

Feedback from group discussion at EAG 20.02.12

1. Proposed savings to Fair Access to Care services (Pete Dwyer and Kathy Clark)

Issue: The service is looking to review and assess the current programme which currently supports approx 3,000 people. The specific review would impact on approx 160 of these.

Discussion:

- Ensuring consultation takes place with communities of interest and all affected
- Ensuring that capacity is developed amongst voluntary sector if they are to take on a service delivery role
- As the Council increasingly moves to a commissioning role, are we sure that the “marketplace” is mature enough to provide same quality of care as the council did?
- Need to be more proactive in approaching communities of interest [to assess their needs], rather than waiting for referrals
- Recognising the ‘culture’ of some groups not wanting to access support services e.g. BME groups, carers
- The disadvantage created by withdrawing funded care from those with moderate needs can be lessened by making sure that charges introduced are affordable.
- Access to the assessment of care needs is still difficult for some.
- Will some people lose their personal budgets because of the proposed changes? Will the changes also affect access to [assistive] equipment?

2. The future of sheltered employment (Yorcraft) (Pete Dwyer and Kathy Clark)

Issue: The Council supports the service by a quarter of a million each year, the same group of people work at the centre, no one moves onto other forms of

employment and no one new can access it because of the limited number of spaces available. Council proposes to stop funding the service.

Discussion:

- Must consult with disabled people benefiting from the service now before any decision is made
- Is there a barrier to new people going in/current employees leaving? Is the service supported now to be self-funded in the future? Can you introduce non-disabled workers to ensure capacity to take on additional work and become self funded?
- If York apprenticeships are working successfully, why can't the same model be used for people with learning difficulties?
- How about using the "Job carving" model?
- How inclusive is the current programme for BME groups?
- The current programme needs an exit strategy
- Have you considered setting up Yorcraft as a co-operative?
- It will be challenging to create equivalent jobs in the wider job market. Can resources go towards investing to deal with concerns about this?
- Look at whether you now double fund the care of some service users. e.g. do you pay for day care when the person is also paid to be in Yorcraft?
- Will the change mean that some vulnerable people will be pushed out of their comfort zone?

3. **CANS proposed savings** (Charlie Croft)

Charlie Croft outlined 3 proposed areas of savings:

- Restructuring of ward budgets
- Restructuring of the Neighbourhood Management Team
- Review of funding and spending in the voluntary sector

Discussion:

- Concern from OCAY about the loss of ward funding

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- How does this saving work if voluntary sector groups are being asked to do more eg run services previously run by CYC?
- If the Labour administration proceeds with a third party third sector approach, where does the accountability sit? It's 'another tier to go through'.
- There's a recognition that CYC is moving towards a commissioning role
- The current format of ward committees has limitations
- Very difficult to get core funding to vol sector groups, important to look further ahead as vol sector can be better at running things
- Recognition that we have to refocus the approach, targeting where the need is, can't be all things to all people
- Good relationships built up with the NMU team over a long period of time

Feedback from A1 sheets on the wall:

"Consultation with users and potential users should be from the beginning of reviews"

"When working to outcomes, these need to be appropriate to each organisation's users"

"Employment review should be 'overall' rather than just Yorkcraft"

Minute Annex