

DAY ACTIVITY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT 25TH NOVEMBER

APPENDIX 2

DAY ACTIVITY REVIEW – ASSESSMENTS OF NEED

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Adult Social Care is continuing to change the way in which services are provided to enable people to have choice and control of the services they receive. Day activities in Brighton & Hove provide a vital role in maximising independence and supporting carers and there is an ongoing commitment to provide day services to all people assessed as needing them.

1.2 The Government's White Paper 'Caring for our future: reforming care and support' continues to promote independence, wellbeing and focuses on giving individuals greater control over their care and support. The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) 2007 paper called 'Having a good day? A study of community-based day activities for people with learning disabilities' summarises that:

'Successful provision' of community-based day activities was taken to imply that people would be 'having a good day'. National policy indicates that 'a good day' is about people with learning disabilities:

- undertaking activities that have a purpose
- being in ordinary places, doing things that most members of the community would be doing
- doing things that are right for them personally
- receiving support that meets their individual and specific requirements and overcomes inequalities
- meeting local people, developing friendships, connections and a sense of belonging'.

1.3 Brighton & Hove City Council is committed to continuing the organisational shift towards more personalised, community based support. To help inform the Day Activity Review, a needs assessment was carried out with users and carers of people who use the day services in the city. The needs assessment identified that whilst day services are highly valued there are gaps within learning disability services that include the following:

- A lack of knowledge about the variety of day services and activities that are available
- A lack of awareness of personal budgets and direct payments
- A need for more work opportunities and life skills
- A need for more flexible opening times to support carers

1.4 The Day Activity Review highlighted the need for assessments to be completed for the following reasons:

- To ensure that people with learning disabilities are receiving services that reflect what they need to enable them to achieve as much independence as possible.

- To ensure that services are flexible enough to meet carers' needs.
- To ensure that where people are being directly affected by changes to day services, (such as the relocation of the Connaught service), there is a clear understanding of exactly what they need in any potential alternative service.
- To inform Adult Social Care what the gaps are in the local area, both in contracted services and in other areas such as friendship and social groups.
- To ensure that eligible needs are met and that support plans are outcome focused and identify activities that present good value for money.

1.5 As the Vision for day activities is implemented and new choices become available to service users, social care assessments will take place for individuals and their support plans will be updated accordingly. Care managers are also discussing self-directed support options with service users, (such as personal budgets or direct payments), and carrying out Carer's Assessments as required.

1.6 Service users at Connaught have been prioritised for an assessment due to their complexity of needs and the potential need for a lengthy transition. In addition any service users that were identified as not having their needs currently met were prioritised for assessment alongside people at the Intensive Support Unit (ISU) and those accessing Longer Lives.

1.7 A team of 3 Care Managers within the Community Learning Disability Team are working closely with the service users, their carers, and anyone else that is involved in their lives, such as residential care home staff and the staff working in the day services as well as advocates, to ensure that the needs of individuals are carefully considered within the assessment. Where people live in residential care or supported living the care staff are asked to inform any family or advocates that are involved that an assessment is going to happen.

1.8 Where people have been assessed, and where it is clear that change to their provision is needed immediately due to their needs not being met, then changes to their service package have been made. Where there are no risks identified during the assessment, then any necessary actions affecting a service package might wait until, for example:

- § an appropriate alternative service is identified, or
- § (in the case of social needs) a group of other people have been identified to share an activity, or
- § a bespoke service is commissioned;

If there is no action needed the service will remain unchanged.

1.9 The outcomes from these assessments are being tracked to enable effective planning of future need and services.

2. SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENTS

2.1 To date there have been 38 assessments completed. The assessments can be summarised as follows:

- 14 people affected by the Connaught move
- 10 people whose needs were not currently being met in their service
- 6 people affected by the move of the Intensive Support Unit (ISU)
- 8 people affected by the change to the Longer Lives service

2.2 The needs of carers is an important part of any assessment and 5 Carer's Assessments have been completed alongside service user assessments. These are included below alongside the service users that they care for.

