

**DAY ACTIVITY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT 25TH NOVEMBER
APPENDIX 1**

**SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION REGARDING RELOCATION OF CONNAUGHT DAY
SERVICE**

1. Summary:

- 1.1 In October 2012, the Childrens' and Young People Committee received a report which recommended the expansion of West Hove Infant School to enable the council to help provide the increased number of primary school places required in the Hove area.
- 1.2 To facilitate this expansion, the relocation of the Connaught Day Service for adults with learning disabilities would be required.
- 1.3 A Report was submitted to Adult Care & Health Committee in June 2013 with proposals to consult on moving Connaught Day Service to Patcham House School. This option was withdrawn by Childrens Service prior to their Committee Meeting on 16th July 2013.
- 1.4 An update report was presented at Adult Care & Health Committee on 26th September 2013 advising of a revised plan that proposed that Connaught Day Service would relocate to Belgrave Day Options Base in Portslade.
- 1.5 A consultation with service users and carers commenced on 29.7.13 and ended on 25.10.13. The Executive Director of Adult Services (in consultation with the Chair of Adult Care & Health Committee) using her constitutional Delegated Authority, agreed to the start of the consultation due to the tight timeframes in relation to West Hove Primary School and to also make the decision regarding the proposed relocation after the end of the consultation period.

2. Background

- 2 Connaught Learning Disability Day Options Service currently provides a service for 20 people with a range of complex needs including challenging behaviours.
- 2.1 In the light of the council's requirement for an increase in primary school places in the Hove area, Officers from Adult Social Care Provider Services and Children's Services have worked closely together to identify potential options for a relocation of the Connaught Day Options Service.
- 2.2 The proposal contained within the June Committee Report to relocate the Connaught Day Service to Patcham House is no longer proceeding.

3. The proposal

- 3.1 The revised proposal is that Connaught relocates to Belgrave Day Options base in Portslade. The current proposed timescale for these changes is that Connaught Day Options would move to the Belgrave Day Options site in March 2014. Children's Services have adjusted their timescales to fit with this revised plan and they will be able to achieve the required works at Connaught to support the Autumn 2014 intake of pupils.
- 3.2 To facilitate the required 12 week consultation period, (in consultation with the Chair of Adult Care and Health Committee, Cllr Rob Jarrett), the Executive Director of Adult Services, using her constitutional Delegated Authority, approved the decision to consult regarding the proposed move in March 2014.
- 3.3 A letter was sent out to service users and carers in week beginning 29th July 2013. The letter outlined the reason for the proposed relocation of Connaught Day Options Service to the Belgrave Day Options site in Portslade, and included a feedback form for service users and carers to give their views and ask any questions they might have. The consultation ended on 25th October 2013.
- 3.4 The Belgrave Day Options base is well known to Day Options service users and their families. It can provide a service all on one level and within easy reach of the shops and community facilities of Portslade.
- 3.5 Staff supported service users to understand the proposals and will seek their views. Additionally, Speak Out (Independent Advocacy) hosted two sessions with service users about the proposed changes to day services. These changes included those relating to the proposed relocation of Connaught Day Service to Belgrave Day Options base in Portslade.
- 3.6 There have been no specific concerns raised during the consultation period about the proposal to relocate Connaught Day Service to the Belgrave Day Options site in Portslade. One family member wanted to know if their son would have the same key worker and be able to attend the same projects; another was interested to see the building plans for Belgrave. Another was very happy with the change; it was closer to where they live.

