

CABINET
14 JUNE 2018**COUNCIL-PROVIDED DAY SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH
A LEARNING DISABILITY AND CONNECT SHORT-TERM
SERVICE****Relevant Cabinet Member**

Mr A Hardman

Relevant Officers

Director of Adult Services

Director of Public Health

Local Members

Mrs R L Dent, Mr N Desmond, Mr R Morris

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Adult Social Care recommends that Cabinet:**
 - a) notes the results and feedback to date from pre-consultation engagement with individuals using services, carers, staff and other stakeholders in relation to Council-provided day services for adults with a Learning Disability and the Connect Short-term Service;**
 - b) notes the engagement findings in relation to the value and impact of the Connect Short-term Service for adults with lower and medium levels of need, and endorses the intention to explore options for remodelling the service, including exploring in detail the option of aligning the service with the ongoing development of the Three Conversation Model; this will also include options for the Wyre Forest Connect reception desk service and the Wyre Forest Connect drop-in services;**
 - c) endorses the intention, in relation to the Council's four Resource Centres, for commissioners to work with the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services to develop strategies for cost reduction and/or income generation in order to reduce the gap between the cost of the in-house services and the external sector;**
 - d) authorises the Director of Adult Services to finalise consultation documentation and commence formal consultation with people using services and carers on the proposal to close the Wyre Forest Connect Long-term Learning Disability Day Service and the re-provision of services for the seven individuals who currently use this service; consultation to commence in early July 2018 for a proposed period of 12 weeks;**

- e) **endorses the intention, in relation to the other six Connect Learning Disability Day Services, Connect Drop-in Services and Leisure Link, for commissioners to work with the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services to produce options to develop strategies for cost reduction and/or income generation to reduce the gap between the cost of the in-house services and the external sector;**
- f) **approves the permanent relocation of Connect Droitwich, previously based at Kingfields in Droitwich, to the Wendron Centre, Bromsgrove;**
- g) **requests that a further report/reports be brought to Cabinet by November 2018 to include the results of the work outlined in (b) above, with consequent recommendations for formal consultation as required, and the results of the formal consultation outlined in (d) above.**

Background

2. As part of its duties under the Care Act 2014, the Council must meet assessed needs for those people in Worcestershire with a Learning Disability who are eligible for care and support, including the provision of day services where specified in an individual's Care and Support Plan. The Council funds a wide range of day services and opportunities for adults with learning disabilities, currently commissioned from two types of provision – from external providers, through a Dynamic Purchasing System contract (new contract commenced 1 October 2017), and services provided internally by the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services.

3. The total 2018/19 budget for Learning Disability day services is £4.2 million, of which £1.9 million is spent with external providers, funding just over 200 service users. The total 2018/19 budget for internally-provided Learning Disability Day Services and the Connect Short-term Service is £2.3 million (see paragraphs 57-59 below).

4. The in-house provision consists of 12 separate Day Services across the county for adults with learning disabilities (four Resource Centres, seven Connects and the Leisure Link service). 218 adults receive a regular day service in these services and there were 499 referrals to the Short-term Service during the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. There are 128 FTE staff employed in the services, equating to just under 180 people employed. Appendix 1 gives more detail about the services.

5. Cabinet received a report on 2 November 2017 "Proposed Engagement on Options for Future Delivery – Connect Short-term Service and Council-provided Day Services for Adults with a Learning Disability". Cabinet approved the recommendations to carry out pre-consultation engagement with people using services, family carers, staff and other stakeholders to explore options for future delivery of the services.

6. Pre-consultation engagement commenced on 29 January 2018 and continued to the end of April 2018. The results of the engagement are summarised in paragraphs 11-32 below. In total, 27 meetings were held attended by approximately 92 carers and 142 staff. Speakeasy NOW have worked with the Council to engage with people using services, and have spoken to over 200 adults with learning disabilities. Individual conversations have also been held with carers, staff and service users

where required. Wider stakeholders have been engaged at representative groups, through 1-1 meetings and through a survey on the Connect Short-term Service, which received 28 responses from professionals who refer in to the service.

