



**Report of North East (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**Subject: Transformation of Learning Disability Day Services**

<b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b>		<b>Specific Implications For:</b>	
<b>Wetherby</b> <b>Alwoodley</b> <b>Harewood</b>		Equality and Diversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/>
		Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/>	

**Executive Summary**

Executive Board approved a report in January 2009 which set out how Council provided learning disability day services would be transformed in the years ahead.

Initial activity focused on the south east of the City, with the Moor End day centre in Hunslet being declared surplus in October 2010 and approval given to replace West Ardsley centre in 2011. The proposals to extend the change programme to the rest of the city were presented to Executive Board on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 with the understanding that more detailed information will be presented to the Board prior to implementation

**1.0 Purpose Of This Report**

- 1.1 To provide local ward members with relevant background information regarding the plan to modernise learning disability day care in North East (Outer) Leeds.
- 1.2 To inform them of the local consultation exercise that has and continues to take place in the electoral wards for which they are responsible and to provide an opportunity to comment on the plans or the consultation process.

**2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 Current ASC day service provision is mainly delivered from seven large day centres, formerly known as Adult Training Centres. This essentially segregated model of provision is now seen as both outdated and a potential barrier to independence and social inclusion. National policy and guidance such as Valuing People Now stress the need to move away from this traditional, large building based model of care.

- 2.2 Executive Board approved that the South East is the first area where a comprehensive approach will be taken both to introducing a more personalised service and to redesigning the building base. The Board has now received proposals to extend the transformation programme to the rest of the city.
- 2.3 The plan to accelerate this transformation programme would help deliver a more personalised service and reduce expenditure by refocusing resources that are currently tied to buildings, whilst prioritising and protecting the service provided to those people living with family carers. The plan will maintain the level of day service for those adults with learning disabilities who live with family carers and improve the facilities where the services are delivered. It will redirect resources for adults who live in staffed accommodation to support them to spend more of their day time accessing their local community from their home rather than going full time to a day centre.

This plan would enable the overall city wide volume of the in-house day service provision to be reduced and for the service to be delivered from four principal locations and a range of satellite community bases. This in turn would enable a rationalisation of building usage and could lead to a further two services (Horsforth and Wetherby Fulfilling Lives Services) to become surplus to requirements over and above the previously approved plan for West Ardsley.

- 2.4 The Fulfilling Lives service provision in the North East Outer Leeds currently consists of the Wetherby Fulfilling Lives centre at Sandbeck Way. There are currently 51 customers on the register at Wetherby Fulfilling Lives with an average daily attendance of 33 (July to September 2010). Wetherby is designed as a 110 place centre and as such is running at 30% of its total capacity. Customers attend between two and five days per week. Of the 51 people on register, 38 live in Wetherby, the remainder travel to the centre from other parts of Leeds. Of these 38 Wetherby residents, only 5 live with family carers and 4 with St Anne's community carers.

### **3.0 Main Issues.**

#### **3.1 Replacing the current building base**

Wetherby Fulfilling Lives have been identified one of the buildings suitable for replacement due to its poor condition and low attendance.. This decision is in line with the outcomes from extensive city wide consultations held in 2007 where the recommendation from stakeholders was to replace this building with a smaller base in Wetherby. We will identify a new site in the Wetherby area in a community building in order to provide a day service from a more socially inclusive base.

Adult Social Care will continue to give an absolute commitment to meeting customer needs and the need of family carers for the break that current day services give them from their caring duties.

Work has commenced on identifying new appropriate building bases to support future needs based on the demographic information available. Corporate Property Management has not identified any suitable buildings in the Wetherby area other than the One Stop Building which has already been ruled out by the Project Team after consultation with stakeholders. The Leisure Centre was also considered but deemed impractical due to lack of available space. Leeds City College has been

approached and they are interested in the possibility of co-locating at their site in Wetherby but these discussions are still at a very early stage. The search for a suitable site is ongoing at this time with the aim of identifying a preferred option by the end of February.

### 3.2 Changes in service delivery

The proposal will change the pattern of service provision for people who live in accommodation based services to provision of services from their accommodation base with attendance, should it be required, of up to two days a week from a day service building. The introduction of this measure will significantly reduce attendance at the city's day centres while safeguarding the level of service to customers who live with family carers.

The primary aim of the project will be to deliver a positive outcome for each individual and their carers. All customers affected by these changes will be involved in a person centred planning process with a care manager from the planning team to ensure their individual needs are identified and continue to be met.

### 3.3 Consultation and stakeholder involvement

Learning Disability Services has a small dedicated transformation resource which has built up extensive experience and developed good practice in successfully delivering major complex business change projects through the Independent Living Project, the re-provision of Windlesford Green hostel and Moor End Fulfilling Lives service

The project has a communication strategy which will ensure ongoing stakeholder consultation and involvement throughout the process. Update briefings on the day service modernisation plans were given to Wetherby relatives, carers, staff and the customers between November and January and a stakeholder project group established. Further meetings will continue to be held on a regular basis throughout the re-provision process.

