

## **Alternative Day Services for Disabled People in Derby, Day Service and Short Break Service for Disabled People with High Level Needs**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To seek approval to award a contract to the Winged Fellowship Trust (WFT) to provide day care services and a short break service to disabled people with high level needs.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Provision of a dedicated day care and short break service for disabled people with high level needs is an integral part of the re-provision of day services and implementation of recommendations resulting from Adult Services Day Care and Residential Best Value Reviews.
- 2.2 The service would be implemented on a phased basis, with this contract being awarded for the provision of a realistic and affordable transitional service to commence April 2005. The day service will be based at Rycote and the short break service at WFTs existing respite care facility in Nottingham, Skylarks.
- 2.3 Developing a working partnership with WFT at this stage will secure their continued interest in developing their services in Derby and provide a solid base from which to work towards the longer term goal of a purpose-built unit offering a short break service for four people and day care provision for 12 people daily, operating flexibly seven days a week, 16 hours a day. External funding will be sought for the new base for this service.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 A progress report was presented to Cabinet on 6 July 2004 detailing the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan to provide alternative day services for disabled people in Derby. A more detailed report was promised in respect of awarding a contract for the new short break and day care provision for disabled people with high level needs. This report focuses on the development of this service.

- 3.2 This dedicated quality service will support disabled people with high level needs to continue to live independent and meaningful lives and reduce the incidence of carer stress and family and home situation breakdowns, factors which can result in premature, unnecessary and costly admissions to long term residential placements. Investment in this preventative service should result in containing and / or reducing long term placement costs.
- 3.3 Lack of provision in this area has led to people using expensive placements out of Derby, receiving care in Older People's Homes or disabled people and their carers not receiving a service they have been assessed as needing.
- 3.4 Consultation with Social Services workers, health colleagues and other interested parties has confirmed the need for a dedicated day care and short break provision for people with high level needs. Up to 79 people were identified as potential users of this service. This would include approximately 20 current Rycote service users.
- 3.5 Social Services currently purchase a one-bedded local respite care service. This service does not offer nursing care which is often required for people with high level care needs. We would want to look at integrating this service into the new local dedicated short break provision (specialist unit) once it is established. Consultation will take place on this with current service users and the provider over the next year.
- 3.6 WFT tendered for the day care and short break service for people with high level needs and were successful in being selected as the preferred provider of this service. WFT is an established national organisation, renowned for their success in providing innovative, inclusive service provision for disabled people in England and abroad. Bringing this organisation to Derby would be an asset to Derby's service provision for disabled people. WFT's service specification offered the provision of a high quality, innovative, non-traditional, culturally appropriate, person-centred short break and day care unit (four short break beds and day care facilities for 12 people daily operating seven days a week, 16 hours a day). Integral to service delivery would be rehabilitation, independence and social inclusion.
- 3.7 In recognition of the time it will take to develop the service model fully in a new-build environment, and that provision of a service for people with high level needs is integral to the re-provision of day services, it is felt that a phased approach to the implementation of this service is necessary. A transitional service is therefore planned which is both realistic and affordable and enables the service to start in April 2005. It is likely that this transitional service will be needed for at least two years. However, this will be subject to review with WFT and in consultation with service users, particularly given the possibilities that may emerge in the longer-term at Rycote Centre with the plans being developed in conjunction with the Adult Learning Service.
- 3.8 WFT have called their proposed new service 'New Horizons'. 'New Horizons' is seen by Social Services and WFT as being modern and vibrant, and very different to traditional institutionalised day and short break service provision. The transitional service is described in more detail in Appendix 2. The 'New Horizons' transitional service, once established, will give us a firm platform for

developing the final service as outlined in the original tender specification.

