

Case Study 5: Development of a Specialist Activity Base for Adults with a Learning Disability and/or Autism with Challenging Behaviour/High Support Needs.

Leadership and Vision

Adult Social Services budgets in York, as in most other authorities across the country, are under significant pressure. This is partly as a result of an aging population, more young people with complex needs surviving into adulthood and changing expectations about the care we receive. Adult Social Care current net spend (2013/14) is £52million (Gross spend £70m). Of this overall spend 40% is spent on Learning Disabilities. Learning Disability customers only constitute approximately 18% of all our customers and the authority is a high spender on this service compared to other local authorities.

A review of the service has been undertaken to enhance service provision as well as making savings. The aims of the review were to:

- Support people in different ways and not use one to one support as much.
- Make sure people are part of the communities they live in
- Make best use of the activities people currently use as well at looking at different ways of supporting people.
- Provide a facility for people with Autism, Challenging Behaviour and High Support Needs.

As part of the review programme we worked with colleagues across the council, as well as our partners in health and the voluntary and community sectors, to identify efficiency savings and review the best ways of providing high quality, cost-effective services to our most vulnerable residents. Whilst we needed to reduce costs this is not at the detriment to customers receiving services and support.

The Proposal

Following discussions with Communities and Neighbourhoods who are implementing a programme to establish Community Hubs throughout the city, it was agreed to create a vibrant community asset by enhancing Burton Street Community Centre (BSCC) ensuring current community use was developed alongside the activities which focus on delivering services for those with Autism, Challenging Behaviour and High Support

Needs with a clear strategy to achieve integrated opportunities and community connections.

Knowing our Communities

There are 60 individuals who access services provided by the council either attending day care services at the centre, or those individuals with Challenging Behaviour and High Support Needs receiving one to one support. In addition individuals from the local community who currently use the facility were identified.

Involving our Communities

To ensure clarity about why the review was required and its aim the information below gives the direction for Adult Social Care's key messages for Adults with a Learning Disability. This paper went to the Health & Wellbeing Board, York CVS Forum for Learning Difficulties; a Council facilitated Learning Disabilities Provider Forum as well being sent out in its accessible form to people with a learning disability who are known to Adult Social Care.

Partners including all providers of learning disabilities services and any interested parties in the City were invited to a facilitated workshop help form the vision of BSCC. Over 20 providers attended the event.

The BSCC consultation has also focussed on ALD/A and their families who will be effected by the changes that will take place at BSCC and we have consulted widely with these individuals. We invited everyone who would be affected by the changes in services to two sessions where they could influence and contribute to the specification for what would happen at the Specialist Activity Hub. These events took place late June and early July 2014. Over 30 people attended these sessions. Following on from the sessions we sent out feedback to everyone we had invited, not just those that had attended.

Following on from this session we invited everyone to a feedback session. Over 20 people attended this session. At the feedback session we delivered a power point presentation and talked about the future changes and concerns people may have as well as any other ideas that had not already been talked about.