

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Council : 21 December 2011

Subject: Progress Report on the Reprovision of Auchentoshan Day Centre

1. Purpose

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

2. Background

- 2.1 Elected members will be aware of the background to the current situation whereby, following the closure of the Auchentoshan Centre in 2009, a building in Dalmuir was identified as a replacement. The Council previously noted that, due to a number of factors, the Dalmuir development would not be proceeding.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 Over the past 18 months officers have revisited the previous options explored prior to the Committee Report of 18 February 2009. It has also taken the opportunity to explore any additional options
- 3.2 The premises being considered need to be assessed against their suitability to meet the need of complex and challenging learning and physical disabilities including those on the Autistic Spectrum and those with complex disabilities remaining the priority for the redevelopment of services.
- 3.3 The Steering Group met on Oct 25th 2011 to consider the options before them, as described in the previous report to Council.
- 3.4 **Skypoint** – The capital costs for this option, thus far, have been previously costed at circa £336,000 by WDC architects and quantity surveyors, and could be delivered within 9 – 12 months from the date of approval.

Skypoint in Faifley is owned by the Council and the Steering Group noted that additional space, adjacent to the premises currently under

consideration, is now available for use as part of any new Learning Disabilities campus.

Plans have been drawn up to include the ex-nursery premises in the day centre facilities at an additional cost of £135,000.

Carers on the Steering Group are reluctant to make further decisions without a wider consultation of carers and service users.

- 3.5** To facilitate this, at its meeting on October 26th 2011, Council instructed officers to arrange a consultation meeting in a suitable Clydebank venue. All West Dunbartonshire Adults with Learning Disabilities clients, carers and staff were to be invited to attend.

The purpose of the consultation would be to inform all those present of the progress made to date and discuss what services people would like to see delivered across West Dunbartonshire.

This would include potential new services and activities that the Steering Group have seen during their working visits to Centres in other Council areas.

The consultation would also be an opportunity for carers and clients to give a view as to whether the Council should proceed with plans for the redesign of Skypoint.

There are currently no other premises available in the Clydebank area which would be suitable for this purpose.

The consultation event was scheduled for November 29th at Dalmuir Community Education Centre. Unfortunately it had to be postponed on the Day due to the severe flooding which affected the WDC area. This event will be rearranged as quickly as possible with a date in January 2012 being confirmed and notified before the end of this month.

4. People Implications

- 4.1** There are no people implications arising from this Report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no financial implications arising from this Report.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** As previously reported, 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.

7. Equalities Impact

- 7.1** No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this particular report, which is an update report only.

8. Strategic Assessment

- 8.1** The report is for information only and as such there are no strategic assessment issues which require to be addressed at the stage. Once a firm decision has been taken, a future report will consider the strategic assessment implications in full.

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 9.1** The Council is asked to note the revised arrangements being made to facilitate the consultation event during January 2012.

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Joyce White
Chief Executive
Date: 9 December 2011

Person to Contact: David Elliott, Acting Head of Mental Health, Learning Disability & Addictions
Tel: 01389 737356
Email: david.elliott@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendix: None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All Wards