

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

**Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
(in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children’s Services)**

DECISION NO:

22/00073

For publication

Key decision: YES

Title of Decision: EVERYDAY LIFE ACTIVITIES, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY – DYNAMIC PURCHASING SYSTEM

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children’s Services), I:

- a) APPROVE the creation of the Dynamic Purchasing System for the delivery of Everyday Life Activities, Skills Development and Training Opportunities for People in the Community;
- b) APPROVE the opening of the Dynamic Purchasing System on a regular basis to enable new services to join the framework; and
- c) DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health and Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education, to take other relevant actions, including but not limited to finalising the terms of and entering into required contracts or other legal agreements, to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision: The current Community Day Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities framework contract is due to expire on 30 September 2022 and new arrangements need to be in place by 1 October 2022.

The name of this support was changed from ‘Community Day Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities’ to ‘Everyday Life Activities, Skills Development and Training Opportunities’ following feedback from people with lived experience commenting that ‘community opportunities’ did not mean anything to them and it is essential that any contract such as this has a title that is meaningful to people.

The new model of provision is based on the Making a Difference Every Day (MADE) approach and design principles which were developed as part of a stakeholder and resident engagement process in December 2021. Provider engagement events were held in January 2022 on the future strategic direction for this support and the development of the specification.

The new service specification (Everyday Life Activities, Skills Development and Training Opportunities) is outcome focused and based on the Making a Difference Everyday (MADE) approach, the Provider Services design principles and align with a Self-Directed Support approach of Adult Social Care.

It is recognised that a traditional approach to ‘day opportunities’ is reducing in demand, however this is still an important provision for some individuals and their families. The service and support purchased through the new Dynamic Purchasing System is a flexible, adaptable and evolving model which will include traditional day opportunities as well as wider support outside of traditional times and settings. This offer also aligns with other Adult Social Care Projects such as the Micro-Enterprises development.

Financial Implications: The actual spend (across Adults and Children’s Social Care) for 2021-22 was £9,547,321 (£6,349,221 adults, £3,298,100 children’s) for this service provision.

Due to the COVID pandemic, the spend during 2021/22 was lower than the allocated budget. This has been a result of some services being closed for periods of time. Client charging has also been suspended which impacts on this.

This new Dynamic Purchasing System allows for flexibility in the fees paid depending on the activity/support delivered and to work with providers and the people we support to use other methods of payment, such as direct payments and individual service funds.

The Council budget was approved at County Council on 10 February 2022. It is acknowledged that there are significant pressures on the Adult Social Care and Children's and Young People's budgets. As such there are identified savings of £1,000,000 against the Adult Social Care budget for this support.

This Dynamic Purchasing System is a tool to assist Social Care Practitioners and the people we support and their carers to purchase the support and activities they wish to engage in. In line with the future ways of working and Making a Difference Everyday, the savings identified against the Adult Social Care budget for this area will need to be achieved through the conversations and support planning with the people we support in giving them more control and choice about the activities and support they want within their personal budget to meet their outcomes, and to ensure that as far as is possible that only providers that are a part of the Dynamic Purchasing System with agreed rates are used.

Legal Implications: The procurement of this Dynamic Purchasing System has been undertaken in line with the Public Contract Regulations (2015). There will need to be resource allocated at the end point contract award for contracts to be sealed. The new contracts will be taken forward in a way which ensures the Council's statutory responsibilities are discharged accordingly.

These services support people with an assessed care and support need and therefore fall under the guidance laid out by the Care Act (2014).

The Strategic Commissioning Division used the standard Care Services Terms and Conditions of contract.

Equality Implications: An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out. There should be no negative impact on those with protected characteristics as the aim of this tender is to improve on an existing day opportunities contract.

Data Protection Implications: No Data Protection Impact Assessment is required.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation: The proposed decision was discussed at the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 13 July 2022 and the recommendations were endorsed by the majority.

Mrs Meade and Mr Streatfeild asked for it to be noted they did not endorse the recommendations.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None

Clair Bell

signed

4 August 2022

date