

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Safe and Healthy People Select Committee
Date:	20 July 2012
Title:	Transformation of In-House Learning Disabilities Services
Reference:	4129
Report From:	Director of Adult Services

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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report serves to brief the Committee on progress made on the implementation of the Transformation of Hampshire County Council's Day and Residential Services for people with a learning disability.
- 1.2. A response to the public consultation and proposals for the Transformation of Hampshire County Council's Learning Disability Services came to both the Executive Member for Adult Social Care Decision Day and the Safe and Healthy People Select Committee on 16 May 2011. The Committee requested an update on progress in one year's time.

2 Contextual Information

- 2.1 The Council owns 12 main day services and 9 residential homes with mixed provision of long stay residential care, respite care and crisis care for people with learning disabilities. Many of the buildings used were built between 30 and 50 years ago and are unsuitable for the future.
- 2.2 A full public consultation on transformation of these services took place between December and March 2011 with 25 events held across the County. All current service users and families were invited. These events enabled individual one to one discussions between officers and families. Advocacy and the Learning Disability Partnership board were also fully involved.
- 2.3 There was recognition in *Community Care* magazine for the quality and extent of this consultation.
- 2.4 The aims of transformation are modernisation and improvement, specifically:
 - a) Offering more choice for people with learning disabilities;
 - b) Offering more day opportunities in the community;

- c) Improving facilities for people with complex needs;
- d) Making services more attractive so that people continue to choose them;
- e) Matching services with demand;
- f) Making services efficient and therefore sustainable;
- g) Maintaining and improving services rather than reducing them.

2.5 Following the Decision Day in May 2012 it was agreed by the Executive Member for Policy and Resources that 100% of capital released from the transformation of Learning Disability Services would be recycled to invest in new or refurbished respite, day and crisis facilities.

3 Residential Transformation

- 3.1 As part of residential transformation it was agreed that some respite homes should be closed to enable the development of alternatives to traditional residential respite.
- 3.2 Meadowcroft in Aldershot, Fernmount House in New Milton, and Highfield House in Eastleigh are now closed. All the people who used these homes were given information and were supported to move to alternative services with a replacement respite package in place prior to their home's closure.
- 3.3 Popular respite alternatives included Shared Lives respite carers, other in-house respite units, supported holidays, live-in carers and direct payments. Whilst some service users and relatives did not want their respite home to close, feedback on the support provided and on the alternatives on offer has been positive.
- 3.4 It was decided that other models of long term care and crisis care should be offered to those living in our own residential care homes. Work is ongoing with individual people, families and advocacy who live at Upton Grey Close, Winchester, West Street, Havant and Croft House, Fareham, to find suitable alternative long term placements. A number of residents have already chosen to move on to suitable alternatives. Work is continuing to ascertain the wishes of those living at Homewood in Andover.
- 3.5 It was decided that new and enhanced residential respite facilities for people with complex needs were required in Basingstoke and Fareham. Newman Bassett site in Basingstoke has been identified and agreed as the best Northern site. The building should take about two years to be completed and will replace Dalewood. A site is yet to be identified for the new Southern respite facility which will replace Croft House once it is completed. The new Northern and Southern respite facilities will provide six ground floor purpose built ensuite respite bedrooms suitable for people with complex needs.
- 3.6 West Street in Havant will be extensively refurbished later in 2012 to provide spacious accommodation designed specifically for people in crisis.

4 Day Service Transformation

- 4.1 As part of day service transformation it was decided to relocate a number of day services to provide enhanced facilities closer to the community with staff refocusing support towards people becoming more included in ordinary community activities.
- 4.2 Basingstoke Day Service is due to move to a fully refurbished and accessible Community Link in the Discovery Centre in Festival Place, Basingstoke in September 2012. Services are currently being based from Audleys Resource Centre and Viabes Community Centre, and the Basingstoke Day Service building has now been closed.
- 4.3 We are currently finalising the arrangements for Bishopstoke Day Service to move to a fully refurbished and accessible Community Link in Eastleigh. As part of this transition the Bishopstoke Day service building will be closed by the end of September 2012 and people will have day services based at the Hexagon Resource Centre and Velmore Community Centre in Chandlers Ford. People are also already enjoying the use of "Pavilion in the Park" near to the Leisure Centre in Eastleigh. The Council will be relocating all of its day services in this way over the next three years.
- 4.4 There will be a new day service building in Totton, which will have some similarities to the specification of the existing Locks Heath Day Services. A site is yet to be identified for this new building.
- 4.5 The "Launch pad" scheme is another important element of transformation. The scheme provides the opportunity for more able people with learning disabilities to choose from different activities in the community. Each person is supported to have a Person Centred Review to find out what they would like to do. They can then try out new activities and develop a new activity timetable. Friends can join together to do activities in a group with support.
- 4.6 "Launch pad" has already been rolled out in Basingstoke. To start with carers had concerns but after several drop-in sessions and after seeing the outcomes for their sons and daughters they were reassured. Many positive comments were made, such as '[it's] going very well'; another said 'the whole week is better now'; '[he is] enjoying it very much'....'it's been a bit scary but worth it'. A similar approach will be rolled out across the County.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 Progress is being made on most aspects of Learning Disability transformation.
- 5.2 Whilst some service users and relatives did not want their respite home to close, feedback on the support provided and on the alternatives on offer has been generally positive.
- 5.3 There has been more delay than anticipated in the identification of suitable sites for new buildings, such as Totton Keystone Day Services and the Southern respite unit. Current buildings will remain available until new ones are completed so this should minimise the effect upon people who attend.

- 5.4 There has been particularly positive feedback about improved outcomes for people who have been able to choose alternatives to traditional day services through the Launch pad scheme.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u> Response to consultation and proposals for the Transformation of Learning Disability Services	<u>Reference</u> 2517	<u>Date</u> 16 May 2011
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

A full Equalities Impact Assessment for the transformation programme was published following the public consultation and is available on the County Council website at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/as-equality-ia-archive.htm>.

The summary of the Equalities Impact Assessment is below:

Young people say that current services do not meet their needs and are too institutional.

The proposed new services are moving away from a 'one-size fits-all' approach to a range of person-centred day opportunities that are meaningful for the individual. Services will be offered for people with complex needs and for more able people with a learning disability, whatever their age, race, gender, disability, faith, socio-economic background or where they live.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

The new services will have a positive impact in relation to crime and disorder. People's personal safety and security will be considered as part of person centred plans whilst enabling service users to access the community.

3. Climate Change:

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

The transformation programme outlined in this report will support local organisations providing services within local communities. This reduces the need to travel and therefore reduces both the carbon footprint and energy consumption. Wherever possible people will be able to access public transport. Any new services will be designed to minimise energy consumption and reduce carbon footprint wherever possible.

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

As this programme will offer a personalised service it will enable individual planning which will be more flexible and easier to adapt to any climate change.