

Subject:	Connaught Day Service		
Date of Meeting:	17th June 2013		
Report of:	Executive Director Adult Services		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Naomi Cox	Tel: 29-6400
	Email:	naomi.cox@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 In October 2012 the Childrens and Young Persons Committee received a report which recommended the expansion of West Hove Infants School to enable to the council to provide the increased number of primary school places required in the Hove area.
- 1.2 To facilitate this expansion the relocation of the Connaught Day Service for adults with learning disabilities would be required.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee Note the Decision to consult users of the Connaught Day Service on the proposed new site at Patcham House School made by the Executive Director of Adult Services in consultation with the Committee Chair Cllr Jarrett.
- 2.2 That Committee Approve the proposal of the Executive Director of Adult Services to use her Constitutional Delegated Powers to make a decision concerning the proposed move of the Day Service from the Connaught Building to Patcham House School informed by the consultation process, EIA and related Decision of the extraordinary meeting of the Children and Young People's Committee proposed for 9 September 2013.
- 2.3 Where recommendation 2 is not approved, approve the convening of an extraordinary meeting of Adult Care and Health Committee to take place shortly after the proposed extraordinary meeting of Children and Young People's Committee on 9 September to consider recommendations and make a decision regarding the proposed move of the Day Service from Connaught Building to Patcham House School.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Connaught Learning Disability Day Options Service currently provides a service for 20 people with a range of complex needs including challenging behaviours.
- 3.2 In the light of the councils requirement for an increase in primary school places in the Hove area Officers from Adult Social Care Provider Services and Education Services and have worked closely together to identify potential options for a relocation of the Connaught Day Options Service.
- 3.3 The proposal is that the education provision for the younger cohort of pupils at Patcham House School is relocated to Downs Park School from September/ October 2013. This will enable some remodelling of the Patcham House site to facilitate continued provision for young people in key stage 4 at Patcham House and will release part of the building for the relocation of Connaught Day Options Service.
- 3.4 The current proposed timescale for these changes is that Connaught Day Options would move to the Patcham House site in January 2014. This fits with the requirement that the expanded West Hove Primary School is ready by September 2014.
- 3.5 On 16 May 2013 the Interim Executive Director for Children's Services in consultation with the Chair of the Children and Young People Committee made the decision under Delegated Authority to agree to the consultation of pupils, parents, carers and staff regarding the proposed move of Patcham House Key Stage 3 pupils to the Downs Park school site. It is understood the timing of this decision was to enable proposed building alterations and pupil moves in the context of timescales imposed by education legislation.
- 3.6 In the interests of fairness, to ensure that we were able to match the Children and Young Peoples Services consultation launch and ensure Connaught Service Users and Carers properly learned of the proposed changes from officers in Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Chair of Adult Care and Health Committee Cllr Rob Jarrett, the Executive Director of Adult Services using her constitutional Delegated Authority approved the decision to consult regarding the proposed move on the same day. The duly approved Delegated Authority form is shown as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.7 A letter was sent out to service users and carers on 17th May 2013. The letter outlines the reason for the proposed relocation, provides some information about Patcham House and the locality including a photograph and a map. The letter includes a feedback form for service users and carers to give their views and ask any questions they might have. Service Users and carers have also been invited to an Open Day at Patcham House so they can view the site and the space that will be available for use by adult care day options service users. A copy of that letter can be found at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.8 Officers from Adult Social Care are working closely with colleagues in Education and Property and Design to ensure that the space available at the Patcham House site will meet the needs of day service users and the Key Stage 4 pupils. Each will have their own clearly defined and separate spaces to ensure both services can be provided safely on the site. Adaptations will be required to facilitate this.

