

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

DECISION NO.

14/00010

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject: : Dover Learning Disability Day Services

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I AGREE:

- (A) To change adult learning disability service for Dover district from the current day centre model based at the Walmer Day Centre to a community hub based model as outlined in the attached report.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken None

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

Kent County Council's (KCC) modernisation of Day Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities is an integral part of the transformation towards more personalised services reflecting the vision and strategy contained within "Valuing People Now" White Paper (January 2009) and KCC's "Active Lives". This is being underpinned by the "The Good Day Programme – Better Days for People with Learning Disabilities across Kent", which will ensure people have a wider range of choice, more control and equality of opportunity so that they may lead a full and meaningful person centred life.

The move to a community hub model will enable individuals to have greater access to their local communities and provide greater choice and opportunity for people with a wide range of needs.

Background Documents:

Better Days for people with learning disabilities in Kent

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Formal consultation with service users, carers and staff took place from 29 Nov 2013 to 7 March 2014 and local members and opposition groups were briefed during this.

The outcome of the consultation and the proposed decision were discussed at the 2 May 2014 Adult Social Care & Health Cabinet Committee, as follows:

1. Ms Southern and Ms Watson introduced the report and explained that the changes proposed for Dover were part of the countywide programme of improvement of day services for people with learning disabilities, similar improvements having already been made in several other districts. The services to be updated were run by the County Council and were used by a total of 78 people, with an average daily attendance of 54 on the two days on which they operated. Feedback from service users and their families had been good. In response to comments and questions from Members, the following points were highlighted:-

- a) It was planned that two community hubs would be established – in Dover and Deal – and

three potential sites were currently being investigated to accommodate them; Dover Leisure Centre, Deal Library and the Landmark Centre. Informal negotiations to use these sites were currently underway, and the use of any site was not guaranteed until negotiations had been satisfactorily concluded. Use of the Well Resource Centre and others, such as the YMCA, would be occasional only, when they hosted an activity which was suitable for users of day services; and

- b) Members were assured that, although the number of questionnaires returned seemed to be a very small percentage of the number of people consulted, most of the 78 current service users were asked their views via interviews and group sessions, so were not asked to complete questionnaires.

2. The Cabinet Member, Mr Gibbens, thanked Members for their comments and confirmed that he would take account of them when taking the final decision. He emphasised that, as had been the case when modernising day services in other areas, no current services would be closed until new hubs were open and operational.

3. RESOLVED that, following a 14-week period of public consultation, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health give approval to proceed with moving the Dover Learning Disability Day Service from its existing base and to continue the service as a more inclusive, accessible community-based service that operates from community hubs.

Any alternatives considered:

The only alternative is to maintain the current day centre model.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None



signed

16 MAY 2014

date

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| Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny | | | |
| YES | | NO | |

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| Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration | | | |
| YES | | NO | |

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| Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued | | | |
| YES | | NO | |

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| Reconsideration of Decision Published | |
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