

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Health Select Commission – 04 February 2021

**Report Title**

Learning Disability Transformation Programme (My Front Door)

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

Yes

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Anne Marie Lubanski, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

**Report Author(s)**

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**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

The needs of people with a learning disability are continuing to change and are becoming more diverse. People and families have changing expectations of an independent life in their community and want more control over their lives.

The purpose of this report is to set out the next steps in the transformation of services and support for people with a learning disability in line with the learning disability vision *My Front Door* and the learning from the consultation with people and families. Conducted in 2018.

**Recommendations**

1. To note the planned ongoing transformation of the LD Services over the next 12 months which will see the Services continue to move from existing building based locations which will be decommissioned and to alternative services that will be situated as close to the person as possible in their local community, using and developing existing resources and community buildings and community provision.
2. To note the next phase of delivery which sets out how we will make sure all people with a learning disability have access to services that promote independence, wellbeing, and social inclusion. This will ensure that all people will have the opportunity to make sure each day in their life is meaningful, of value and leads to them having a 'Good Day'.

**List of Appendices Included**

N/A.

**Background Papers****Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

N/A.

**Council Approval Required**

You should refer to [Appendix 9 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Functions](#) – to check whether your recommendations require approval by Council, as well as Cabinet or a committee. You should take advice from Democratic Services if you are not sure.

Yes or No?

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Learning Disability Transformation Programme (My Front Door)**

### **1. Background**

In May 2018, Cabinet approved the vision and strategy for people with a learning disability. Plans were laid out to show how we will improve people's lives, aspirations, and opportunities. A transformation delivery plan was presented to show how we will make sure all people with a learning disability have access to community-based services that promote independence, wellbeing, and social inclusion. It will be the difference between "having a life rather than just a service".

To have a Learning Disability Service that enables people to:

- Have the opportunity to get a job and contribute to their community
- Have the opportunity to choose where they live and
- Have access to a good quality health service
- Be kept safe and protected from all forms of exploitation
- Access services of the highest quality which make a difference in assisting people to be as independent as possible
- Offer services that are affordable, are personalised and are what people would want to choose

2017 the Council Embarked on a Consultation Programme on LD Services the objective was to modernise services, obtain cost savings and co-design new arrangements along with the users, staff, and families.

Cabinet agreed a range of recommendations:

- Approve 5 principles of the Adult Care Pathway
- Approve a Consultation Exercise for Oaks+ Addison Day Centres
- Approve a Consultation Exercise for Treefields & Quarryhill Respite
- Approve the retention of REACH Day Service

The next phase of delivery largely relates to Day Centres and Residential Care – which require Cabinet approval to progress – along with those programmes already approved (Supported Living & Micro-Enterprises).

### **2. Implementation and Progress**

A number of transformation milestones have been concluded:

- Oaks Day Centre successfully closed July 2019
- Conway Respite Centre open December 2020 and the subsequent closure of Quarryhill and Treefields
- Council Approval to re-design and procure a best in class Supported Living Service
- Comprehensive assessment of progress to date along with recommended next steps to deliver on the LD vision December 2020.

Since August 2020, The Learning Disability Transformation Programme has gathered real momentum and project timelines have been reprofiled and work is still progressing on:

- Redesign and procurement of Supported Living Services (2)
- Redesign and procurement of a complex care and specialist autism service
- Extension of service and Improvements to Community Micro-Enterprises - provide alternative services situated as close to the person as possible in their communities
- Re-commitment to Rotherham SpeakUp which will ensure that support with co-production and self-advocacy is available whilst future services are in development
- Scoping of investment proposals and finances to support the Transformation Programme in 2021-22
- Closure of Addison Day Centre & completion of all assessments
- Refreshing transport arrangements
- Employment pathway
- Re-design and procurement of Supported Living Framework (multiple)

The next phase of delivery will also focus on offering a wider and more flexible range of personalised options and see two key services move from their current building base:

