

## **Committee: Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 2016**

Agenda item:

Wards: ALL

### **Subject: Activities within Learning Disability Day Centre – Mini task Group Review**

Lead officer: Stella Akintan, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Councillor Peter McCabe, Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People overview and scrutiny panel.

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#### **Recommendations:**

- A. That the Panel consider and comment on the broad scope for this review
  - B. That the Panel appoint members to the task group review.
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#### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to provide the panel with a draft scope and time table for a mini task group review of activities within Learning Disability Day Centres.

#### **2 DETAILS**

- 2.1. At the last meeting of this Panel, members opted to conduct a mini task group review to consider the range of activities available in Learning Disability Day Centres.
- 2.2. Day time opportunities play an important role for people who attend day centres. It gives people the opportunity to take part in various interests and activities; make friends; develop relationships as well as new skills. This can build their confidence and well-being
- 2.3. This review topic was put forward by a member of the public who, as a carer for a service user, was concerned about the number and range of day centre activities. This is because budget savings in 2014/15, led to a reduction in the number of front line staff and increase the use of volunteers to support activities within day centres.
- 2.4. Therefore the purpose of this mini review is to look at the current activities and determine whether they meet the needs of service users. It will also consider good practice from elsewhere particularly the neighbouring boroughs of Sutton, Wandsworth and Lambeth who have similar day centre models to Merton. The review will gather all the evidence and present its findings to the 8<sup>th</sup> November meeting of this panel.

- 2.5. The mini review will take place over the course of a day and will meet with six to eight witnesses who will be able to provide insight into the activities provided in day centres in Merton.
- 2.6.
- 2.7. Draft Timetable for the review

Date	Topic	Duration	Location
Early September	Agree scope of the review and witnesses	2 hours	Civic Centre
Mid September	Hold review day	10am-4pm	A local Learning Disability Day Centre
End of September	Visit services	To be agreed	Sutton, Wandsworth and Lambeth
Early October	Task group meeting to consider findings and agree recommendations	2 hours	Civic Centre
November 8 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Final report to Health Scrutiny Panel		

- 2.8. Suggested witnesses include:  
 Day Centre Staff  
 Service Users  
 Carers  
 Head of Direct Provision  
 MVSC  
**Learning Disability Charities:**  
 Scope  
 Merton Mencap  
 Merton Centre for Independent Living
- 2.9. Potential witnesses who are not able to provide evidence to the review will have the opportunity to provide a written submission or share their views with the scrutiny team at a convenient time.

### 3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

Cabinet is constitutionally required to receive, consider and respond to scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them at a meeting.

- 3.1. Cabinet is not, however, required to agree and implement recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny. Cabinet could agree to implement some, or none, of the recommendations made in the scrutiny review final report.

#### **4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1. The Panel will be consulted at the meeting

#### **5 TIMETABLE**

- 5.1. The Panel will consider important items as they arise as part of their work programme for 2016/17

#### **6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. None relating to this covering report

#### **7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1. None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the legal and statutory implications of the topic being scrutinised.

#### **8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1. It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

#### **9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1. None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the crime and disorder implications of the topic being scrutinised.

#### **10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1. None relating to this covering report

#### **11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

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#### **12 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 12.1.

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