

# HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



Report subject	<b>Day Opportunities Strategy</b>
Meeting date	15 January 2024
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	To provide an update on the current status of the Day Opportunities Strategy Project.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a) Committee review the draft Day Opportunities Strategy for any comment.</b></li> <li><b>b) Committee are aware of the current Day Opportunities Strategy public consultation and proposals for future Tricuro day service provision, for subsequent review in March 2024.</b></li> </ul>
Reason for recommendations	To receive and comment on the progress in the development of the future Day Opportunities Strategy.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor David Brown – Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing
Corporate Director	Jillian Kay - Corporate Director for Wellbeing
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Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Update and Information

## Background

1. Day opportunities can mean different things to different people. They can be about learning new skills, taking part in a wide variety of hobbies and interests, accessing the community, supported employment and volunteering opportunities and developing friendships and support networks.
2. In addition, BCP Council recognises that carers, parents, and guardians of those who access day opportunities rely on these services to reduce the likelihood of carer break down. Day opportunities provide much needed short-term respite for carers to continue their role.
3. The term 'day opportunities' will be used when referring to all potential activities as defined above, as opposed to the terms 'day services', 'day centres' or 'day care' which have an association with the provision of building-based services. Day services/centres/care are included in the term 'day opportunities' but not vice versa for the purposes of clarity.
4. Officers have worked in co-production with people with lived experience, their families and carers, members of the public, a range of advocacy groups, providers of day opportunities, NHS Dorset, BCP Council members and officers, and other local authorities to undertake a review of current services to inform the draft Day Opportunities Strategy.
5. The agreed key themes of the project are:
  - Co-production
  - Strength based approach.
  - Asset Based Community Development.
  - Innovation
  - Market Shaping
  - Sustainability

## Case For Change

**Following all of the project work, 6 overarching design priorities and 25 proposals within these priorities, were agreed through co-production.**

6. The co-production group included portfolio holders and other councillors of BCP Council who were actively involved in the work resulting in the Case for Change priorities that were supported by HASC Overview and Scrutiny and approved by Cabinet in March 2023.

7. The agreed priorities were also informed by the public engagement and view seeking questionnaire in November 2022 and have underpinned the subsequent development of a co-produced draft day opportunities strategy (see Appendix 1 – Draft Day Opportunities Strategy and Appendix 2 – Draft Easy Read Day Opportunities Strategy) and included input from the current portfolio holder for Health and Wellbeing.
8. The 6 priorities with 25 proposals within are as follows:
  - Day Services Review
  - Supported Employment Review
  - Standards and Support for Day Opportunities
  - Transport
  - Cost/Eligibility of Day Opportunities
  - Accessible Information
9. The draft strategy is currently released for public consultation from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024<sup>1</sup> and sets the direction for future services based on these 6 co-produced design priorities.

## **Project Update**

10. The approved priorities of the strategy endorses a mixed model of day opportunities including development of more cost effective community-based activities for people within their local area and hubs that will ensure a safe space for people who require a building-based service as well as broadening the day opportunities offer.
11. In order to provide the community-based provision that will be needed for the modernisation of day opportunities there is current work ongoing in Micro-Provision and Individual Service Fund (ISF) development. This includes:
  - Community Catalysts to work with local communities to develop the micro-provider market. Micro-providers provide local care services and more and are totally independent of any umbrella body. Most Micro-providers are self-employed sole traders, but they can also up to eight people employed or volunteering. Typically, Micro-providers support people with personal care, managing their home or garden, helping people get out and about, meeting friends, pursuing hobbies and/or work.

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<sup>1</sup> [Day Opportunities Strategy and Review | Have Your Say Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole \(bcpcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.bcpcc.gov.uk/day-opportunities-strategy-and-review)

- Reviewing individual packages and exploring with people what their options are to access more community-based day opportunities where appropriate.
  - Developing ISFs and enhancing Direct Payments to ensure that people in BCP have control over how they purchase their care and support.
12. There are a number of providers operating day centres in the BCP area. Eight of these centres are operated by local authority trading company Tricuro. Of these eight Tricuro day centres, there are five smaller 'Plus' centres and three larger 'Connect' centres:
- Highcliffe Plus (currently based at Christchurch Connect since the pandemic)
  - Wallisdown Plus (currently based at Parkstone Connect since the pandemic)
  - Westbourne Plus (currently based at Boscombe Connect since the pandemic)
  - Moordown Plus
  - Poole Plus
  - Boscombe Connect
  - Christchurch Connect
  - Parkstone Connect
13. In keeping with the public consultation on the draft Day Opportunities Strategy to increase community day opportunity provision, engagement sessions have been held to directly speak with people who use, rely on and work at the 5 Plus Tricuro services.
14. The following two proposals have been put out for public consultation but have not been co-produced as part of the day opportunities strategy project. The proposals are being considered as part of the Council's review of its financial position.

#### **Consultation Proposal 1:**

15. **Close the five Plus centres and move service users either to community-based services or to larger Connect centres. Three of these centres have not re-opened following the pandemic lockdown in 2020, with service users currently accessing services at nearby Connect centres.**

#### **Consultation Proposal 2**

16. **Close all eight Tricuro centres and move all service users to either community-based services or to day centres operated by other providers.**

17. The results of the consultation on the strategy and the 2 proposals above are intended to be brought to HASC Overview and Scrutiny Committee in March 2024 for approval of the finalised strategy and input on the recommendations of potential closures of Tricuro services for approval by Cabinet.

