

Equality Impact Assessment



Hampshire
County Council

Hampshire Disabilities Day Opportunities Model

Accountable officer: Jason Norum

Email address: jason.norum@hants.gov.uk

Department: Adults' Health and Care

Date of
assessment: 12/06/2020

Description of current service/policy

Hampshire Disabilities Day Opportunities Model (HDDOM) is a bespoke procurement vehicle, used to procure day opportunities for people with a disability. Day opportunities are specialist services providing leisure, occupational and skills development activities to people with eligible social care needs. Providers gain entry to HDDOM by providing satisfactory responses to questions on key service delivery areas such as safeguarding and strengths based approaches.

Geographical impact: All
Hampshire

Description of proposed change

HDDOM was initially set up in December 2016 for a maximum of twelve years, on a 4+4+4 basis. The original permissions paper for HDDOM gained permission to spend for the first four year period. The first four year period expires on 30/11/20. It is proposed to activate the second four year period. Therefore a new permission to spend is required from the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health. Service users will continue to benefit from the outcomes focused service specification and the quality assurance measures within HDDOM.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out?

Yes

The Hampshire Learning Disability Plan for Adults was reviewed in 2018. Service users and their carers reported that they continue to need meaningful day opportunities that provide positive outcomes. It is also apparent that day opportunity provision continues to fulfil a key respite outcome for carers. Within the Learning Disability Plan, the County Council has committed to ensure that where formal day support is accessed, the County Council will ensure it is of a high quality, appropriate to people's needs and is focused on enablement.

Statutory considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Age: Neutral		

<p>Disability: Positive</p>	<p>It is envisaged that this proposal will have a positive impact for people with a disability or other assessed social care needs that live in Hampshire by providing assurance on the quality of service delivery based on the County Council's service specification. Service users also benefit from the provision of outcome focused services through a range of enablement activities, supporting people to engage in a meaningful way with their local communities, becoming less dependent on funded services as their resilience, skills and abilities are developed.</p> <p>As a bespoke procurement vehicle, HDDOM shares features of a Framework Agreement. This means that service users have a high degree of freedom in selecting providers on the framework, and the County Council is not obligated to purchase from any particular provider. This means that service users can exercise maximum choice and control in selecting providers, according to their own needs and wishes.</p>	
<p>Sexual orientation: Neutral</p>		
<p>Race: Neutral</p>		
<p>Religion and belief: Neutral</p>		

Gender reassignment: Neutral		
Gender: Neutral		
Marriage and civil partnership: Neutral		
Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral		
Other policy considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Poverty: Neutral		
Rurality: Neutral		

Neutrality statement (if all considerations have a neutral impact)

Any other information

Prior to HDDOM, the vast majority of independent sector day opportunity services for people with a disability were spot purchased. Spot purchasing provides a weaker contractual relationship with the provider and the County Council does not have explicit quality standards in place in these arrangements.

Day opportunities providers are not regulated by the Care Quality Commission in England. This means that activities that would normally be regulated in other care environments (such as personal care) are carried out with little or no external oversight or registration requirements.

Providers that are contracted through HDDOM are required to meet a minimum quality threshold which is transparent and open to scrutiny, providing a level of assurance to the County Council as a commissioning authority, in the absence of external regulation. Service users and carers can also measure the quality of the service they receive against the HDDOM service specification.