

Decision No.01: Adult Services

Executive Director of Adult Services
Denise D'Souza

Date: 16 May 2013

This record relates to decisions taken by
officers under Delegated Authority

**RECORD OF DECISION
TAKEN BY THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SERVICES**

DATE OF DECISION: 16/05/13

DECISION-MAKER: Denise D'Souza

SUBJECT: MOVE OF CONNAUGHT DAY OPTIONS
SERVICE AT THE CONNAUGHT CENTRE
[WEST HOVE INFANT SCHOOL
CONNAUGHT ANNEX] TO PATCHAM
HOUSE SCHOOL SITE

CONTACT OFFICER: Naomi Cox

THE DECISION

1. To consult on the proposed move of Connaught Day Options Service from the Connaught Centre [West Hove Infant School Connaught Annex] to Patcham House School Site.

REASONS FOR THE CONSULTATION

In order to be able to meet the Local Authority's statutory duty to provide school places for children within the City, the LA needs to relocate the Adult Social Care Day Options Services for adults with a learning disability currently based to the rear of West Hove Infants School (Connaught Annexe) to allow for expansion of primary places on that site. This has to be achieved within the context of a very limited range of options for accommodation across the City.

Children's Services are consulting on the proposal to move some of the pupils from Patcham House School site to Downs park thus providing a new potential location for the Day Options Services for Adult Care.

The consultation exercise in relation to Patcham House and Downs view has to be undertaken by Children's Services in compliance with statutory

requirements. In order to meet those statutory requirements and timescales agreement has been given to commence that process from today. To ensure fairness and transparency for all those affected by the potential connected decisions to be taken concerning the movement of services from the Connaught location and pupils from Patcham House to Downs View, the [separate] consultation processes need to commence at the same time.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Patcham House is considered suitable, with refurbishment, to accommodate the Day Options Services currently provided at the Connaught Centre whilst facilitating joint working between children's services and adult social care services, particularly in relation to transition to adulthood in line with new SEN 0-25 years legislative changes. It could also allow space for the accommodation of related learning disability professional support services.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

A report will be made to the Committee on the outcome of the consultation process in due course.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

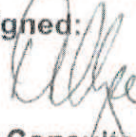
Date:

16 May 2013

Decision Maker:

Denise D'Souza Executive Director for Adult Services

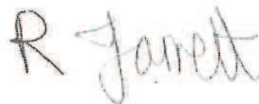
Signed:



In Consultation with the Chair of Adult Care and Health Committee:

Councillor Jarrett

Signed:



Report Attached:

A Copy of the report considered by the Director is attached.

Move of Patcham House School to Downs Park School Site/Move of Adult Social Care Day Centre at Connaught Road to Patcham House School

Proposal

The Governors of the CDP Federation and Brighton and Hove LA are putting forward a proposal to re-locate Patcham House Special School onto the site of Downs Park Special School in Portslade.

The key reason behind this proposal is the need to move the Connaught Day Centre to accommodate expansion of primary provision in the City. Potential re-location is to Downs Park Special School or onto the Patcham House site. However Patcham House School does not have the space to accommodate the Centre at present, Co-locating the two special schools thus seems a more sensible option as there are potential educational advantages and economies of scale. Additionally the LA sees potential in co-locating the two special schools, which are in an existing federation, while retaining some space for transitional services with adult social care at Patcham House. This would further key priorities in the SEN Partnership Strategy notably:

- improved transition arrangements post 16
- post 16 education for pupils with complex needs
- provision of more holistic integrated services for children and young adults with complex needs with linked autistic spectrum condition (ASC) strategies in Children's and Adult Services

Background

The Brighton and Hove Cedar Downs Park Patcham (CDP) Federation consists of three special schools catering for pupils with complex special needs on three separate sites:

- Cedar Centre (primary/ secondary school for pupils with complex SEN and associated learning difficulties in central Brighton)
- Downs Park School (primary/ secondary school for pupils with complex needs and associated learning difficulties in Portslade)
- Patcham House School (secondary school for more able pupils with complex needs who can access a full mainstream secondary curriculum with support)

The Federation of schools have a single governing body and an executive headteacher overseeing the work of the heads of the three schools. As part of this proposal, the Governing Body and the LA are also considering expanding the remit of the Federation to offer Post-16 education to its students.

Rationale for proposed accommodation move

In order to be able to meet the LA's statutory duty to provide school places for children within the City, the LA needs to relocate an Adult Social Care day for adults with a learning disability currently based to the rear of West Hove Infants School (Connaught Annex) to allow for expansion of primary places on that site. This has to be achieved within the context of a very limited range of options for accommodation across the City.

The site that initially appeared to meet the majority of requirements for Adult Social Care was Downs Park but this would mean having two unrelated services on one site and would involve considerable alterations to the building to meet the different needs of the two groups.

Accommodation at Patcham House School has a number of limitations in relation to offering a full secondary curriculum and the building requires refurbishment in some areas to meet the increasingly complex needs of its pupils. The Downs Park site is generally felt to be superior to that at Patcham House and to offer more space and amenities than Patcham House.

Logistically it therefore seems a more sensible and cost-effective solution to move the Patcham House pupils onto the Downs Park site. This would allow for efficient sharing of space including the sharing of expensive specialist accommodation such as the science lab and home economics room.

It is proposed that the areas of the building not used for KS4 pupils at Patcham House will be used by adults with a learning disability currently attending the Connaught Day Centre. This would facilitate joint working between children's services and adult social care services, particularly in relation to transition to adulthood in line with new SEN 0-25 years legislative changes. It could also allow space for the accommodation of related learning disability professional support services.

From September, Downs Park and Patcham House would remain two distinct schools, each retaining their own Head of School, their own roll, admission arrangements and staffing structure. However, opportunities for sharing will be immense with a wider range of opportunities potentially available for staff and pupils.