Context for Change – Outcomes, Budgets and Sustainability

7. In principle, in order to be financially sustainable and maximise value for money, the Council's in-house Learning Disability day services should not cost more than it would cost to purchase similar services from the external market. This principle has been used to evaluate the financial sustainability of the current model, and to inform the pre-consultation engagement work which has been carried out.

8. The financial analysis of internal day services, on a service by service basis, and comparing the cost of the Council-provided services to the cost of external services benchmarked against the Council's current external day services contract, is detailed in Appendix 2 (Table 1). This has been updated since the last Cabinet report to take account of 2018/19 budget and the latest external market analysis. The cost of the Connect Short-term Service has also been separated out. The analysis shows that Resource Centres cost in total approximately £266,000 more than externally-purchased services, and Connect Learning Disability Day Services approximately £480,000 more.

9. Through its commissioning of services, the Council aims to encourage a vibrant and varied range of day service provision across Worcestershire, with services of a high quality which meet the needs of service users, secure improved outcomes and are responsive and flexible in providing the type of services which people want. The recent Dynamic Purchasing System tender for a new external day services contract has an outcomes-based specification designed to promote this. Where the Council is itself providing services, these also need to fit with this model of service provision. By working with stakeholders to co-produce alternative delivery options for internally-provided services, a key aim is to improve the variety and quality of services in Worcestershire as a whole, based on a mixed market of services available to extend customer choice.

10. In relation to the Connect Short-term Service, which is funded from Public Health Ring-fenced Grant, future service design needs to be clearly linked to a robust evidence base and the work of the service needs to be clearly linked to Public Health outcomes. This will require a strong focus on promotion of good health outcomes and prevention of ill-health, with a whole population lens.

Summary of Pre-consultation Engagement Findings

11. Pre-consultation engagement focussed on the following messages about why we need to look at the services:

- We need to get the best value for money from the Council's budget
- The in-house services currently cost more than if we bought day services for individuals externally through our existing contract with external providers
- There is a growing and varied external market of small, local day service providers
- What people want and expect from their services is changing.

12. We asked carers and staff the following questions to stimulate our discussions:

- What do the services do well/what do you like about what the services offer?
- Are there things you don't like or that could be done differently?
- What is unique about these services compared to the wider day service market?
- How can the services generate more income to make them financially sustainable?
- How can the services be more efficient in the way they run and the services they offer?
- Why do we think numbers of people using these services are dropping and do we need to promote the services differently?
- (In relation to Connects Short-term Service) Are there gaps/areas in this type of service that only Connects meets? Where are your referrals coming from and what are the recent trends in referrals?

Feedback from Carers and Staff

13. The detailed findings and areas of discussion during pre-consultation engagement with family carers and staff in relation to the Resource Centres, Connects and Leisure Link are included at Appendix 3. A summary of the key points raised is provided in paragraphs 14-22 below.

14. Some of the key points raised by carers in relation to Resource Centres were that they provide a quality service, with the experience and quality of the staff in the services being highly valued by carers. There is a relationship of trust, and carers feel that everyone is well looked after in a very positive way. The services enable people to engage with their peer group and they are "one big family". The stability of the service, including the continuity of staff, is highly valued. Structure and routine are particularly important to the client group using the Resource Centres and the potential negative impact on vulnerable individuals of any changes to services should not be underestimated. The services offer a wide variety of activities, although some carers felt that activities could be developed even further with the addition of new types of activities.

15. In relation to Connect Learning Disability Day Services, carers feel that staff are providing a high quality, stable and reliable service. Carers feel that their family members are safe in the services and have a high degree of trust for the staff. The variety of activities and amount of individual choice on a day-to-day basis are valued by carers. Carers feel that the Connects services successfully increase people's independence, for example through independent travel training and voluntary work opportunities. There was a feeling that people using the service have "blossomed" and "come on leaps and bounds" under the new model. Very positive feedback was received from organisations working with Connect to provide volunteering and work experience opportunities to individuals. Connects provides a varied and focussed service with an emphasis on voluntary and paid work and promoting independence.