- Conduct a consultation exercise and options appraisal to inform the re-provision of the REACH Day Centres.
- Conduct a consultation exercise with Parkhill Lodge residents and carers about their wishes and aspirations for the future and in line with 'My Front Door'.
- This will enable the services to move from existing facilities to more modern bespoke buildings designed around the needs of the LD Community

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

It is an important part of the Learning Disability Transformation programme that the residents and carers of Parkhill are consulted about their wishes and aspirations for the future. To ensure that the opportunities aligned to the principles of 'My Front Door' are made available to them, as they have been across other services. The residents are currently relocated from Parkhill Lodge to Lord Hardy Court due to the COVID pandemic and the difficulty in managing infection control in the Parkhill building due to its design and age.

Changes to REACH are required because this would transform the service in line with vision and aspirations of the My Front Door principles. In addition, progress is paramount as one of two delivery centres is underpinned by a relatively short property lease that threatens service continuity. This is compounded by the land and property around the service which is partly empty and undergoing sale and development. We would offer greater choice and control to customers to move on to live independently or to promote independence and we would promote an intergenerational approach. It would

support customers to access other community options or employment options. Ultimately it would give flexibility to create a different offer that is sustainable.

Delivering on our Aspirations for Reach would:

- Support the 'my front door 'principles of people having purposeful, ordinary lives and meaningful days
- Provide both a quality service and stability for those with the most complex needs, and a forward-thinking flexible approach for others which supports achievements of outcomes and long-term life changing goals
- Time limited pathway approach working on small steps towards greater independence and ordinary lives, with person centred plans and milestones
- Supports people with life skills, personal development, training, volunteering, and work opportunities
- Provides a model of accessible enablement support around day-to-day life and in the workplace, irrespective of whether the person continues to access the service

#### **4. Consultation on proposal**

Advice has been sought from legal on process & best practice and builds on the legal challenge to the 2017 consultation. The transformation team are well positioned to deliver on a compliant process.

Council Legal team recommend that:

- We reflect the Gunning Principles in our process
- We ask "open" questions and write a balanced report
- We allow 12 weeks to complete the exercise
- We invest resource to ensure a proper and legal process
- We would run in parallel an Options Appraisal that the Consultation would inform.

#### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- January to April 2021 – prepare consultation plan, resources, approach, partners
  - In parallel assess potential options for locations, sites, new builds, land
- Post Purdah (6<sup>th</sup> May+) – launch and deliver the consultation
- Report to Cabinet in September 2021 – results and recommendations
  - Present and summarise options informed by Consultation
- Engage with architects, Council Property Services, surveyors etc to plan assess and detail any building improvements, new builds, land purchases/sales, that Cabinet authorise

These dates are subject to progress with the Covid vaccination programme, the lockdown being lifted and elections taking place as currently planned.

**6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)**

The Learning Disability services described within this report would be classified as Social and Other Specific Services (“SOSS”) as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (“the Regulations”). Hence, aside from some direct grant awards the new services will be competitively procured to ensure value for money and compliance with procurement law (“Light Touch Regime”). This provides a basis through new specifications to transform the various offers to match the Council’s LD vision. Council supplied services eg REACH, will continue to be delivered by the Council and not procured externally.

Procurement activity that is progressed as referenced in this update will be carried out in compliance with the Council’s Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules and Public Contract Regulations.

The Council does not anticipate any cost changes associated with service maintenance other than potential inflationary uplift requests. Any additional costs for annual inflationary uplifts will be considered as part of the Councils Budget Report. The exception to this are any future capital costs associated with new buildings, refurbishment, land purchases as well as the re-design and procurement of a Supported Living Framework. These costs will be assessed via market testing and benchmarking with other Local Authorities.

**7. Risks and Mitigation**

N/A.

**8. Accountable Officer(s)**

Julie Moor – Head of Service Provider Services

Jo Hinchliffe – Service Improvement & Governance Manager

*Report Author: Ian Spicer – Assistant Director Adult Care & Integration*

This report is published on the Council's [website](#).