

Environmental Sustainability Full Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment Id: #216

1.0 Screening Information

Project Name

Day Opportunities Review

Name of Project Sponsor

Hannah Perrott

Name of Project Manager

Katie Stallard

Name of Project Lead

Korrina Campbell

Please give a brief description of the project

The purpose of the Day Opportunities Review is to consider how the Council may continue to meet assessed eligible need in the most efficient and cost-effective way that promotes independence, social inclusion and positive outcomes for individuals and carer's. The Council's preferred approach, which was agreed and approved at the October Cabinet meeting, is to move to the position where internal day opportunities will only be provided where there isn't the capacity or capability within the external market to meet eligible need.

Data Protection screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

Equality and Public Health screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

Environmental Sustainability screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

1.1 Background and Purpose

Background and Purpose of Project?

To support your answer to this question, you can upload a copy of the project's Business Case or similar document.

As part of its duties under the Care Act 2014, the Council must meet the care and support needs of adults and the support needs of carers who are assessed as eligible under the Act's eligibility criteria. Eligible needs may be met by the provision of day opportunities to meet the adult's outcomes as identified in their needs assessment and will be recorded in their care and support plan.

There is a mixed market of day opportunities for people with learning disabilities within Worcestershire. Currently 206 people attend internally provided day opportunities while around 300 people attend services provided by the external market. This equates to a split of 60% external / 40% internal although these numbers do include some people who attend a mixture of both internal and external services. An increasing number of people also access external day opportunities by arranging their own care using a Council-funded direct payment.

The Council has directly provided internal day opportunity provision for over 25 years through Resource Centres and Connect Services. Resource Centres operate Monday to Friday and provide a variety of activities for people with complex learning disabilities. Many of these activities are building based with some community-based activities planned according to individual needs and preferences. Support for individuals includes personal care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language support, behaviour support, psychology support and support to access the community.

Connect Centre Services operate Monday to Friday and they provide mainly community-based day opportunities to adults with less complex learning disabilities. This service provides support such as: access to employment/work experience, education and volunteering, personal care, meeting friends, computer/IT literacy support.

Following the changes to the Council's Day Opportunities provision, as a result of Covid-19, Cabinet agreed at their meeting on 22 October 2020 the need to review the Council's long-term position in providing access to day service support both internally and externally in order to continue to meet assessed need.

Cabinet received an update on the first stage of the review at their meeting on 4 February 2021. This stage focused on the current offer for people using Council provided Resource Centres. The findings demonstrated that there is clearly a need for the Council to continue to provide a Resource Centre / building based offer that meets the needs of individuals with more complex needs. However, it showed evidence that improvements and changes need to be made to ensure that individuals are receiving the most appropriate services to meet their assessed eligible needs in line with the Council's Statutory Duty. It also highlighted evidence that the Council needs to plan for the longer term taking into account the needs of young adults moving into the service and the ageing population of both service users and their families/carers.

As a result of these findings, Cabinet agreed to commence the second phase of the review which has focused on the Connect Service offer as well as developing a deeper understanding of the capability and capacity within the external market. Following the same approach as the first phase, service users, their families/carer's and staff have been engaged in the review. The second phase also concludes the day opportunities review and makes recommendations for the long term and future "offer" of day opportunity provision.

Upload Business Case or Support documents

No files uploaded

Project Outputs

Briefly summarise the activities needed to achieve the project outcomes.

- Cabinet report to be written and considered July 2021
- Comms and engagement with all staff, carer's, partner organisations and individuals who would be affected by these changes, would be required through any process.
- Market analysis to take place (Commissioning led) to have a clear understanding of the market and where capacity is to enable the reassessment process.
- Public Consultation will need to take place with Service users and Carer's from August 2021 pending Cabinet approval
- Following consultation any recommendations will require a Cabinet/Cabinet Member decision
- Where changes may be implemented individual reassessments with all individuals will need to take place to review their support plans.

Project Outcomes

Briefly summarise what the project will achieve.

In the short term the project will support those most in need by reopening the Resource Centres and Connects (with reduced capacity according to Covid guidelines) and continuing to support people in the community in the first instance. In the longer term the project aims to achieve modern services, provided only where this cannot be provided by the market.

Is the project a new function/service or does it relate to an existing Council function/service?

Existing

Was consultation carried out on this project?

No

1.2 Responsibility

Directorate/Organisation

People

Service Area

Communities

1.3 Specifics

Project Reference (if known)

Not Recorded

Intended Project Close Date *

August 2022

1.4 Project Part of a Strategic Programme

Is this project part of a strategic programme?

Yes

An overarching screening has already been carried out for the following areas:

Not recorded

Upload previous impact assessment documents if available

No files uploaded

2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Could the project result in an increase in GHG emissions (including CO2)? Yes

Please be mindful that the Council has committed to reduce its GHG emissions to zero by 2050 and most projects are likely to have an impact on this target. This should be a key consideration in your project delivery and should be reviewed when completing the assessment.