- 3.7 All Connaught service users have been offered a reassessment of their needs. Family carers will be fully involved in the reassessment process as will staff who know the service users well. The majority of the reassessments are now complete for current Connaught service users. It is expected that the final reassessments will be completed by early November. As the current service users have a range of needs, the reassessments have been useful in identifying how best their needs should be met in the future. Some will continue to receive a service at Belgrave after the relocation and others will have their day time needs met either through either another Day Options Service , from their residential provider , via a Personal Budget or from a different day activity provider, for example. See 2.4 onwards in Appendix 2 for a more detailed breakdown of the assessments.
- 3.8 Staff have been kept fully informed about the proposals and there is a Day Options Staff Focus Group that meets monthly.
- 3.9 Staff will work closely with service users and their families to ensure that we provide the best transitions for individual service users to their new day service.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 All current Connaught Day Options service users and their carers were sent a letter explaining the proposal and seeking their views. In light of the specific vulnerabilities of service users, appropriate support was provided to ensure that they could participate in the consultation process.
- 4.2 Service users and carer feedback forms were collated at the end of the consultation period. See section 6 below.
- 4.3 Staff supported service users to understand the proposals and will seek their views. Additionally Speak Out (Independent Advocacy) hosted two sessions with service users about the proposed changes to day services. These changes included those relating to the proposed relocation of Connaught Day Service to Belgrave Day Options Base in Portslade. A presentation on this was made at the Learning Disability Partnership Board in October 2013.
- 4.4 A carers' meeting was held on 15th August 2013 and a further follow-up meeting was held on 19th September 2013. The carers meetings covered all aspects of the proposed changes to the Day Options services, including the proposal that Connaught Day Service would relocate to Belgrave Day Options base in Portslade.
- 4.5 Officers answered queries and questions that were raised by service users and carers as part of the consultation process, and ensured regular communication via a newsletter, with the opportunity to meet with

officers to discuss any specific concerns. A copy of the feedback is available on request.

4.6 Where family members had individual questions these were discussed as part of the reassessment process

4.7 In summary, the feedback received about the proposed move of Connaught Day Service to Belgrave Day Options base in Portslade has been positively received. All carers who responded, have said that the location of Belgrave is a good location for their family member, with access to all the community resources in the Portslade area. As soon as the building plans are available, we will be holding a meeting on-site for families of service users relocating from Connaught to Belgrave to talk through the plans with them.

5. Cost:

5.1 The estimated costs of required building works at Belgrave are £150k plus £5k ICT costs.

6. DAY OPTIONS CARERS CONSULTATION FEEDBACK [CONNAUGHT]

Date	Carer	Comments & Questions	Feedback
5.8.13	Carer	I have discussed the options with my adult son – he confirmed to myself which I fully support and agree with that he would prefer to move to Belgrave Day Options base – it is near to where he lives in R Gardens and for myself in Coldean. No questions at present.	
7.8.13	Service user	I am happy with the move as I like Belgrave. I would like to restart cooking courses at Wellington House. I like Belgrave because the staff talk to me. I find the library by the station too small, I don't like this. Question: Why can't the school use Wellington House or Buckingham? Is this closer for parents?	The school is on the same site as Connaught and the building used to be part of the school originally so it makes sense for them to have back the building that is next door to them and which will give them the new reception class places they need.
12.8.13	Carer	Sounds OK but what about the Gym? Do I still have Robbie?	People who have specific individual sessions will continue them where possible and if they have 1:1 support for these there should be no difficulty with this. People's regular 1:1 staff will continue to work with them where this is possible but if for any reason it isn't we will discuss this with you and put alternative plans in place.
15.8.13	Carer	Phone call – could not attend Carers Meeting today – but was happy with proposal for Connaught to relocate to Belgrave – would like to look round Belgrave and see what adaptations are planned.	We will be arranging for parents and carers to visit Belgrave when the more detailed plans are completed to walk round with Connaught staff and see what is being proposed.
Sept 2013	Carer [by phone]	Apologised for not attending recent carers meeting – happy with proposed move from Connaught to Belgrave for his daughter – keen to see building plans – will set-up meeting when plans are available. Asked about reassessment Will his daughter have one – advised this is decided by Assessment Team – our view was that	Reassessments are being carried out by the assessment team and families and carers will be informed and invited to be involved. We will be arranging for parents and carers to visit Belgrave when the more detailed plans are completed to walk round with Connaught staff

		daughters needs met via current day options – confirmed if there is a reassessment then families will be involved.	and see what is being proposed.
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