The stakeholder group at Wetherby is chaired by the business change manager and has been established with the following membership:

- 2 customer representatives with support
- 5 carer representatives
- 3 service staff representatives.

The stakeholder group has met during December 2010 and January 2011. There is a meeting planned to take place in February to finalise the proposals for Wetherby Fulfilling Lives service that will inform the further report that will go to Executive Board.

In December there was a briefings held with customers, carers and staff. The customer briefing was attended by 24 customers and the staff briefing was attended by 14 staff.

Unfortunately because of the severe weather conditions the briefing with carers was attended by 3 carers. In order to ensure that carers have another opportunity to attend a briefing session another briefing for carers has been arranged in January 2011. Individual one to one meetings have also been offered to carers who are unable to attend the briefing sessions.

### 3.4 Market Engagement

The re-provision of the Moorend centre in Hunslet has created a range of new opportunities in South Leeds through grant funded projects run by non council organisations. This new range of choices has allowed most former customers of Moorend to participate in a far more varied timetable of activities each week.

Adult Social Care intends to undertake a further market engagement process to support the roll out of the project to the north of the city. The scope for these bids will be limited to clear and prescriptive specifications produced by the team. Bids are invited in the area of maintaining friendship groups and providing sessional activity in Wetherby and Horsforth.

At an event on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, this further market engagement exercise was launched. Third sector organisations have been invited to bid for grant funding to provide innovative and cost effective alternatives to attending a traditional day centre in the geographical areas to be affected by the next stage of the modernisation plan. Over 60 people attended the event and electronic application packs sent out. Closing date for applications is the 4<sup>th</sup> March.

### 3.5 Timescales for delivery is set out below

- Information Briefings : November 2010
- Stakeholder Group Formed : December 2010
- Sites for new ASC base confirmed : End February 2011
- Executive Board final approval March 2011
- Individual Planning Starts : April 2011
- Mobilisation of new grant funded services June 2011
- Individual Planning complete : July 2011
- New ASC base operational : July 2011
- Current Wetherby building surplus to requirements : August 2011

## 4.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The Executive Board of the council has already approved a plan to modernise day services for adults with learning disabilities based on a lengthy consultation process between 2006 and 2010.
- 4.2 The project involves disinvestment in three large day centres in 2011 and reinvestment in more personalised support and smaller buildings bases in socially inclusive environments. As such it is in line with the clear direction set by national policy, notably Valuing People Now and Putting People First. The proposal will

also result in the significant upgrades to facilities for the most profoundly disabled customers in two of the remaining day centres.

## **5.0 Legal and Resource Implications**

### Legal Implications

- 5.1 The provision of in-house day services is not a statutory duty of the Council and therefore there are no explicit legal risks associated with providing for customers needs in a different manner.

### Capital investment / disinvestment

- 5.2 The delivery of the programme will leave the site at Wetherby surplus to requirements of Adult Social Care.
- 5.3 The plan will ensure that the city has a service model and an asset base that can meet both the present and future demands.
- 5.4 A further strand of the strategy is a city wide investment into a network of Changing Places that will enable some of the most physically dependent people in the city to have access to toilets during the day and therefore open up their ability to engage in the life of the city.

## **6.0 Conclusions**

- 6.1 This report has set out how it is intended to transform current day centre provision in the Wetherby area so as to create more personalised day support for people with a learning disability. This will substantially reduce dependence on the more traditional day centre building based service.
- 6.2 The changes will deliver an increase in choice and control to support greater social inclusion and increasing participation in people's local communities. A range of new choices and opportunities will be created through the grant funding of third sector organisations to provide new activities to benefit the current customers of Wetherby Fulfilling Lives Service. The needs of family carers are also recognised as are those of the most vulnerable service users who will continue to require appropriate care and support.
- 6.3 There will be a rolling change programme building on the successful re provision of Moor End in the South East area of the City, an objective of which will be to declare Wetherby Fulfilling Lives centre surplus as customers choose alternative support options by August 2011.
- 6.4 There is a strong commitment to ongoing stakeholder consultation and involvement throughout the process. Every customer will have an individual plan developed to ensure their day care needs and those of their carers continue to be met.

## **7.0 Recommendations**

Members of the North East (Outer) Area Committee are asked to note :

- 7.1 The requirement to deliver a more personalised approach to day opportunities for people with a learning disability to meet the aspirations of customers, carers and other stakeholders and reflect national policy guidance.
- 7.2 The intention to transform the service through disinvestment in traditional services and large segregated buildings to the utilisation of community based locations and the increased involvement of, and investment into, voluntary, community and faith sector providers.
- 7.3 In the North East (Outer) area of the city this will involve the replacement of the current Wetherby Fulfilling Lives building with a smaller buildings base, yet to be confirmed, which will be located in existing community facilities.
- 7.4 The existing Fulfilling Lives Centre in Wetherby will not close until alternative arrangements are in place for each of its current customers.

Background documents:  
"Valuing People Now"