16. It was widely felt that the Resource Centres and Connects Day Services need to be marketed and publicised more effectively, including making better links with schools, colleges and local communities, using social media more effectively and using Your Life Your Choice. It was particularly felt that the services should be

promoted to younger people transitioning to adulthood and staff wanted the service offer to be better understood by professionals and the public.

17. There were many ideas raised for future service development to generate more income, make services more efficient and make better use of the services moving forward, for example by making better use of the buildings, facilities and staff expertise and experience.

18. While there are a variety of day services and opportunities offered by the external market, the amount of external market provision varies from area to area and some geographical areas of Worcestershire do not have a significant availability of external places. The map at Appendix 4 shows the current availability of day service provision in Worcestershire.

19. There are some Connects which have very small numbers of individuals using the service and it was discussed how this has a negative impact on the sustainability of the services. In particular, Wyre Forest Connect only has seven regular attendees, attending on average for two days per week (individual attendance varies from one to three days per week). This means that Wyre Forest Connect is very unlikely to be able to achieve financial sustainability. The external market is also relatively well-developed in the Wyre Forest area, and there are a number of alternative day service providers. Evesham Connect is also a relatively expensive service compared with the equivalent external market cost of providing a service to its 16 attendees. However, the external market in the Evesham area is relatively underdeveloped, with alternative providers in the area being very small or new to the market; availability of alternative provision is therefore more limited.

20. Carers and staff gave positive feedback about the temporary move that has taken place of Connect Droitwich relocating to the Wendron Centre in Bromsgrove; the move had gone well and people had made new friendships; it has also given the service more resilience and economies of scale. However, it was strongly felt that any further or additional move would be detrimental to service users' wellbeing.

21. The Connect weekly drop-ins operate differently across the county, in some cases operating across both the Short-term and the Learning Disability Day Service or in other cases being just part of the Short-term Service, or a separate service. Some carers fed back about how important the weekly drop-in is to them and the people they care for. Staff in Connects also emphasised what an important part of the service the drop-in is.

22. Feedback was also received in relation to Leisure Link. Although Leisure Link is not a statutory service, carers emphasised how valued the service, particularly the social club, is to those who attend and expressed their concerns if the service was not to continue. Many attendees have been attending for many years; people feel that the club increases independence and enables them to be themselves. Although the service operates in Wyre Forest, it is accessed by people from a wider area (although predominantly north of the county) and has a membership of over 100 people. An option for Leisure Link was discussed around exploring how the service could become self-sustaining and run external to the Council; some carers would be interested in this but there was some concern about the responsibility which would be involved in taking over the management of the service. Potentially increasing the cost of attendance to make the service more sustainable was considered a

reasonable option when discussed; the potential for reducing the cost of running the service was also discussed and considered to be a realistic option to explore.

Feedback from People using Services

23. Speakeasy NOW visited day services during January and February 2018 and asked people what they thought about the services they attended. They also asked people if they had any ideas about what could make day services better in the future. They saw 59 people in Connect, 61 people in Resource Centres, 70 people who use Leisure Link and 32 young people in schools.

24. Speakeasy NOW's findings are summarised below and their detailed report is attached at Appendix 6. The main feedback in relation to Resource Centres and Connects was as follows:

- a) People enjoy using the services; they are comfortable and feel safe;
- b) People have a good relationship with the staff in the services and some people have been attending for a long time;
- c) People enjoy meeting their friends;
- d) People feel in control and can make choices and decisions about what they do each day, and do a variety of different activities, getting opportunities to try new things;
- e) Some people have more opportunities to be independent than when they are at home;
- f) People feel special and important and have a sense of belonging;
- g) Nobody spoken to wanted to find paid work but some people do volunteer roles;
- h) Transport is sometimes a problem;
- i) People get out and about a lot but don't like going out in bad weather and also like having activities in the building;
- j) Some people worried about the cost of some activities or outings;
- k) People would like to know more about other local services.

