

Subject:	Day Activities Review Progress Report		
Date of Meeting:	17th June 2013		
Report of:	Executive Director of Adult Services		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress that has been made in the Day Activity Review since the last Committee report in March 2013 and concentrates on developments in the Council day services for people with a learning disability
- 1.2 At the March committee, members noted:
- The increase in demand for different community based day opportunities.
 - That more flexibility in existing day services was required to promote independence and to support carers.
 - The need for individuals to have a personalised day service.
- 1.3 This report provides an update on how developments have affected the Council provided learning disability Day Options service and in particular the Buckingham Road day centre. An update on the Connaught day centre is provided in a separate report to Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee note the progress of the Day Activities Review and the proposals for the changes to the Council provided services.
- 2.2 That Committee agree to the proposal to return with a further progress report in November 2013.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Day Activities Commissioning Plan was presented to Adult Care & Health Committee in November 2012 and the Joint Commissioning Board in January 2013 and a new Vision for day activities was agreed by Members. A progress report was presented to Adult Care & Health Committee and the Joint Commissioning Board in March 2013 and it was agreed that a further progress report would be presented in June.

- 3.2 The Vision for day activities is of a modern, flexible day options model that provides personalised care and support and makes the best use of localised community activities. Whilst the majority of users of day centres are satisfied with their service there is still a limited choice of activities and a lack of personalised day options. Day service providers are exploring how they can offer more flexible opening times, wrap around services, employment and voluntary opportunities and make the best use of community resources as well as their own buildings.
- 3.3 This report focuses on the changes taking place to Council provided day services for people with a learning disability. The report also gives information on the social care assessments that are currently taking place for individuals to ensure that they have personalised day options. This report's focus is due to the concentration of activity in these two areas since the last report to Committee in March and is particularly in light of the proposed changes to the Buckingham Road and Connaught day centres.

4. COUNCIL PROVIDED DAY OPTIONS SERVICE

- 4.1 The Vision for Day Activities sets out the need for Council provided services to focus on supporting the people with the most complex needs. The Day Options service currently supports approximately 132 people with learning disabilities across four bases and is currently running to capacity.
- 4.2 The November committee report highlighted the importance of making the best use of council resources (including staff skills and buildings). Members agreed with the recommendations that the Day Options service will refocus its provision to concentrate on people with a learning disability and complex physical health and / or challenging needs.
- 4.3 The service will make the best use of the buildings and staff expertise and support those people with the most complex needs and create pathways to enable people to move on, where possible. Life skills and work skills programmes are in great demand, particularly with younger people coming through transitions. Capacity is needed as it is predicted that there will be 12% increase in the number of people with severe or moderate learning disabilities by 2030.
- 4.4 Resources within the Day Options service will be focused in the following areas :
- **Profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD)** - to enable people with PMLD to learn, achieve and be actively involved in their community.
 - **Challenging needs** – to enable people with challenging needs to learn, achieve and be actively involved in their community and to provide an assessment function for people who may require support before moving on to new opportunities.
 - **Work skills** – to provide a work environment that promotes skill development and work ethics.
 - **Life skills** – to enable people to learn the skills they need to live the life they choose.

- 4.5 A new programme of activities will be introduced in September 2013 which will incorporate the four areas detailed above. In addition to this, there will also be a leisure activity offered each day. It is recognised that leisure activities are important to people and that they provide opportunities for social and communication skills to develop and for friendship groups to form. The leisure activities that will continue are those that already have links with the community, for example 'In the gym' which takes place in the community, yoga which is facilitated by an external trainer, a singing group and 'knit and natter'.
- 4.6 Day Options will also develop a support co-ordination service that will enable people, either individually or in groups, to use community based activities. A co-ordinator will work closely with service users and the assessment team and providers to identify what services and activities are needed to bring groups of people together over the City or to link individuals into community activities, within assessed resources.
- 4.7 Day Options staff and commissioners will work together with colleagues in Sports Development and the independent sector to look at which leisure activities currently being provided by Day Options might be accessed differently elsewhere, for example swimming, as well as exploring any that might become self-sustainable. People with learning disabilities have expressed concern about the accessibility of community activities (see section 7.3 for more detail) and there is work ongoing with the independent sector to look at access to mainstream activities as well as exploring the use of volunteers in linking, introducing or accompanying people to activities.
- 4.8 A Care Manager is in post and two social workers are being recruited to carry out assessments of people whose needs are not currently being met in their day service, of those people affected by any other changes to day services and of those service users whose needs could be met in a more person- centred way.
- 4.9 To date there have been 16 assessments completed and the care manager has worked closely with the service users, their carers, advocates, the day service staff and staff where they live if they are in residential care to ensure that an alternative service meets their needs. Service users' needs were not being met for a variety of reasons that include, for instance, incompatibility with other day service users, too long a day for service users who are getting older, ability level for activities too high or too low.
- 4.10 Two examples of how changes have improved the outcomes for people's day activities are detailed below (names are changed to protect peoples' privacy):

