reason.

Supporting People in partnership with Social Services commissions the Care and Repair service provided by Hanover Housing Association. They provide a service focusing on disabled adaptations and repair works for disabled people and older people, additionally they have developed a home from hospital service which aims to help speed up discharge from hospital or prevent admission to hospital. During 2007/08 a newly commissioned Handyvan service started to provide a minor repairs service for disabled and older residents.

Grant funding has been allocated to employ a Project manager to take forward the implementation phase of Telecare in South Gloucestershire.

4. Population and General Estimates of Need

The 2001 Census recorded the numbers of people living in South Gloucestershire who have a limiting long-term illness¹:

18 to 19	238	
20 to 24	622	
25 to 44	5,279	
45 to 59	7,418	
60 to 64	3,239	<u>65 and over</u>
65 to 74	7,255	50%
75 and over	<u>9,604</u>	
	33,655	
Total Population	254,400	

As in any other local authority area, there are a significant number of disabled people. A national survey (conducted by the Office of Censuses, Population and Surveys) in 1988 estimated that 8 people per 1,000 in the age group 16 to 64 had severe physical or sensory impairments. This prevalence rate suggests a figure of about 1,300 people in South Gloucestershire.

In addition, it has been estimated (The Southampton Younger Disabled Register) that 0.9 per 1,000 of the total population of an area have a primary physical impairment and are unable to remain independent for more than 24 hours without assistance from family, neighbours or statutory or voluntary services. This rate would suggest that there are 230 people with this level of support needs in South Gloucestershire.

4.1 Needs Data

For people with sensory impairments, the following numbers are estimated to be living in South Gloucestershire:

- (i) people with a visual impairment (between 3,000 and 4,000 people);
- (ii) people with a hearing impairment (about 30,000 people hard of hearing and 400 to 500 profoundly deaf); and

¹ Limiting long-term illness - a self assessment of whether or not a person has a limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits their daily activities or the work they can do, including problems that are due to old age.

- (iii) people with visual **and** hearing impairment (up to 400 people).

Registration - councils have a statutory duty to keep registers of disabled people. However, registration is purely voluntary and there are no significant advantages to be gained as a result of registration. Consequently, numbers are consistently under recorded and therefore the registers are not good measures of the numbers of disabled people in an area. Currently, for the South Gloucestershire area, the registers show only about 2,700 people being physically impaired.

There is a target of 7% of all new affordable housing on suitable sites to be of wheelchair standard and 100% JRF Lifetime Homes Standard (Joseph Rowntree Foundation). It is therefore considered that there is no specific need for accommodation based schemes for physically disabled people. The focus of support should be on floating support services to support people to continue living at home.

5. Strategic Actions

Supporting People Aim	Service Objective	Resource Impact	Who	By
Improve the services currently provided by generic support services to support physical and sensory impairment	Offer training to Supporting People providers – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Equality at Work • Visual Impairment Awareness • Deaf Awareness 	Revenue Neutral	NT	31/3/09
Improve awareness of existing services to care management staff working with people with physical and sensory impairment	Promote Supporting People – Where it fits training within relevant staff teams	Revenue Neutral	CT/M J	31/3/09