25. The main service user feedback in relation to the Leisure Link services was as follows:

- a) Monday Night Group is very well attended and extremely popular. Music and dancing are very important to people. For some people it is the only opportunity they have to go out during the evenings and to see their friends. They would like even more activities and more frequent meetings. Some people don't feel safe attending the Monday Night Group because of the location;
- b) A small group regularly attends the Flyers Sports Club. They enjoy the activities offered but some would like a different venue and to try different sports;
- c) A small group regularly attends the Music Group. They enjoy the opportunities to make music.

26. Speakeasy NOW also talked to young people in schools and colleges about what type of day opportunities they would like once they leave school. The key points were as follows:

- a) All young people have high aspirations for what they want to achieve after leaving school and most young people want to get a paid job;
- b) Maintaining friendship groups is very important;
- c) None of the young people knew about day services or felt it is where they would choose to go when they leave school but they do want to keep doing the activities they enjoy now and keep active.

Connect Short-term Service

27. The detailed findings and areas of discussion during pre-consultation engagement with staff and stakeholders in relation to the Connect Short-term Service are included at Appendix 3. A summary of the key points raised is provided in paragraphs 28-32 below.

28. The core purpose of the Connect Short-term Service is to promote the health and well-being of individuals using the service, and be a preventative service, preventing those being supported from requiring other, higher cost services in the future. The service also aims to reduce escalation of need for specialist NHS services enabling individuals to be healthy for as long as possible, self-managing long-term conditions or avoiding them altogether.

29. Where other agencies have reduced their services, it was felt that the Connect Short-term Service is often stepping in and filling the gaps, particularly for lower and medium level support. Feedback has stated that reductions in service would lead to gaps in support and a significant impact on the vulnerable people who currently rely on this type of service. The service often performs a co-ordinating role, signposting people to other services as required, or in other cases is referred into by other services as an enhancement to what the other services can offer. These individuals are increasingly falling through the net and either not being picked up by other services or unable to navigate other services, and Connect is stepping in.

30. Synergies between the Connect Short-term Service and the Three Conversation Model were discussed in detail with staff and partners. Staff noted that they often fulfil "social work" roles in their activity in the short-term service and the ethos of promoting independence runs through both service areas. Connect workers use an asset-based/strengths-based approach, fitting with the Three Conversation Model ethos. Workers in the new Three Conversation sites have reported that the availability of Connect services has been an important factor in the success of their work to date. While further data analysis is required to assess fully the use of the Connect Short-term Service by Three Conversation Model sites, there is evidence from the analysis to date that there are increased numbers of referrals to Connect from the social work sites where the Three Conversation Model has been implemented.

31. As part of the pre-consultation engagement a review by Public Health of a sample of referrals to the service has been carried out. Data on clients accessing the service during June, July and October 2017 was analysed to better understand the characteristics of the client group accessing the service, the reasons people accessed the service and service processes. Analysis of three months (non-consecutive) data showed an average of 45 clients per month contacting the service, making a three-month total of 135 clients who contacted or were referred to the service across all the locations. Of the 135 clients who made contact with the

service, 57% were eligible for support under the Care Act whilst 43% were not Care Act eligible. A total of 50 the 135 clients also received other care services funded by the local authority (mainly domiciliary care or direct payments). 101 clients of the 135 referrals went on to receive a service.

