

# Learning Disability and Complex Needs

## Community Activities Redesign Project Brief

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Redesign and Transform the Community Activities Offer for Adult Social Care under 65's with a learning disability</b>	
<b>Directorate</b>	Adults and Communities	
<b>Main strategy objective</b>	Helping people feel safe, supported and valuing Herefordshire and their community (Herefordshire County Plan 2020).	
<b>Programme</b>	Adults and Communities - ASC Commissioning	
<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Client/Senior User</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>
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Version	Date	Last edited by
1.0	24 February 2021	Jas Kakkar
2.0	26 March 2021	Jas Kakkar

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The community activities framework was developed in 2016, to stimulate the market and attract additional suppliers that could offer a wide range of community activities on a spot purchase basis, with a light touch commissioning approach. The framework remains open and additional suppliers continue to join. Currently thirteen providers have been accepted on the list.
- 1.2 In June 2020, ASC Commissioning carried out a survey on who was getting a day activities service from our 18-64 providers. This showed that:
- 451 people were getting a service pre-lockdown. Of these around 90 were using more than one service each week.
  - 43% of services users were female, 57% male.
  - The average age of service users was 44.
  - Providers were providing round 1,000 sessions of activity each week, evenly spread through the week.
  - 31% of services users were commissioned.
  - 60% were funded by DPs or self-funded.
  - Based on the spend figures supplied by Providers, it showed that services were costing approximately £56k a week or £2.7m a year.
  - In October 2020, Mosaic reported that 72.5% of service users had Learning Disability Support as their primary support need, 16% had physical support and personal care support needs and 4.6% had mental health support needs.

#### Health Warnings

- This data largely comes from providers and there are gaps, omissions and varying interpretations of what information was being asked for.
- Totals reported often varied depending on the date of the survey, who was completing it and which service users were where & when.
- The surveys were only covering the 18-64 providers.

## **2. Vision & Objectives**

- 2.1 The community activities project will review the services offered for individuals with a learning disability under the age of 65, and develop new ways of meeting these individuals' needs while promoting better outcomes, independence, choice and control, and ensuring value for money. This offer will include a stronger focus on being independent and being able to be out in the community and where possible use different ways to connect with people and activities by using technology and demand management.
- 2.2 Redesigning community activities will meet current and future needs by developing alternative delivery models by:
- Enhancing the range and type of services available;
  - Supporting individuals to acquire new skills and setting goals and aspirations;
  - Increasing opportunities for employment, training and volunteering;
  - Ensuring young people who are transitioning have greater choice of services as they enter adulthood.

## **3. What needs to happen?**

### **ASC Commissioning**

- 3.1 There is a need to update some of the processes around the current framework for the following reasons:
- The current specification does not align to the Learning Disability Strategy 2018 - 2028.
  - The current specification is not specific in terms of some of the process timeframes and remains open to interpretation. This has an impact for the council in terms of funding none attendance.
  - The specification will link to the quality improvement framework.
  - Lack of KPI's in the current specification is linked to outcomes.
  - Referrals need to be linked to timeframes with start and end, rather than endless service
  - Consideration should be given to volume of purchases
  - Community activities should not be commissioned in addition to 24/7 residential services.

### **Operational Changes**

- 3.2 There is also a need to manage the demand for day opportunity placements through assessments and reviews. The project will work with the operational teams and develop a pathway to identify community activity resources and services available in Herefordshire.
- 3.3 There will be an opportunity to enhance the Community Brokerage offer via Talk Community and connecting individuals to; their local communities and services, maintaining friendship groups and accessing information about groups and activities to support their wellbeing and independence.
- 3.4 Building on the community activities offer will give Community Brokers confidence in what resources and services are available to support individuals with a learning disability and their families and carers.

## **4. Challenges**

- Scale of change
- Building confidence in change with customers, families, providers and social workers
- Delivering in current financial framework
- Partner agencies 'buying in'
- Community infrastructure - readiness
- Ensuring staff have and can apply necessary knowledge and skills required
- Transport
- Partnership working

- Resources to deliver the range of new community activities offer

## 5. Engagement

5.1 A communications and engagement plan will ensure a wide range of stakeholders are able to shape the future direction of services and support. This will build on the existing strong partnership arrangements with local community groups and that by working together the community activities offer is sustainable and can meet the needs of service users now and in the future.

## 6. Consultation

6.1 The consultation will focus on a number of key themes and principles for reshaping community activities in Herefordshire. The themes will be co-designed with service users, families, carers and providers prior to the consultation. These themes are:

- Redesigning the community activities offer by listening to local people with learning disabilities about how they would like to spend their days and meet their aspirations.
- What is important when choosing the support they need
- Employment opportunities
- Maintaining friendship groups
- Enabling and supporting people with learning disabilities to take measured risks

## 7. What are the principles for the new model?

The redesign will look to ensure we:

- use a strengths-based approach
- focus on prevention
- build resilience with individuals and the community;
- collaborative work with providers, service users and their families and carers
- prevent people feeling lonely and isolated;
- ensure a better use of any building based provision (where needed);
- focus on positive participation in the community;
- offer technology focused support where possible;
- maximise independent living and reduce or eliminate the need for an ongoing care packages.



The consultation will be with stakeholders from:

- Adults with a Learning Disability and their families
- Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Herefordshire County Council
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Care Trust
- Advocacy services
- OH Health Partners - H&W CCG, Wye Valley Trust and Taurus Healthcare.
- Herefordshire Healthwatch
- Carer Links Herefordshire Providers of community activities
- Exiting community groups already engaged / providing services
- HAT (Herefordshire Activities together)
- HVOSS
- Funding and Enterprise opportunities
- Job Centre Plus
- Operations (transitions)
- Children's services
- Further Education colleges

## **8. Key Milestones**

- Seek project proposal approval - March 21
- Develop the business case - April - July 21
- Analysis of community activities / engage with Talk Community, Digital Programme, etc. - April 21
- Carry out an equality impact assessment - May 21
- Develop the engagement plan April - May 21
- Engage with providers - May 21 - July 21
- Engage with Adults with a Learning Disability and their families/carers - July - September 21
- Draft new community activities model and offer - October 21
- Seek HCC approval to implement the new model - November 21
- Notify Providers - November 21
- Notify Adults with a Learning Disability and their families/carers - November 21
- Launch the community activities model and offer - 3 January 2022

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 9.1 There will be an appropriate assessment of the impact of the proposed service change on relevant diverse groups. This will identify the engagement that will need to be undertaken with the affected groups that may be affected.