

Subject: Connaught Day Service Update Report
Date of Meeting: 23rd September 2013
Report of: Executive Director Adult Services
Contact Officer: Name: Naomi Cox Tel: 29-6400
Email: naomi.cox@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 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 This option was withdrawn by Childrens Service prior to their Committee Meeting on 16th July 2013.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee note the decision to consult users of the Connaught Day Service on the proposed relocation to Belgrave Day Options base in Portslade made by the Executive Director of Adult Services in consultation with the Committee Chair Cllr Jarrett and in accordance with Part 6 of the Constitution of the Council.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Connaught Learning Disability Day Options Service currently provides a service for 20 people with a range of complex needs including challenging behaviours.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 As described above the proposal contained within the June Committee Report to relocate the Connaught Day Service to Patcham House is no longer proceeding.

- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 A letter was sent out to service users and carers in week beginning 29th July 2013. The letter outlines the reason for the proposed relocation of Connaught Day Options Service to the Belgrave Day Options site in Portslade, and includes a feedback form for service users and carers to give their views and ask any questions they might have. The consultation ends on 25th October 2013. Any delays will impact on achieving the necessary primary school places in the Hove area. The Executive Director will then make the decision informed by the consultation process regarding the proposed move and ensure that appropriate funding is in place.
- 3.7 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 shops and community facilities of Portslade.
- 3.8 Staff will be supporting service users to understand the proposals and will seek their views. Additionally Speak Out [Independent Advocacy] will be hosting two sessions with service users about the proposed changes to day services.
- 3.9 A Carers meeting was held on 15th August 2013 and a further follow up meeting was held on 19th September 2013.
- 3.10 Officers from Adult Social Care are working closely with colleagues in Children's Services and Property and Design to ensure plans are in place for the required building adaptations.
- 3.11 All Connaught service users will be 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.
- 3.12 Staff have been kept fully informed about the proposals and there is a Day Options Staff Focus Group that meets monthly.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND 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 is being provided to ensure

they can fully participate in the consultation process. As described above two carers meetings have taken place

- 4.2 Service Users and Carer views will be collated at the end of the consultation period which is due to end on 25th October 2013.
- 4.3 Officers will answer queries and questions raised by service users and carers as part of the consultation process and will ensure regular communication via a news letter with the opportunity to meet with officers to discuss any specific concerns.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The 2013/14 gross revenue budget for the In-House Learning Disabilities Day Options is £1.93 million, which includes Connaught Day Centre and the 3 other Learning Disabilities Day Centres.

Estimates of the 2013/14 capital costs for the remodelling of the Belgrave Centre and any consequent sites are being obtained and will be reported to Policy & Resources Committee for approval, if appropriate, in due course. As the move is in response to the need for school placements funding for the adaptations to accommodate the move are expected to be met from Children's budgets.

Any impact on revenue costs are expected to be managed within the existing 2013/14 Learning Disabilities Day Options budgets and built in to 2014/15 budget planning

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 06/09/13

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Part 6 of the Constitution of the Council provides the Executive Director Adult Services with delegated authority to make decisions regarding Day Care accommodation. Committee were informed in June 2013 of a consultation process with Connaught day service users on the proposal to move the service to Patcham House. Following withdrawal of that option the Executive Director Adult Services exercised her delegated authority to approve a new consultation on the proposal to move the service to Belgrave. A new full 12 week consultation is required in accordance with national guidance and to ensure a fair process given that whilst the proposal to move the service remains the alternative location is different. All potentially affected persons are being consulted with provision made to support service users with learning disabilities. In accordance with Part 6 the Executive Director for Adult Social Care may make a decision regarding the proposed move at the end of and informed by the outcome of the consultation process and upon the basis of any necessary funding being made available for the work required to make the building suitable to host the day centre service.

Any decision arising following the conclusion of the consultation must have regard to the impact on service users and any Human Rights Act implications.

Lawyer Consulted: Name Sandra O'Brien Date: 28 August 2013

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the Review of Day Activities and this will take account of the proposal to relocate Connaught to Belgrave Day Options Base.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no specific sustainability implications relating to this proposed service relocation.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no specific implications in relation to the Council's duty to prevent Crime and Disorder.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The Day Activities Commissioning Board is overseeing the risk management of the Day Activities Review to ensure that risks are carefully considered.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 Adult Social Care has clear interconnection with the wider public health agenda and the proposed Vision reinforces the aim to support equality, health and well-being in the city.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 The relocation of Connaught Day Options Service supports the city priority to increase primary school places in the Hove area. Relocating to the Belgrave site enables Adult Care to continue to provide a day service for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The original proposal was that the Connaught Day Service relocate to Patcham House – this option was withdrawn and new potential sites were explored. After site visits to Montague Place currently used as part of Children's Services' Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) it was concluded that Montague Place would be a good base for the Day Options 'Our Art' work project which was planned to move to

Belgrave which would then free up the Belgrave site for the relocation of Connaught.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To inform Committee of the Decision taken by the Executive Director of Adult Care in compliance with the Constitution and to seek a decision on the process for determining the outcome of the consultation and related Children's Services decision.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices: None

Background Documents

1. Day Activities Review Progress Committee Reports March 2013 & June 2013.
2. Connaught Report June 2013