2.3 The care managers are working closely with local providers of day services and other community activities and have, through the assessment process, created some new care and support packages that really reflect the needs of the individuals and their carers

2.4 14 people based at **Connaught** have been assessed and their needs and outcomes of the assessments are detailed below:

| Decision | No | Outcome |
|--|----|---|
| No longer attend Connaught. | 3 | Receive support from their care provider to access other person-centred community-based activities. |
| | 1 | Receives support from a Personal Assistant to access their community-based activities. |
| | 1 | Receives support from a new day service provider for 5 x half days at their care home (this is shared with 2 other friends) and enables access to community-based activities. |
| | 1 | Receives a Direct Payment to access another independent day centre 5 days a week. |
| Needs alternative service | 1 | Assessed as needing an alternative service but waiting to identify someone to share the service with. |
| Stay in Day Options but requires alternative service | 1 | Needs a service that is not with people with challenging needs. |
| No change to service | 4 | Assessed as continuing to require Connaught for the same amount of time. |
| Reduction in service requested by service user. | 2 | Reduced by 1 day to spend more time at home or in the community. |
| Carer's Assessment | 1 | Carer is now receiving support to consider alternative supported accommodation to relieve carer role. |
| Carer's assessment | 1 | Supported to apply for a Direct Payment. |

2.5 10 people were identified due to **Unmet Need** and their needs and outcomes of the assessments are detailed below:

| Decision | No | Outcome |
|---|----|--|
| No longer attend Day Options | 2 | Receive support from a new day service provider for 5 x half days at their care home (shared with 2 other friends) to enable access to community-based activities. |
| | 1 | Receives support from home to access voluntary work and social activities + 2 half days cookery course. |
| Alternative service required | 2 | No alternative service identified yet due to complexity of need. Specialist behaviour support is being accessed to help identify a potential future service. |
| | 3 | Alternative services are required and identified but service users have not yet moved out of Day Options. |
| Increase in service needed. | 1 | Increased service to meet user and carer need. |
| Reduction in service requested by service user. | 1 | Reduced by 1 day to spend more time at home or in the community. |
| Carer's assessment | 1 | Supported to apply for a Holiday Grant |

2.6 6 people who attend the **Intensive Support Unit (ISU)** at Belgrave were assessed as the decision was made to move the ISU to Wellington House. Their needs and outcomes of the assessments are detailed below:

| Decision | No | Outcome |
|----------------------|----|--|
| No change to service | 5 | Move with the ISU to Wellington House |
| Increase in service | 1 | Move with the ISU to Wellington House and increase from 2 to 4 days. |
| Carer's assessment | 1 | No change in support requested. Other Council department involved in other issues. |
| Carer's assessment | 1 | Increased support to 4 days to support carer. |

2.7 8 people have been affected by the decision to no longer provide the **Longer Lives** service that was supporting older people with learning disabilities. Their needs and outcomes of the assessments are detailed below:

| Decision | No | Outcome |
|------------------------------|----|--|
| No longer attend Day Options | 4 | Receive support from their care provider to access other community-based activities and link-in with other Longer Lives ex-users via a social group organised by the Day Options co-ordinator. |
| Needs alternative service | 1 | Assessed as needing an alternative service but waiting to identify someone to share the service with. |
| | 1 | Assessed as needing a reduced service due to changed needs and currently negotiating with the care provider to provide more support at home during the day. |
| Stay in Day Options service | 1 | Lives with shared lives carer who still needs respite during the day. |
| | 1 | Still requires access to specific project offered by Day Options. |

2.8 Everyone that has had an assessment where a change has taken place receives a 6 week review. To date, there have been 7 reviews, with 6 people happy with their new service and 1 person needing a temporary change to their service due to a change in their need.

2.9 The Council's Day Options team have also allocated a Day Options Facilitator for 1 day a week to provide a 'Day Activities Co-ordination' service. The co-ordinator works alongside the care managers to maintain friendship groups and identify and create activities in the community that people with learning disabilities could access. This is a vital function and to date, this service element has achieved the following outcomes:

- Put together a person-centred day activity programme in the community for 4 service users that were previously attending Longer Lives
- Set up a thriving storytelling session with Whitehawk library that is run by the librarians and is open to all
- Successfully set up new group based activities in the community, for example, drama and dog walking & grooming
- Built up a database of information, resources, potential activities and sessional workers

