QEF Service Modernisation Chronology 2002-date

- 25th November 2002 letter from Andrew Ireland, Area Director for West Kent Social Services to Cynthia Robinson the Chief Executive of the Queen Elizabeth Foundation. The letter clearly sets out the Council's intended direction for services for people with physical disabilities to maximise their independence and move away from global provision of leisure and recreational activities. There is mention of person centred planning and modernisation. These proposed changes are in line with the Council's policy of Active Lives
- October 2003 consultation with Service users (including one to one interviews) was carried out.
- October 2005 there was an exchange of correspondence with the Foundation in respect of a forthcoming workshop about the future of the site at Brent Way and the need to re-provide and redesign services. This correspondence emphasised that this was an opportunity to reshape and modernise existing services.
- June 2006 Steve Leidecker, Area Director, briefed Kevin Lynes. This was copied to Oliver Mills. The briefing discussed the site at Brent Way and the opportunities for redevelopment. It highlights the media interest attracted from previous attempts to modernise the service.
- September 2006 a letter from Steve Leidecker to Cynthia Robinson setting out the context for the work to be completed between 2006 and 2008, based on the briefing to Cllr. Lynes in June 2006 which also discussed a meeting which is required to agree an over-all strategy for the re-provision of the service.
- October 2006 a paper was presented to the West Kent Area Management on 6th November 2006 which was the basis of the proposals and discussions for modernisation with QEF. The decision for re-commissioning was made by AMT.
- March 2007 a briefing meeting was held with local members: Cllr Muckle and Cllr Christine Angel and attended by Steve Leidecker, Jan Bumstead and Teresa. They were informed of the modernisation agenda and the opportunities in Kent Thameside.
- Written briefings were provided for Members in August, November 2007, January 2008 and February 2008. A presentation was made in October 2007 to all local members (Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley together with the portfolio holder).
- 5th November 2007 Margaret Howard attended a Local Board meeting with service users and representatives of the Newtown Residents Association.

- August 2007 and November 2007 meetings were held at the centre with service users and carers.
- From February 2007 to date, regular meetings held of the Service
 Modernisation Project Board and Service Modernisation Groups. These
 included representation from service users and staff from the centre,
 together with colleagues from West Kent Primary Care Trust and a disabled
 person who does not attend the centre. The post meeting communications
 are displayed in the entrance hall of the centre and individual copies made
 available to service users and carers by the service provider.
- 15th January 2008 Dartford Borough Council Scrutiny Committee discussed the proposals – a report was submitted
- 29th January 2008 the Adult Social Services Policy and Overview Committee discussed the proposals
- 17th January 2008 Cllr. Jeremy Kite, Leader of Dartford Borough Council visited the centre and subsequently on 1 February 2008, met with Cllr. Lynes and Margaret Howard.