Reason for reassessment and current provision	New provision
John lives in supported living and attends a day service for four days a week. Although he needs support due to a physical disability he is currently at a day service where there are people with much higher support needs. John is keen to do voluntary or	John will no longer attend the day centre for three days a week and instead will receive an additional 10 hours of support a week from his supported living provider to support him to access voluntary work and community based activities. He

<p>paid work.</p>	<p>particularly wants to assess the accessibility of services for people with disabilities and will be supported to do this. John will retain one of his current activities whilst the transition happens and it involves giving information to other people with learning disabilities which links with his work ambitions.</p>
<p>Sally lives in supported living and attends a day service for four days a week. Sally wants to link more with other young women in a similar situation to herself, do some voluntary work and work skills and wants to eventually work in catering. She also wants to access sports and leisure activities in the community.</p>	<p>Sally will no longer attend the day centre but will access cookery sessions and a work skills course for two half days elsewhere. Sally's supported living provider will provide 1:1 support within the current support package. This will be to help Sally access health related activities such as health walks and swimming. Sally will also be supported to run a monthly coffee morning for other people with similar conditions to help her meet new people.</p>

4.11 The assessment team will ensure that activities are grouped together wherever possible to enable friendship groups to continue or new friendships to flourish. Residential care providers have been keen to provide some activities themselves or open their doors to personal assistants or day activity providers who can provide activities on or off site for groups or individuals.

4.12 A self-directed support working group has been established in order to review systems and access to direct payments and personal budgets. A reference group has also been set-up to review the supporting information to ensure that it is accessible.

5 BUCKINGHAM ROAD AND CONNAUGHT DAY CENTRES

5.1 **Buckingham Road day centre** is currently the site for three popular work-based activities; Feast, Our Art Collective and the recycling project Can It. The building has been earmarked for disposal under Phase 3 of the Workstyles Programme and therefore staff have been working closely with service users and carers to identify alternative sites for these activities. The following locations have been successfully identified:

5.1.1 'Can It!' is a recycling project that washes and crushes cans and sorts and recycles various products. It is proposed that the bulk of the service will move to Wellington House. The bottle top element of the recycling project is moving to the Whitehawk Green Centre on one day a week which would mean a positive increase in community presence for those service users. In addition to linking with the community more, the recycling that takes place at the centre will have a cost benefit for local charities.

- 5.1.2 'Our Art Collective' is an art project that provides opportunities for people to produce and exhibit their own art. This activity needs a large space as the mediums include printmaking and pottery and artists need room to store and produce their work. It is proposed that Our Art will move to Belgrave day centre.
- 5.1.3 'Feast' is a popular catering project where people can be supported to complete food safety training, plan menus, shop, prepare and cook lunches for day centre attendees and also occasionally cater for other events. It is proposed that Feast will move to Wellington House day centre.
- 5.2 The decision to dispose of Buckingham Road day centre will be taken at the Policy and Resources Committee in July. Feedback from the current service users (which is set out in more detail in section 6 of this report) will be incorporated into that report to inform that decision.
- 5.3 The proposed change to the delivery of the learning disability day options service does mean that some capital expenditure will be required in the short term. Day Options staff are working closely with Property and Design Services to confirm the cost of any capital works needed at Wellington House and Belgrave day centre. In addition ICT are looking at any costs of equipment and installation. Estimates for work to be undertaken are being sought at present and will be detailed in the November Committee report.
- 5.4 **Connaught day centre** building is required by Education from January 2014 to provide additional school places for children at the West Hove Infants School (Connaught Annex). Patcham House School has been proposed as an alternative site for the day service and service users and carers that use the Connaught day centre are currently being consulted about the alternative site. There are more details in the Connaught report also being presented at the June Committee.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Speak Out, an independent advocacy organisation held three meetings with 44 people with learning disabilities in March and April. 27 of these people attend the Council's Day Options service and 17 access activities in the independent sector. The meetings focused on changes to the use of day centre buildings, barriers to accessing universal and mainstream services and ideas of what activities people would like to do.
- 6.2 Changes to the Day Options service: Concerns were expressed by users of Buckingham Road around changes to friendship groups, travel to alternative locations and sadness about leaving the building. People expressed the need for regular updates and accessible information and wanted reassurance the activities would continue at another site. With regard to wider changes people were worried that there would not be enough money in a personal budget to do the things that they want to do and that there might be less space on supported and voluntary employment schemes. On the positive side, some people are keen to meet new people, want to do more in the community and like the variety of attending different locations.

