

Report To: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 26 June 2014

Lead Member / Officer: Lead Member for Social Care (Adults and Business Services)/ Head of Adults and Business Services

Report Authors: Project Manager (Extra Care Housing)/ Service Manager (Business and Carers)

Title: The provision of day care services in North Denbighshire

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 The report provides an update on a report to Cabinet in March 2013 regarding proposals to remodel day care for older people in North Denbighshire. Cabinet agreed to a remodelled approach to day care and the development of a project plan for delivery.
- 1.2 The proposals primarily related to changes in North Denbighshire. However, the intention to roll out the underlying strategic principles for promoting people's independence through reablement, and the use of community resources, across the County was also stated.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To provide Scrutiny Committee with an update on the changes that have been implemented to day services for older people in the North and how these changes will be replicated throughout the county.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Members receive the report and comment and support the actions being taken to move the service forward as consistent with the principles of supporting the citizens of Denbighshire to remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.

4. Report details

4.1 Background

- 4.1.1 The report in 2013 set out the challenges facing Social Services and the requirement to respond to the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 which became law on 1 May 2014 and which compels local authorities to transform the way social services are delivered, primarily through promoting people's independence and giving them a stronger voice and control.

- 4.1.2 Denbighshire County Council reviewed Day Services in North Denbighshire for a number of reasons:

- To ensure that the service was consistent with our reablement policy (Reablement is about making sure that the services we offer are focused on helping a person to remain as independent as possible by learning or re-learning the skills necessary for daily living and the confidence to live at home.)
- Due to falling numbers of referrals and of people attending day services
- The need to examine all service provision with a view to making budget savings wherever possible in the current economic climate.

4.1.3 The 2013 report proposed that day care in Denbighshire should focus on:

- i) people whose degree of physical, or mental frailty, is such that they could not cope with activities based in the community and require a more sheltered environment;
- ii) people whose carers require regular and reliable respite in order to enable them to continue caring for the older person and where that older person's needs could not be met through community based activities;
- iii) people who have acquired such a degree of dependency on the current services that change through reablement/enablement would be unreasonable

4.1.4 The provision of day care is part of a wider approach which takes account of the importance of prevention, early intervention and recognises that within an ageing population some people will have complex, long term care needs that require responsive and person centred approaches.

4.2 **Implementation to date**

4.2.1 As the review progressed there had been a successful move towards greater integration between the two existing day care centres with the service operating out of Hafan Deg on 3 days per week and out of Llys Nant 2 days per week. However in November of 2013 there was a flood in the Llys Nant Building in Nant Hall Road, rendering it temporarily uninhabitable, and as preparations were underway for Christmas a decision was taken to move to a 5 day service at Hafan Deg and to review the situation in the New Year.

4.2.2 After careful consideration of the current position a decision was taken by the Adult and Business Senior Leadership Team to concentrate the service permanently in Hafan Deg in Rhyl in a building which is purpose built for providing day services and which is fully DDA compliant. Consultation was undertaken with all stakeholders including service users, carers and staff throughout January 2014 regarding the proposal to transform the provision to a three day service, i.e. Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1st April 2014.

4.2.3 In looking at the needs of those individuals who were currently attending day services in the North of the county only 2 received services for more than 2 days and arrangements were put in place to meet their needs. For all other service users there were 1:1 discussions between the individuals and their families/carers and with their Social Worker/Community Care Worker, and the Management Team at

Hafan Deg to ensure that the new service continued to meet their needs. There is no intention to reduce the service to current service users.

4.2.4 On two days each week, i.e. Tuesday and Thursday the centre is used as part of the overall reablement strategy so that new people who are referred for day services will have a period of outcome focused activity at Hafan Deg with a view to maintaining their independence within the community.

4.2.5 Alongside these arrangements work is on-going to further develop opportunities for meaningful day activities within the community in North Denbighshire including:

- Opportunities for activities at Nant y Môr in Prestatyn (a number of inclusive activities have taken place at Nant y Môr)
- Opportunities for activities at Gorwel Newydd in Rhyl
- Opportunities for activities with Morrisons in Rhyl (regular activities have taken place at the Morrisons Store which include day centre users and other local older people)
- Dementia Friendly Community programme in Maes Emllyn in Rhyl,
- Opportunities for activities with Voluntary Organisation in Prestatyn (discussions are on-going)
- Trainers from Rhyl football club are running keep fit sessions at Hafan Deg which are proving very popular
- Dementia Wales are holding events at Hafan Deg
- Service users can also link into Art sessions for people with dementia at Rhyl library

4.2.6 Current attendance at Hafan Deg is as follows:

	Each Week number attending			
	Monday	Wednesday	Friday	Total
Previous Hafan Deg Service Users	11	6	7	24
previously attended Llys Nant Centre	8	11	11	30
totals	19	17	18	54

No service users have stopped attending as a result of the changes.

4.2.7 There were 15 people employed in the 2 separate services and in the new arrangement there are 12 posts, with a mixture of part-time (3 days) and full-time staff to reflect the requirements of the remodelled service.

4.2.8 In terms of those posts that are no longer required three staff have requested redundancy/early retirement, one is considering redeployment into a permanent full time post elsewhere in the service and one member of staff is being made redundant.

4.2.9 There has been some suggestion that as part of moving the service forward there is an intention to close the Craft Room. This is not the intention, although the room

currently designated as the craft room will be used more creatively as a space where a range of activities can be supported and more service users encouraged to use the space. This space will be available over all 5 days. The craft room is an airy, bright room, with an easy clean floor and so lends itself to use for a number of activities. As some Members will be aware part of the room has a sun lounge attached. A number of service users have said how much they miss being able to garden. This area could lend its self very well to the growing of seeds, re-potting and growing plants for themselves or others, or the Centre itself. We are in the process of setting up an outside area to promote this activity. Now that the staffing implications of the changes have been resolved the manager will begin to engage with service users and staff to look at how the space can be used more effectively for the benefit of all of those who use the centre.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The re-modelled service directly contributes to the Council's priority that vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The reduction in staffing requirements and the building costs from Prestatyn have resulted in savings that will be included in proposals for the budget in 2015/16.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

The Equality Impact Assessment (see Appendix) identified that the remodelled service provides a wider range of support services to older people than was previously available.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

Proposals for change have been developed through extensive discussions with stakeholder groups including service users, carers, staff, county and town councillors, at service challenge events and at scrutiny committee.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

Not required

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

There are no risks identified as part of this report.

11. Power to make the Decision

Scrutiny's powers in relation to examining the performance of Council services are set out in paragraph 6.3.4(b) of the Constitution.

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