

From: Graham Gibbens – Cabinet Member Adult Social Care

To: Verbal Update - Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee

Date: Friday 29th September 2017

Subject: **The Future of the Independent Living Service – Formal Consultation**

Consultation

Proposal

The KCC Independent Living Service (ILS) currently provides support for adults with learning disabilities across the county.

We have looked at the services we directly provide and will be making some changes to focus on providing services for those children and adults with the most complex needs.

The proposal is that the ILS will no longer be a service that KCC offers individuals in Kent.

During the formal consultation all those currently accessing the ILS will have the opportunity to meet on an individual basis to discuss options for the future. There will be no reduction in support, only a change in who will provide the support.

Alternative options will include:

1. An Alternative Supporting Independence Service (SIS)

There are other providers who support people with a learning disability in the same way as ILS. These providers are part of the Supporting Independence services (SIS).

2. A Direct Payment:

Direct Payments are money paid from KCC to the individual if they get help from adult social care. They can use the money to arrange their own support.

This proposal is not to look at the amount of service individuals receive but to change who delivers the support.

Consultation Update

- Consultation period – **20th September to 2nd November 2017**
- Consulting with all key stakeholders – Service Users, family members, Staff, Cabinet Members, County & Local Councillors, Landlords & other key Stakeholders.
- Copies of Consultation Pack & accompanied letter posted/emailed to all **667** Stakeholders on 6th September 2017
- Consultation Pack & all related documents, including Easy Read version available on kent.gov from 20th September 2017.

Focussed Consultation Meetings:

- **Individual 1:1 meetings**

- Offered to all **60** Service Users currently accessing support from the Independent Living Service (ILS). Facilitated by Care Management & ILS Managers to discuss individual circumstances and possible alternative options.
- Each service user will choose who attends meetings (as people live independently).
- Currently **100%** of appointments booked.

- **Family Members Meetings:**
 - **18%** of service users have chosen to invite their family members to be at their individual meeting
 - To date **0%** Family Members have requested separate consultation meetings.
- **Staff meetings:**
 - 2 x Staff Group meetings were held on 20th September – 1 x East Kent ILS & 1 x West Kent ILS
- **Landlords:**
 - **60%** of relevant Landlords have a planned meeting in place.

Consultation Webpage - Documents Downloads>Returns (to date)

- Questionnaires returned = **12**
- Consultation Documents downloaded = **10**
- Easy Read Consultation Documents downloaded = **5**
- EqIA downloaded = **2**

Consultation Timetable

Consultation Period (four weeks with extension of two weeks if required)	20 th September – 2 nd November 2017
Verbal Update presented to Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee	29 th September 2017
Recommendation reports presented to Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee for discussion	23 rd November 2017
Decision taken by Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	Week commencing 11 th December 2017
Expected start date for changes, if the proposal is agreed	From January 2018