

Brighton & Hove City Council

For general release

Meeting: **Adult Social Care & Health Sub-Committee**

Date: **21st June 2004**

Report of: **Ian Long, Director of Housing & City Support**

Subject: **Belgrave Workshop – Update**

Ward(s) affected: **All**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update Committee on the Belgrave workshop – Integrated Learning Disability Services.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Committee notes that the contract work that had been undertaken at Belgrave Day Service has now ceased.

3. Information/background

- 3.1 Belgrave was originally set up in the 1960's as a light industrial training centre for adults with a learning disability. Past activities included making window frames, assembling electrical components, to the more recent ones of assembling plate wires and collating greeting cards.
- 3.2 Since 1998 no one has made a transition from the workshop to paid work – The department do not have any records of details prior to this.

- 3.3 Over the years the view of what day centres should offer has changed moving towards social and developmental activities. With the implementation of the Government White Paper 'Valuing People' there is a clear agenda to modernise day services nationally for adults with learning disabilities.
- 3.4 Since 1998 there has been a major service delivery change at Belgrave. The emphasis has been on service user and community involvement using Belgrave as a base to access facilities in the wider community. With the greater range of choice, the role of the workshop has gradually eroded from being the principal activity, to one serving a minority of the service users. Examples of this can be seen in service user attendance in the workshop. From 1960 to 1990, there were 45 service users in the workshop. This was reduced to 15 by 1998 & recently to 3 people.
- 3.5 This transition has been managed through expanding service user involvement in day care planning, and developing activities that are creative and developmental. Choice is an important part of this process, and service users have chosen to opt for activities other than light industrial work.
- 3.6 There were two contracts of work at Belgrave, which have been running for a significant number of years. The first contract ended at the end of March 2004 without any significant impact on the service users.
- 3.7 The second contract ceased at the end of April 2004.
- 3.8 This will affect three service users. Two have made the transition without any problem and are involved in the range of activities in and out of the centre. Activities at Belgrave include, drama (in the summer working with Glyndebourne opera), advocacy, Makaton, person centred planning, community outings, working with local volunteer groups e.g. Neighbourhood Care scheme, RSPCA etc. Belgrave is investigating the possibility of the remaining service user carrying on the contract work he did at Belgrave at Castleham - where the work was transferred.
- 3.9 There are no other contracts of this nature within learning disability day services in Brighton & Hove.

Meeting/Date	Adult Social Care & Health Sub-Committee - 21.6.04
Report of	Ian Long, Director of Housing & City Support
Subject	Belgrave Workshop - Update
Wards affected	All

Financial implications

The yearly income target for the workshop in financial year 2004/5 is £600. The actual income for 2003/2004 was £541. The shortfall in income for 04/05 and subsequent years will need to be found within the existing budget allocation for Belgrave Day Service.

Finance Officer consulted: Nigel Manvell Date 1.6.04

Legal implications

In providing work at the Belgrave Training Centre, the Council was exercising a power. Therefore the Council can bring those arrangements to an end as it is not under a duty to continue them or to find replacement work.

Lawyer consulted: ...John Heys Date 25.5.04.

Corporate/Citywide implications	Risk assessment
	.

<p>Sustainability implications</p> <p>There are no specific implications for sustainability.</p>	<p>Equalities implications</p> <p>Having a 'valued occupation' is a priority in the Valuing People White Paper. People with learning disabilities are less likely to find paid employment than non disabled people.</p>
<p>Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder</p> <p>There are no implications for crime and disorder.</p>	
<p>1. Background papers</p> <p>Valuing People White Paper</p>	
<p>Contact Officer</p> <p>Naomi Cox, Manager, Integrated Learning Disability Service Tel: 01273 296400</p>	