



Day Opportunities Strategy 2023 - 2028

Our plan for day opportunities in
Bournemouth, Christchurch and
Poole





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About day opportunities

We are Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.



Part of our job is to give services and support to people who need it.



1 of the services we run is called **day opportunities**.

Day opportunities are different activities for people to do during the day.



People who usually use day opportunities are older or disabled people.



More than half of the people who get day opportunities from us have a learning disability.



This plan tells you our ideas about how we should run day opportunities in our areas.



We want to know what you think about this plan.



Please read our plan and then answer our questions in our easy read questionnaire.



We also have some questions about what to do about some of our day centres.

How day opportunities work

Day opportunities give people a chance to:

- learn new things
- make new friends
- be part of their local community



Some of our day opportunities are in buildings called day centres.



At the day centre there are lots of activities happening.

Things like art and making things.



8 of the day centres in our area are run by the Council.

There are other day centres too but they are run by other organisations.



We also have day opportunities in the local community. This is things like:

- gardening groups



- going to local village halls and community centres



- going to shops and parks



- training and learning new skills



- getting a job or volunteering

Why we need to look at how we work



More and more people are needing support from day opportunities.



But we have less money to pay for it.



We need to spend less and find ways of working that mean we can:

- give day opportunities in the best way



- help more people



- carry on helping people in the future

How we made our plan

This plan was written together in a group by:



- people who use day opportunities and work in day opportunities

and

- Council and NHS staff



To decide what to put in the plan the group:

- asked for ideas from people who use our services, carers and different staff



- gave people questionnaires to fill in about day opportunities

- held meetings where people could tell us what they think about our services





Our 6 priorities

We think there are 6 things we need to work on in the future. We call these our **priorities**.

For each of our priorities, we will tell you:

- some of the things we found out in our work looking at day opportunities

and

- how day opportunities should work in the future





Priority 1: Look at how well day opportunities work now

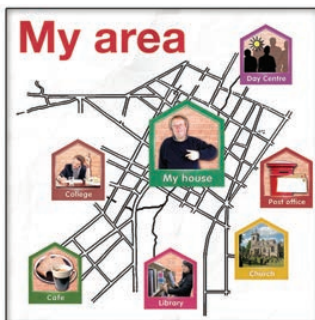
We asked people what they think about our services now. We found out that:



- more than half of people like choosing which day opportunities they use



- more than half of people like having a building to go to for day opportunities



- more than half of people said it is important to have day opportunities close to where they live



We want to:

- look at about how we use different buildings for day opportunities



- have some groups online for people who want to go to them



- think about how we can support younger people leaving children's services

Lots of young people want to learn new skills and have more choice of day opportunities.



- look at how we can have more day opportunities in the community for some people



Priority 2: Help people to have a job or do volunteer work

Volunteering means giving your time for free to help other people.

We found out that:



- 3 in 10 people think day opportunities is a place where they can learn new skills to help them get a job



- some people want to do some training courses at day opportunities to help them get a job



- 3 in 10 people said they wanted to learn things at a day centre to help them get a job or be a volunteer

We want to:



- support people who want to get a job or be a volunteer. We will help people to get a job and then get them training on how to do the job



- look at how we work with organisations who help people to get a jobs



- ask people if they would like to get a job and see how we can help them



- work with teams in the council to give people more chance to volunteer



Priority 3: Check that our day opportunities are working in the best way

We found out that:

- we do not have a way to check if all of our day opportunities are working in the same way

and

- staff do not have a way of meeting to talk about what works well and to share ideas



We want to:

- make a list of rules about how all our day opportunities should work
- find ways for staff from different day opportunities to have meetings and work together more





- make sure that day opportunity services are honest when they check how well they are doing



- think about having people who go to day opportunities to check them



- get better at writing down information about our different day opportunities



Priority 4: Use money in the best way so that more people can have day opportunities

We found out that:

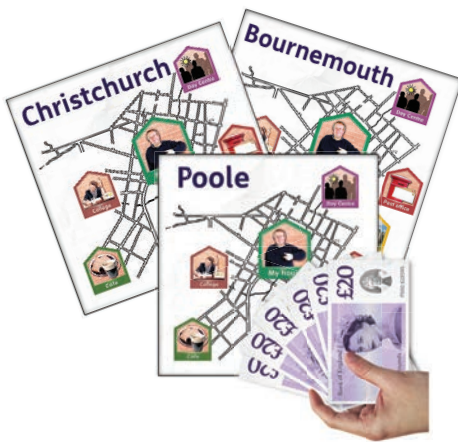
- some people have their day opportunities paid for by the council or NHS
- some people pay for their day opportunities themselves
- some people think the cost of day opportunities is different in different places
- people would like to have more day opportunities but worry about it costing too much





We want to:

- make sure that all people who need support can get it



- look at how much day opportunities cost in different places

We want to try and make this fairer.



- make sure we are using money in the best way when we pay for people's day opportunities



Priority 5: How people travel to day opportunities

How people travel to get to day opportunities is important.

We found out that:



- some people have a carer or family member who drive them



- some people use a taxi or minibus that the council pays for



- a few people pay for a taxi themselves



- some people use **public transport**
Public transport is things like the bus or train.



Staff told us that some people do not have day opportunities because they cannot get there.

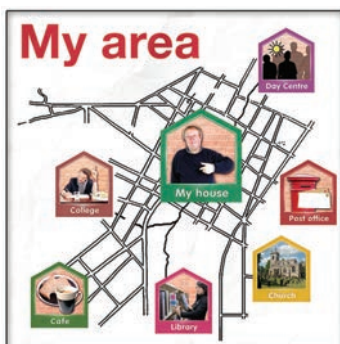


They said that the council does not have enough cars and drivers to help people travel.

We want to:



- find ways for people to travel together. For example getting a lift from someone else in the group



- set up more services closer to where people live. This will make it easier to get there



- give **travel training** to people who need it

Travel training is helping people to learn how to travel by themselves or with some support.



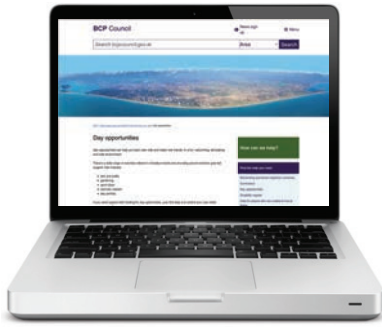
Priority 6: Accessible Information

Accessible means doing things in a way so that everyone can join in.

We found out that:

- most people like reading a newsletter to find out about new day opportunities
- some people like getting information from a website or an email
- some people find things out from their carer or social worker





We are going to:

- put accessible information about day opportunities on our website



- make sure that the information online is up to date

Things like, making sure the times and places are right.



- write more newsletters and put them in places like libraries

Our day centres and what we need to decide



It costs the council a lot of money to pay for the 8 day centres we run.



It costs less money to run day opportunities in the community.



We need to decide on what to do with our 8 day centres.



3 of our day centres are closed at the moment. The people who went there go to different day centres now.



We need to decide if we will keep these day centres closed.



We also need to decide if we are going to close any more day centres.



Please answer the questions in our easy read questionnaire.