Have you undertaken an assessment of the project to know if there will likely be an increase in GHG emissions? No

3 Resources

Will the project result in increased consumption of electricity, gas or other heating fuels? No

e.g. project may require use of additional buildings, lighting and heating in buildings, additional ICT equipment, etc.

Will the project reduce energy needs and result in reduced consumption? Yes

e.g. disposal of WCC property assets

Will the project require additional water resources leading to an increase in water consumption? No

e.g. increased use of water through construction processes

Might there be a decrease in water consumption? No

e.g. will the project involve water saving measures or initiatives

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

4 Transport

Will the project result in more people needing to travel? Yes

e.g. will there be additional cars on the road

Please explain your answer below:

All individuals will have an assessment of need completed and where required transport will be sought, whether this is through our internal provision or through other day services transport options. We are aware some individuals currently do not require transport due to the location of service offered. Depending on the market capacity will determine if transport will be required leading to potential additional transport requirements.

Have alternative transport modes been considered? Yes

e.g. could use be made of public transport/walking/cycling etc.

Please explain your answer below:

Through individual assessment where appropriate alternative transport modes will be considered.

5 Waste

Is there likely to be an increase in waste as a result of the project? No

e.g. construction waste, packaging waste etc.

Have opportunities to prevent, minimise, reuse or recycle waste been identified and considered? No

e.g. will recycling facilities be available as part of the project

6 Wildlife and Biodiversity

Will there be any negative impacts on the natural environment? No

e.g. will the project involve removal of green space/trees; have wildlife surveys been considered; result in enhancements to green infrastructure; increased biodiversity opportunities etc.?

Has a preliminary ecological appraisal been undertaken? No

Has there been consideration of statutory assessments? No

e.g. Sustainability Appraisals, Strategic Environmental Assessments and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening?

N.B. This is a matter of legal compliance - All plans and projects (including planning applications) which are not directly connected with, or necessary for, the conservation management of a habitat site, require consideration of whether the plan or project is likely to have significant effects on that site. This consideration – typically referred to as the ‘Habitats Regulations Assessment screening’ – should take into account the potential effects both of the plan/project itself and in combination with other plans or projects.

7 Pollution to land/air/water

Is there a risk of pollution to the local environment? No

e.g.

- will there be surface water run-off or discharge into local water source?
- will there be any impact on local water quality?
- will any waste water require treatment?
- is there the potential for spillage of chemicals?
- is there the potential for emissions to air from combustion processes resulting in poor air quality?

8 Resilience to climate risks

Could climate risks affect your project? No

N.B. some projects may be more sensitive to future changes in the climate e.g. hotter and drier summers; milder and wetter winters; increased likelihood of extreme weather events. These climate risks may affect project delivery and should be considered at the early stages of project development.

Has the impact of extreme weather events on the project been considered? No

e.g. heat waves and flooding.

Is there a business/project continuity plan in place to ensure climate risks are minimised? No

e.g. can you ensure that the project is resilient to climate risks and can continue to deliver on outcomes.

Could the project exacerbate climate risks? No

e.g. increase flood risk or worsen temperature extremes in the locality.

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

9 Historic Environment

Have you checked with the WCC Historic Environment team as to whether there are any impacts on the Historic Environment (negative or positive)?

No

Check every development with the Historic Environment Team at the planning stage of each project. Further assessment may be required depending on the nature and scale of development. There may also be design options that would negate any need for further assessment (and lessen costs), or even opportunities to enhance heritage assets or their setting through the development.

Does the development have the potential to result in any impacts to the historic environment or opportunities for enhancement?

No

If yes, then further assessment will be required. This could take the form of a watching brief during groundworks if the potential is clearly understood and relatively low, or a more comprehensive desk-based and/or field investigation prior to development.

10 Procurement

Could any procurement associated with the project have a detrimental environmental impact? No

e.g. procurement of goods from overseas that have to be shipped; use of unsustainable materials or materials that cannot be recycled at the end of their use?

Is there likely to be increased Greenhouse Gas emissions from products purchased for the project? No

e.g. carbon emissions from transport and manufacturing

Will you be able to make use of sustainable products? No

e.g. recycled, local, ethical etc.

Have you considered the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012? No

All major contracts let by the Council (those of more than £100,000 in total value) will be expected to deliver a meaningful contribution to our vision of Social Value in the county. The Act requires us to consider how the services we commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local area.

– please see: [Social Value](#)

11 Declaration

I have confirmed that to the best of my knowledge that the information I have provided is true, complete and accurate

I have confirmed that I will make sure that Environmental Sustainability has been and continues to be considered throughout the project life cycle and should circumstances change in the project a further Environmental Sustainability Assessment Screening will be carried out.