

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Director of Community Health & Care Partnership

Community Health and Care Partnership: 2 February 2011

Subject: Progress Report on the Reprovision of Auchentoshan Day Centre

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the re-provision of Auchentoshan Day Services.

2. Background

- 2.1** On 18 February 2009 a report on the reprovision of Auchentoshan Day Centre was considered by the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee. The decision of the Committee was that Auchentoshan Day Centre would close with the department to proceed with the proposed development of the identified site at Dunn Street in Dalmuir, with the involvement of carers throughout.
- 2.2** Following the decision of the Committee of 18 February 2009, the Department of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development Estates Section entered negotiations with Clydebank Co-operative, to whom the building is currently leased, and a developer, who, under the proposals would acquire the top floor of the building at Dunn Street, and would have fitted the same out as the Day Centre and then leased it to the Council.
- 2.3** A further report was provided to committee on 15th December 2010. This report highlighted two issues which resulted in difficulties in taking forward the proposal regarding the premises at Dunn Street, namely:
- (a) On searching against the Council's titles, it transpires that there may be a small part of the building, towards the frontage (facing Dumbarton Road), which is not within the Council ownership. Searches and discussions are ongoing with potentially interested parties to ascertain the full position and seek a resolution.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the above, in any event, the matter would appear unlikely to be able to be progressed further, pending the outcome of a current internal investigations into the circumstances of this and other

transactions. Due to the nature of the investigations no further comment is presently possible.

2.4 Following discussion on the report, committee agreed the following –

1. to note that Learning Disability Services would continue to explore all options for service redesign in order to meet expectations set;
2. that a full and detailed report would be provided to the Partnership at its meeting to be held on Wednesday, 2 February, 2011; and
3. otherwise to note the contents of the report.

3. Main Issues

3.1 Since the Report to Committee on December 15th 2010 learning Disability Services have revisited the various options explored prior to the Committee Report of 18th February 2009. The opportunity has also been taken to explore some additional options, including the provision of services at Dumbarton Day Centre.

3.2 In addition to the options which have previously been explored and are listed at Appendix 1, Learning Disability Services considered the following new options –

Duntocher Hall, New Street, Duntocher – This building is likely to become available as a result of a review of council facilities. It is centrally located but has limited capacity and poor disabled access. It is likely that this building would require considerable capital expenditure to provide adequate space and access.

Skypoint Community Centre, Faifley – Learning Disability Services understands that the space occupied by the library within Skypoint is likely to become available. This building has adequate access and good parking. Based on previous consultations, it is likely that this option would encounter resistance from the carer group.

Clydebank East Community Centre – This is a purpose built community centre with disabled access and adequate parking. It has limited capacity in terms of space but could provide a Clydebank base with a specialist focus in keeping with the current model of outreach service delivery within Learning Disability Services.

3.3 In addition to the above, an opportunity exists to further develop both the services and the capacity of the Dumbarton Centre. Reconfiguration of the layout of this centre and a re-evaluation of current services could result in additional floor space becoming available.

- 3.4** As previously stated, Learning Disability Services remains committed to providing high quality, specialist services that respond to the needs of service users. In particular, the needs of those on the Autistic Spectrum and those with complex disabilities remain priority groups.
- 3.5** Throughout the Auchentoshan redesign process, consultation has been recognised as a key feature. The Auchentoshan Steering Group, comprising of elected Members, Carers, Staff, Service User representation, Trade Unions and Council Officers, continues to meet on a regular basis. Service user consultation is ongoing and is supported by Lomond and Argyll Advocacy Service through the Service User Network (SUN) group.
- 3.6** In light of recent developments, specific future consultations are planned with service users on 14th January 2011, and the Auchentoshan Steering Group is due to meet by the end of January, 2011.
- 3.7** In general terms, it is clear that further work would require to be undertaken should a viable option be identified. It was not possible to fully cost each option due to the time constraints between the December 2010 and February 2011 committees. There are currently no viable options on the Estates section portfolio, however, regular liaison will continue.