### Summary of financial implications

18. BCP Council's budget for commissioned day opportunities for 2023/24, including day care from the independent day opportunities provider market, is £6,466,251. Of this, Tricuro day services block contract budget for 2023/24 amounts to £4,649,151.
19. Furthermore, there are a cohort of people that purchase day opportunities through a Direct Payment. It is not known what proportion of this is spent solely on day opportunities, due to the nature of individual choice and flexibility in regard to Direct Payments. However, the majority of this spend is on less expensive 'community support' day opportunities and therefore should be encouraged further.
20. The Council originally set a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) savings target of £1.3m for Day Opportunities Services between 2023-25 with £600k already saved for 2023-24 and a further £700k to be saved for 2024-25. Subsequent proposed review of the budget position due to financial pressure the authority is facing, has led to the 2 proposals detailed above for the following additional projected savings.

**Table 1 Financial Implications of the Proposals**

Proposal	Proposal detail	MTFP additional savings
Proposal 1	Closure of Tricuro's 5 Plus Day Service buildings	£835,000
Proposal 2	Closure of Tricuro's 8 Day Service buildings	£1,256,000

21. The delivery of proposal 1 would mean a total saving of £1.535m of which £935k could be delivered in 2024/25 and £600k in 2025/26.
22. The delivery of proposal 2 would mean a total saving of £1.956m which could be delivered over a 3-year programme at £652k each year.

## **Summary of legal implications**

23. The proposals set out in this report are consistent with the key provisions of the Care Act 2014. Section 2 of the Care Act provides that the Council has a duty to provide or arrange for the provision of services which it considered will:
- Contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by adults in its area of needs for care and support.
  - Contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by carers in its area of needs for support.
  - Reduce the need for care and support of carers in its area.
24. Section 5 of the Care Act provides a general duty for local authorities to promote diversity and quality in the market of care and support providers for people in their local area.
25. In considering these proposals, it is essential that the Council is mindful of the requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. Therefore, consideration must be given to the contents of the Equality Impact Assessment so that informed decisions can be made.

## **Summary of human resources implications**

26. None identified at this stage. BCP Council does not directly operate any day opportunities. There may be human resource implications for providers based on the service design and decommissioning of services at a later stage.

## **Summary of environmental impact**

27. A draft Decision Impact Assessment has been completed (ID 390) and is available on request. This will be finalised as part of future service design work.

## **Summary of public health implications**

28. It is anticipated that there will be benefits for the health and wellbeing of those who access services and their carers in the BCP area through a greater choice of personalised local services and reduced costs.

## **Summary of equality implications**

29. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) panel was attended on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (see Appendix 3 - EIA Panel outcome form - Day Opportunities 30.08.23) The project lead has been advised to attend an EIA panel when the results of the consultation on the Day Opportunities Strategy and subsequent proposals are apparent in January 2024.
30. If Proposal 1 was recommended in its entirety and approved by Cabinet this would predominantly impact Moordown and Poole Plus services as the other 3

Plus services have already been re-provisioned at Connect centres when services re-opened after the pandemic. Both services are for older people. Moordown Plus has approximately 46 clients (of which 6 are self-funded) attending their service for 529 support hours per week. Poole Plus has approximately 47 clients (of which 15 are self-funded) attending their service for 644 support hours per week.

31. If Proposal 2 was recommended in its entirety and approved by Cabinet this would impact all 8 Tricuro day services. For all 8 day services there are approximately 475 clients (of which 70 are self-funded) accessing approximately 6,173 support hours per week. There are a wide range of care needs for those accessing all services including older people, people with a learning disability and/or autism, a mental health issue, physical disability, and sensory loss. Older people and those with a learning disability are more likely to be impacted by this proposal due to their greater representation in attendance at Tricuro day services.
32. The following table shows for each day service the numbers of people, including those with an eligible care need who access services as part of the block contract with Tricuro and those who are self-funded, and total number of support hours accessed in a snapshot week in November 2023

**Table 2 Snapshot of Tricuro Day Service attendance per week for November 2023**

<b>Day Service (support specialism)</b>	<b>Number of people attending per week as part of the block contract with Tricuro</b>	<b>Number of self-funded people attending per week</b>	<b>Total weekly hours (including self-funders)</b>
<b>Boscombe Connect (varied)</b>	113	15	1,673
<b>Christchurch Connect (varied)</b>	42	11	774
<b>Parkstone Connect (varied)</b>	113	12	1,831
<b>Highcliffe Plus (Older people)</b>	25	9	148
<b>Moordown Plus (Older people)</b>	40	6	528.5
<b>Poole Plus (Older</b>	32	15	644

people)			
<b>Wallisdown Plus (Learning Disability)</b>	13	2	336
<b>Westbourne Plus (Mental Health)</b>	27	0	238
<b>Total for all services</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>6,172.5</b>

33. Depending on the consultation outcome, recommended proposal options and decision making of Cabinet in March 2024, consideration will need to be given to the protected characteristic groups that are significantly impacted, including those who are paid and unpaid carers for people accessing services.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

34. Pending finalised Day Opportunities Strategy agreement and recommendations of the 2 proposals currently out to public consultation, the key risk will be regarding any objections about changes to services. Through ongoing co-production with a wide range of stakeholders, and formal consultation with people using services, it is planned that this risk will be mitigated.
35. There is a risk that if we do not implement changes to the current model, the existing available budget for day opportunities will not meet ongoing and future need in the BCP area.
36. Interdependencies with other strategies and projects, as well as unprecedented levels of demand and business as usual. Constraints regarding how much staff resource can continue to support this project as it moves into the implementation phase.
37. Time pressure on the project, whilst achieving meaningful co-production.
38. Achieving MTFP savings on the Day Opportunities budget whilst still working in co-production, recognising effective co-production takes time.
39. Risk log for project available on request.

### **Background papers**

None

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Draft Day Opportunities Strategy for Consultation



Appendix 2 – Draft Easy Read Day Opportunities Strategy for Consultation

Appendix 3 - EIA Panel outcome form - Day Opportunities 30.08.23