6.3 Barriers to using universal and mainstream services: People with mild learning disabilities expressed some concern about using mainstream community activities due to safety, fear of going on their own, concern that workers there would not understand their needs, lack of knowledge of what is available and how to get there. People tend to favour specialist community projects as they described them as user friendly, collective and welcoming.

6.4 Activities people want to do:

- More leisure activities e.g. cinema, football, bowling, walking, power lifting.
- Meet friends at day centres or out in the community.
- Getting involved in services or local organisations e.g. self-advocacy, being involved in meetings, projects and interviewing staff.
- Learning and life skills.
- Evening and weekend activities.
- Arts and Crafts.
- Work and employment.

6.5 Staff at Buckingham Road day centre have been working closely with service users to identify alternative locations for the activities that currently take place there. Service users have been able to identify what is important to them in alternative locations and visit potential sites and contribute to risk assessments.

Examples include:

- Can It groups have visited Wellington House to discuss what they will need and have been able to visit the Green Centre in Whitehawk.
- People who attend computer groups at Belgrave have produced photos of rooms for the Our Art users so that they can visualise the space and artists also have a large scale floor plan of Belgrave in the studio to help plan where the activities will go.
- Each day centre has posters detailing the changes to promote discussion.
- 'Chatterbox' is a newsletter produced by people with learning disabilities which will be used to present the views of Day Options service users.
- 'DOUG' (Day Options User Group) are planning to gain feedback from everyone by putting boxes out around day centres and asking what people think about the changes.

6.6 Feedback from Speak Out is that the Buckingham Road service users have a good level of awareness of what the future plans for the service are.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 The current 2013/14 gross budget for Day Services is £4.8 million, of which £2.9 million is allocated to in-house services and £1.9 million to independent sector provision. The highest spend area is Learning Disabilities with a gross budget of £3.4 million across both in-house and external providers, representing 72% of the budget.

This progress report concentrates mainly on the provision of day services for Learning Disability clients. Funding has been identified for the care manager and social worker posts referred to in paragraph 4.8 of this report. The 16 assessments completed to date are part of the plans that are still being developed to identify future needs and the detailed financial implications of revenue and capital costs will be provided in the next committee report.

Financial implications regarding proposals for the Connaught day centre are included in the separate report also included on this agenda.

Finance Officer Consulted: Neil Smith

Date: 04/06/13

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 This report provides an update to Committee and is for noting only. As described in the body of the report the decision regarding disposal of Buckingham Road is to be made by Policy and Resources Committee in July. The views of potentially affected users of Buckingham Road and Equalities implications as a result of the proposed closure must inform that decision.

There are no other specific legal or Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Sandra O'Brien

Date:05.06.2013

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 The Day Activities Review is expected to have a positive equalities impact by promoting access to activities that are relevant and appropriate to meet an individual's support needs as identified in a full social care assessment.
- 7.4 An Equalities Impact Assessment on the Day Options service is in progress and is regularly updated as the remodelling of the service progresses. The current Equalities Impact Assessment is available for Members to view on request.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.5 The Vision highlights better use of resources including buildings and transport and advocates for the co-production of any future services with service users, carers and providers resulting in a more sustainable model of provision.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 7.6 The Vision and changes to day services will promote social inclusion for people from all client groups through supporting increased access to mainstream services and participation as equal citizens in the community.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 7.7 The Day Activities Commissioning Board is overseeing the risk management of the Day Activities Review to ensure that risks are carefully considered.

Public Health Implications:

- 7.8 Adult Social Care has clear interconnection with the wider public health agenda and the proposed Vision reinforces the aim to support equality, health and well-being in the city.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 7.9 The Vision will increase access to mainstream and universal services available locally and so enable people to participate more fully in the city.

8. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 8.1 The alternative option is for Council provided day services to remain as they are. The impact of this would be that Day Options would not be able to support the increased numbers of people with learning disabilities and complex needs and service users and carers would not benefit from more flexible, personalised provision.

9. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 This report follows the agreed recommendations noted in the November 2012 report to Adult Care & Health Committee with regard to the Day Activity Review. This report is for noting progress made on those recommendations.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices: None