32. Further quantitative and qualitative data relating to the sample of referrals is provided at Appendix 5. Some of the key findings from the work are as follows:

- a) In over a third of the cases during the sample period, the service was actually offered for longer than 12 weeks. This was for a number of reasons, based on individual need for the service to continue longer.
- b) Around 25% of the clients who received a service did not have a medical diagnosis of an underlying disorder or disability. They received support with access to finance, access to appropriate housing and housing needs, access to social and leisure activities and access to training or volunteering opportunities. The support took the form of signposting, providing information, arranging and/or attending appointments and completing forms.
- c) Around 30% of clients who received a service had a diagnosed Learning Disability. Support was also provided to people with a Mental Health diagnosis, Access and Mobility problems and Sensory Impairments.
- d) The main outcomes achieved are around:
 - Access to social/leisure and cultural activities, with individuals reporting an improved sense of wellbeing, independence, sense of purpose and increased confidence
 - Help and support to move into appropriate housing
 - Support for mental wellbeing by developing and maintaining social contacts, redeveloping hobbies and interests, meeting new people, providing accessibility to volunteering opportunities and developing life skills to enhance independence
 - Budgeting welfare and debt management, where the service helped and supported people to access appropriate services, reapply and fill in forms, reduce monthly outgoings and claim for hardship funds
 - Access to employment, referring people to voluntary sector agencies, job coaches and library service for help with various aspects of getting employment such as writing up CV and looking for suitable opportunities
 - Access to education and training, providing information on relevant courses, liaising with agencies to remove barriers to attend training courses and also offering help and support with processes to access education and training required for employment
 - Help with transport to enable access to community services, educational and social opportunities
 - Support for physical health such as help to organise medication, access additional support from appropriate agencies, improve mobility within and outside of the home and manage the home environment.

Recommendations and Next Steps

Summary of Recommendations

33. Paragraphs 36-47 below set out in detail the recommendations made in this report. In summary, the proposal for all of the Resource Centres, for Connect Long-term Learning Disability Day Services in Bromsgrove (including Droitwich Connect), Redditch, Evesham, Malvern and Worcester, and for Leisure Link, is for the continuation of these services. Commissioners aim to work with the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services to develop strategies and business plans for cost reduction and/or income generation in order to reduce the gap between the cost of the in-house services and the external sector. This work is planned to deliver a substantial part of the £0.6 million savings target for 2018/19.

34. In relation to Wyre Forest Connect Long-term Learning Disability Day Service, due to the size of the financial sustainability gap and the low attendance at this service, Cabinet is asked to authorise the commencement of formal consultation on a proposal to close the service. This work will deliver between £0.1 and £0.2 million towards the £0.6 million savings target. Further information on this proposal is provided in paragraphs 41-43 below.

35. In relation to the Connect Short-term Service, which is funded by Public Health Ring-fenced Grant, the proposal put forward is to explore options for remodelling the service including the option of aligning the service with the ongoing development of the Three Conversation Model. Further information is provided in paragraphs 38-40 below.

Detail of Recommendations - Resource Centres

36. The pre-consultation engagement work has generated a significant number of ideas and options for increasing usage, generating income and reducing costs to enable more efficient operation of the services.

37. Commissioners would therefore now aim to progress work with the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services to develop strategies and business plans for cost reduction and/or income generation in order to reduce the gap between the cost of the in-house services and the external sector. Where financial savings are identified, these will contribute towards the £0.6 million savings target for 2018/19.

Detail of Recommendations - Connect Short-term Service

38. The engagement work to date has provided evidence of the role that the Connect Short-term Service plays in supporting individuals to achieve outcomes which improve their health and wellbeing and in meeting unmet needs, particularly in relation to individuals with lower or medium-level needs. However, further needs analysis, impact analysis and evidence review work is now required to support the next stage of service development and particularly to inform future service re-design, including psychological impact and analysis of how this new service will meet need.