- 3.9 WFT have considerable experience of managing change both with staff and service users, having experience of reshaping traditional services in different centres around the country. WFT are very positive about plans to move Adult Learning into the Rycote Centre, seeing it as an excellent opportunity for partnership working and the potential for developing an inclusive community based environment. WFT are committed to developing working partnerships with the wider community and external educational and leisure services to assist with activities and inclusive service provision.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Approaching Leonard Cheshire to extend and reshape their current day service provision to offer a transitional service for people with high level needs was considered. This option was not pursued because:
- it was felt that existing service users may have more difficulty recognising this as a new service, offering a specific service only to people assessed as having high level needs, thus reducing the momentum for change
  - it was felt this would reduce the chance of achieving our ultimate goal of providing a purpose-built specialist short break and day care unit for people with high level care needs.
- 4.2 WFT were our preferred provider through the tender process and are offering the service philosophy and delivery style embedded within the original tender document. The WFT option also allows for the inclusion of the much needed short break provision from April 2005.
- 4.3 The option of the Social Services Department providing this service was not chosen because the conclusions of the Best Value Reviews undertaken were that we should be seeking to set up a wider range of partnerships with other organisations to deliver services.

**For more information  
contact:**

**Background papers:**

**List of appendices:**

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None

Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 2 – Specification for the 'New Horizons' transitional service

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. The proposals can be met within existing budgets.

	<b>2005 / 06 £000</b>
<b>Commitments</b>	
New Day Services Contract (including transport costs)	469
Start up costs (one year only)	70
New Respite Services Contract (including transport)	79
Alternative Day Services	163
	<b>781</b>
<b>Budgets</b>	
Leonard Cheshire Contract	335
Alternative Day Services and Team	242
Leonard Cheshire Transport	119
Residential Care – Respite	76
Direct Payments – Respite	2
Projected charges	7
	<b>781</b>

**Legal**

2. None.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 The Council is working with Leonard Cheshire Foundation to avoid redundancy costs. Five former Council employees are still employed by Leonard Cheshire Foundation (TUPE) on the Rycote contract and will be considered positively for employment opportunities in the Council should this become necessary.
- 3.2 TUPE may also apply in relation to Leonard Cheshire and WFT. This will be explored with partners.

**Equalities impact**

4. The emphasis on community-based services which promote social inclusion will provide opportunities for disabled people to achieve the maximum possible independence and control over their lives. This includes people from black and minority ethnic communities.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

5. The proposal comes under the Council's Objective of protecting and supporting people and it also supports the Council's priorities for change to develop plans to modernise residential and community care.

## **SPECIFICATION FOR THE 'NEW HORIZONS' TRANSITIONAL SERVICE FROM APRIL 2005**

The service will offer day services at Rycote and short breaks at Skylarks but be managed as one service. The main components are:

- day service for 10 – 12 people daily
- day service to be provided from the Rycote Centre by WFT
- day service to operate between 9am – 4pm and from Monday – Friday initially, with the recognition that this will evolve and expand to reflect and ultimately deliver a more flexible person-centred service
- block purchase of two respite care beds at Skylarks Respite Care Centre, West Bridgford, Nottingham, enabling access to quality short break residential / nursing care provision on a flexible, pre-booked or emergency basis. As WFT are a national organisation with respite care centres across the country, there is the potential for exchanging weeks at other centres to increase choice if required
- flexible transport to and from Rycote and Skylarks for service users and their carers. Two accessible vehicles would be available throughout the day enabling the centre to act as a springboard for users to participate in activities around the city
- WFT will recruit, train and supervise volunteers to complement high staffing ratios and offer one-to-one support with social and educational opportunities. WFT have developed the concept of extending opportunities to their service users in participating in social, community and other activities through volunteers
- opportunity for day service to link to and have use of Skylark's activity programmes and resources
- Skylark's respite care centre offers:
  - pre-booked respite care
  - emergency 24 hour nursing staff
  - accessible hydrotherapy pool
  - stimulating environment offering: special interest weeks, daily planned excursions, evening entertainment and bar and one-to-one support to pursue individual interests and outings
  - high staffing ratios and volunteer networks
- the centre offers the opportunity for combined breaks for carers with disabled partners, enabling couples to take a break together, with Skylarks providing full care support
- WFTs philosophy is that all of their Centres operate as a 'hub' from which to access the wider community: all programmes leading 'out' of the centre as opposed to 'into'
- service users would develop and work to personal 'life plans' (identifying personal aspirations and goals) to ensure services promote and enable progression, independence and rehabilitation.