- 3.9 The proposed Patcham House site is situated in Patcham Village with local shops, post office, pub, library and recreation ground. The area is served by a frequent bus service to London Road and onwards into the centre of the city. Depending on where service users live some would be nearer to the Patcham House site whilst for others this would entail a longer journey.
- 3.10 Subject to appropriate Committee approvals staff will work with service users and carers to develop individual transitions plans for service users to ensure successful transitions to the new site.
- 3.11 All Connaught service users will be offered a reassessment of their needs. Family carers will be fully involved in the reassessment process as will staff who know the service users well.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 All current Connaught Day Options service users and their carers were sent a letter explaining the proposal; inviting them to an open day on 29th June 2013 at Patcham House and seeking their views regarding the proposed relocation.
- 4.2 Service Users and Carer views will be collated at the end of the consultation period which is due to end on 28th August 2013.
- 4.3 Officers will answer queries and questions raised by service users and carers as part of the consultation process and will ensure regular communication via a news letter with the opportunity to meet with officers to discuss any specific concerns.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The current 2013/14 gross revenue budget for the In-House Learning Disabilities Day Options is £1.9 million, which includes Connaught Day Centre and the 3 other Learning Disabilities Day Centres

Detailed financial implications for the capital costs and funding for the remodelling of the Patcham House site will be available once the proposals are further developed and will be reported to Policy & Resources Committee for approval, if appropriate, in due course

The financial implications on the revenue budgets are also still being quantified and will be included in the Day Activities Review which is currently being carried out. A progress report for this Review is included elsewhere on this agenda

Finance Officer Consulted:

Name Neil Smith

Date: 04/06/13

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Paragraph 7 (2)(a) Part A, Part 6.2 of the Council's Constitution contains the following power: *After consultation with the Chair (or in his / her absence, a Deputy Chair) of the relevant Committee or Sub-Committee, to exercise any of the functions within the service area of the officer in cases of urgency where it is not reasonably practicable to obtain prior approval of a Committee or Sub-Committee.*

7(2)(b) provides for the action to be reported, as appropriate, to the Committee or Sub-Committee.

As described in the body of this report the timing of the decision within Children's Services to consult was a reflection of the legislative requirements for consultation on Educational matters in the context of the proposals to move pupils and undertake adaptations in time for the expanded school admission deadline.

The direct link between the proposals of Children's Services and Adult Services resulted in it being essential to ensure the different consultation processes took place in parallel. In circumstances where the recommendation to consult was brought to Committee the resulting time lapse between one element of the potentially affected community being consulted and the other not would have been just, fair or transparent. Therefore once information was received regarding the Children's Services decision immediate action was taken to avoid this by application of the urgency powers described above.

Committee is provided with a Record of the Decision in compliance with paragraph 7 (2) (b).

Committee is further asked to approve the Executive Director making a decision regarding the proposed move of Connaught Day Service following the completion and consideration of the consultation exercise and the related decision by Children and Young People Committee at the proposed extraordinary meeting in September 2013. If Committee does not approve this proposal then to ensure adherence to timing an extraordinary meeting will be required after the Children and Young People Committee meeting in September.

In preparing, undertaking and considering the Consultation exercise, EIA and proposals for a new location for the Connaught Day Service Human Rights Act 1998 implications for the affected individuals must be taken into account.

Lawyer Consulted:

Name Sandra O'Brien

Date: 04/06/2013

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the Review of Day Activities.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There will be energy efficiencies from the co-location.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no specific implications in relation to the Councils duty to prevent Crime and Disorder.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 The Day Activities Commissioning Board is overseeing the risk management of the Day Activities Review to ensure that risks are carefully considered.

Public Health Implications:

5.7 Adult Social Care has clear interconnection with the wider public health agenda and the proposed Vision reinforces the aim to support equality, health and well-being in the city.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 The relocation of Connaught Day Options Service supports the city priority to increase primary school places in the Hove area. Relocating to the Patcham House site enables Adult Care to continue to provide a day service for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 The Connaught Day Service could not be relocated into the remaining Day Services buildings due to lack of space for this specialist service. There were initial proposals that Downs Park School be considered as a potential relocation option. Patcham House however offers a better site with the premises all being on one level.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 To inform Committee of the Decision taken by the Executive Director of Adult Care in compliance with the Constitution and to seek a decision on the process for determining the outcome of the consultation and related Children's Services decision.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Record of Decision taken by Executive Director Adult Services 16.5.13
2. Letter to Connaught Service Users and Carers dated 17.5.13

Background Documents

1. Day Activities Review Progress Committee Reports March 2013 & June 2013.