39. The engagement work has also identified synergies between the work of the Connect Short-term Service and the work of the Three Conversation Model social work teams. The Three Conversation Model is a new strengths-based approach to

social work which considers an individual's own strengths and capabilities and builds on the resources and resilience that an individual already has, including family, friends and the wider community. The approach focuses on an ongoing conversation about how the individual and their wider networks can support and increase their own independence. It is currently being rolled out gradually for social work teams in Worcestershire. At the same time, there is also synergy with the pilot social prescribing sites and these too are at an early stage of implementation and may offer insights for the remodelling process. Social prescribing is a jointly-funded initiative which links patients with non-medical support from wider local community assets to improve their health and wellbeing.

40. Cabinet is therefore asked to endorse the intention to explore options for remodelling the service including the option of aligning the service with the ongoing development of the Three Conversation Model, with results to be reported back to Cabinet, including requests for formal consultation as required.

Detail of Recommendations - Connect Learning Disability Day Services and Leisure Link

41. As outlined above in paragraph 19, the financial sustainability gap for Wyre Forest Connect is significant, and the highest of the seven Connects services, at £154,000 per annum. The number of regular attendees is very low and means that ongoing financial sustainability (for example by increasing usage of the service) is unlikely to be achievable, particularly given the range of alternative services available in the Wyre Forest area.

42. Cabinet is therefore asked to authorise the commencement of formal consultation on a proposal to close the Wyre Forest Connect Long-term Learning Disability Day Service and the re-provision of services for the seven individuals who currently use this service. This consultation would be carried out in parallel with the development of proposals to remodel the Connect Short-term Services (paragraphs 38-40 above), which will therefore also include options and impact analysis for the Wyre Forest Connect reception desk service and the Wyre Forest Connect drop-in services.

43. The consultation exercise will include the finalisation of the detailed equality impact assessment on the proposal, referenced in paragraphs 51-53 below, including proposals to minimise and/or mitigate any adverse impacts. A thorough analysis of alternative provision options for the seven individuals who currently use the service will also be carried out.

44. The financial sustainability gaps for other Connect services range from £30,000 for Worcester Connect to £109,000 for Evesham Connect. The pre-consultation engagement work generated a significant number of ideas and options for increasing usage, generating income and reducing costs to enable more efficient operation of the services, although it is acknowledged that the financial gap between the cost of the Connects Learning Disability Day Services and the external market cost is greater than that for Resource Centres.

45. Based on the feedback during the pre-consultation engagement, and in order to minimise impacts on people using the services, proposals are not being put forward at the current time for closure or reduction of these services. Instead, it is proposed

in the short to medium-term to work with the services to try to minimise the financial gaps as far as possible.

46. For Connect services, including drop-ins, in Bromsgrove (including Connect Droitwich), Redditch, Evesham, Malvern and Worcester, and for Leisure Link, commissioners aim to work with the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Services to develop strategies and business plans for cost reduction and/or income generation in order to reduce the gap between the cost of the in-house services and the external sector. Where financial savings are identified, these will contribute towards the £0.6 million savings target for 2018/19.

47. As outlined in paragraph 20 above, carers and staff gave overwhelmingly positive feedback about the temporary move that took place on 27 April 2017 to relocate Connect Droitwich, previously based at Kingfields in Droitwich, to the Wendron Centre in Bromsgrove, co-located with Connect Bromsgrove and Bromsgrove Resource Centre. It was also strongly felt that any further or additional move would be detrimental to service users' wellbeing. As a result of the feedback from carers, staff and people using services during pre-consultation engagement, Cabinet is asked to approve making this relocation permanent. Should Cabinet approve this recommendation, formal staff consultation on the change in location would commence in July 2018.

Legal and HR Implications

48. The Council has a duty to promote the well-being of individuals in its area under the Care Act 2014 and to provide a range of social care services for meeting assessed eligible care and support needs of adults, including care and support needs resulting from disabilities. The Council also has a duty under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to improve the health and well-being of its local population, and to have regard to narrowing health inequalities.

49. The Council values the feedback and input of its residents and users of services to inform service development. In order to inform its proposals, as well as meeting required legal duties, the Council will carry out consultation with individuals using services and family carers, and will give proper consideration to the outcomes of consultation before any substantive decision to implement any proposal is made.