4. People Implications

- 4.1** As outlined in the Report to Committee of December 15th 2010, there are no additional effects on Council employees as a result of delay in reprovision. Those employees who were previously located within Auchentoshan and who are now currently elsewhere within the Learning Disability service, will remain redeployed.
- 4.2** For service users, the delay encountered as a result of the issues highlighted above will mean they will remain at the current locations for day services.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1** The delay in reprovision will have no significant effect on the revenue budget for 2011/12

6 Risk Analysis

- 6.1** As outlined in the Report to Committee of December 15th 2010, the service is currently provided within the Dumbarton Centre and at locality services in the Clydebank area. The service users remain settled within these services where their needs are met and therefore any risks are low,
- 6.2** There is a risk of increased anxiety on the part of families and carers as a result of the uncertainty surrounding this project. It is hoped, however, that

regular reports to Committee, like this one, will serve to mitigate this risk and keep all stakeholders informed of progress on the issues involved.

7. Equalities Impact

No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this measure.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 8.1** Learning Disability Services will continue to explore all available options for service redesign. We will work with colleagues across all council departments and provide regular reports to this Committee.
- 8.2** Committee is asked to note the content of this report.

Keith Redpath
Director of the Community Health & Care Partnership
Date:

Person to Contact:	David Elliott, General Manager of Learning Disability Service, Beardmore Business Centre, Tel: 0141 562 2332
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Appendices:	1
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Background Papers:

Wards Affected:	All
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Appendix 1

Site	Suitability	Access	Availability	Cost
Previous options explored but ruled out				
Braidfield High Campus	----- NOT A VIABLE OPTION -----			
Beardmore House, Dalmuir	Limited space over 3 floors	No disabled access at present	Not available. Currently occupied by DPHA with no immediate plans to vacate.	N/A – and significant capital investment would be required
Community Partnership Office, Alexander Street, Clydebank	Insufficient capacity to host an Auchentoshan Service	Limited disabled access	Not available. Currently occupied with no immediate plans to vacate	N/A
Previous options explored but were ruled out in favour of Dunn Street, Dalmuir				
Dalmuir Community Centre	Insufficient capacity to host an Auchentoshan service	Adequate disabled access	Building is not available to host an Auchentoshan service	N/A
Carus House Dumbarton Road, Clydebank	Little likelihood for non-office use	Adequate disabled access	Previous option appraisal has highlighted high revenue costs	Approx £100k per annum
Centre 81, Whitecrook	Modern facilities would meet the needs of the majority of service users. Carers may object to location.	Adequate disabled access	Sufficient capacity to host Auchentoshan service	T.B.C. Would require capital investment for specialist changing facilities
Goldenhill Resource Centre, Hardgate	Limited capacity to host an Auchentoshan Service	Limited disabled access	Currently occupied by NHS with no immediate plans to vacate	N/A
New options				
Duntocher	Limited capacity	Poor access.	Building	Costings,

Hall, New Street, Duntocher	to cater for most day services. Would require further examination of architectural plans and a more detailed feasibility study to determine whether premises were fit for purpose.	Would require capital investment to ensure adequate access for those service users with physical disabilities. There are no dedicated parking facilities.	available from April 2011. A timescale for any required works, would have to be drawn up.	based on meeting the issues of poor access, would have to be worked out in more detail.
Development of Dumbarton Day Centre, Bruce Street, Dumbarton	The premises have already proved themselves suitable for providing a range of service provision. Learning Disability services are currently exploring the option of concentrating resources and expertise in this one location with outreach services being offered throughout West Dunbartonshire.	There are no issues with access to the building. Access to services for service users and families would depend on the outcome of ongoing review of their needs and would include either attendance at Dumbarton Day Centre, take up of the outreach services, or a combination of both.	Building and services currently available. Development of additional services to meet service users and carers needs would take place as a result of ongoing re-evaluation of current services. Some reconfiguration of services and layout within Centre may be required	
Skypoint Community Centre, Faifley,	Building already used by community.	Already has disabled access and adequate 'on site' car parking	Negotiations with current users would be necessary to determine availability. Library closing soon which would free up more space	
Clydebank East	Limited space available.	Disabled access	Negotiations with current	

Community Centre	Building already used by several community groups who are keen to extend their usage. Some carers may object to location		users would be required – no guarantee of available space	
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