50. Appropriate statutory consultations with staff will also be carried out as appropriate based on the nature of future proposals and the impact on specific staff groups. Any changes to staffing arising out of future proposals would be subject to the Council's Human Resources Policies and Procedures.

Equality and Diversity Implications

51. The Council must, during planning, decision-making and implementation, exercise a proportionate level of due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

52. A full equality impact analysis is currently being drafted, incorporating each element of the service where formal consultation on changes has been proposed, and this analysis will form part of future Cabinet reports to assist future decision-making.

53. Initial analysis indicates that there are potentially both positive and negative impacts in implementing the recommendations contained in this report. While there would potentially be adverse impacts around the potential closure of Wyre Forest Connect Long-term Day Service and facilities based in Wyre Forest Connect, potential positive impacts include the proposed work to restructure the whole Connect Short-term Service, which would potentially enable it to support more people to remain independent and healthy for longer. There is also the positive impact of increasing choice and quality of available day services for people with a Learning Disability. Work is ongoing to consider how any adverse impacts can be minimised and this will form part of the formal consultation.

Privacy and Public Health Impact Assessments

54. The Connect Short-term Service is funded by £603,000 of Public Health Ring-fenced Grant. The Care Act 2014 placed a responsibility on local authorities to provide services that would help prevent their residents developing needs for care and support or delay the impact of their needs. In taking on this role, local authorities are required to work with their communities and provide a range of services that help to keep people well and independent. This includes identifying the local support and resources already available and helping people to access them. One of the services that aims to address this requirement locally is the Connect Short-term Service.

55. The proposals contained in this report in relation to service redesign of the Connect Short-term Service will be supported by a needs assessment, evidence review and impact analysis which will inform a service specification based on securing outcomes specified in the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

56. This group of residents are at particularly high risk of poor health outcomes and any changes to services which increase this risk further will need to be avoided. Service change will also have to consider service access, so that the needs of all those with relevant protected characteristics are taken into account, not just those of the current user cohort.

Financial Implications

57. The Medium Term Financial Plan approved by Full Council on 15 February 2018 anticipated a need for around £65 million of expenditure reductions or increases in income over the 3 year period 2018/19 to 2020/21. There is a risk to the Council's overall sustainability and delivering Social Care to those that need it most if expenditure reductions or increases in income are not delivered as required.

58. The total 2018/19 net budget for internally-provided Learning Disability Day Services and the Connect Short-term Service is £2.3 million (inclusive of the savings target outlined in paragraph 55 below). Since 2016/17, the general prevention

element of the Connect service (the Connect Short-term Service) has been funded by Public Health Ring-fenced Grant, with total funding of £0.6 million allocated in 2018/19.

59. Savings of £0.6 million in total for 2018/19 in relation to Learning Disability Day Services were agreed in the budget approved by Council in February 2018. These savings are partly new reforms and partly existing reforms identified as part of the "Learning Disabilities Review of Care" project. The proposals outlined in this report, should they be approved in due course, would deliver the £0.6 million of savings; however, due to the nature of some of the proposals and related consultation requirements, the savings may not be delivered in full until 2019/20. Work would however be prioritised in order to maximise value for money against the budget and minimise the impact of any delay to savings delivery.

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1 – Outline of Services
- Appendix 2 – Financial Information
- Appendix 3 – Detailed Pre-Consultation Engagement Feedback
- Appendix 4 – Learning Disability Day Service Providers by Contract Type
- Appendix 5 – Connect Short-term Service: Description of Current Activity
- Appendix 6 – Speakeasy NOW Day Services Engagement Report January/February 2018

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Adult Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and background papers for the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 November 2017

Agenda and background papers for the meeting of Council held on 15 February 2018

Learning Disability Day Services in Worcestershire Dynamic Purchasing System, published 3 August 2017

Agenda and background papers for the meeting of the Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 16 March 2017