

**LEARNING DISABILITY REDESIGN
INITIAL CONSULTATION EVENTS (GATHERING INFORMATION)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following on the consultation exercise undertaken in the Review of Older People's Services, the Learning Disability Project Team have identified the need for a series of initial consultation events across the Council area in advance of any further formal consultation process that will follow during the review process. The purpose of these listening events is to offer stakeholders the opportunity to discuss the main issues that they view as important and consequently inform the work of the Project Team. The proposal recognises that service users, carers and other stakeholder groups have very clear views of how services should be designed. The proposed consultation offers the Council the opportunity to include stakeholders and record the views of a very wide range of interested stakeholders across the Council area.
- 1.3 Similar events have been very successful during the redesign of Mental Health and Older Peoples services in the recent past. The Council will gain a better understanding of the issues service users and their carers have in relation to the future design of a new Learning Disability service.
- 1.4 These events will inform the business of the Project Team in determining options for future service delivery and will lead to a further formal consultation process which is intended to closely follow that proposed for Older People's Services

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Project Board are asked to agree to request by the Project Team to set up five initial consultation events. These listening events will allow for the gathering of a broad range of views by stakeholders on the future direction of the redesign of Learning Disability services.
- 2.2 The Project Board are asked to agree that the review of the Fyne View respite provision is progressed as part of the options appraisal to Learning Disability services.
- 2.2 Mr Davidson is appointed as the co-ordinator of these five events and he will be supported by Local Area Co-ordinators.

3. **DETAIL**

3.1 The proposal is for five initial events in:

- ❖ Oban – 28 April 2009
- ❖ Campbeltown – 5 May 2009
- ❖ Lochgilphead – 8 May 2009
- ❖ Bute and Cowal – 11 May 2009
- ❖ Helensburgh – 12 May 2009

3.2 This will take the form of a three hour open event led by an outside consultant - Mr Alex Davidson (Joint Improvement Team) and assisted by Local Area Co-ordinators (LAC) as well as Health and Social Work staff.

3.3 The events will start with a short introduction by Mr Davidson setting the scene in terms of the redesign process and then discussing the reasons for organising the listening events and gathering of information. Mr Davidson will then offer service users, carers and other stakeholders the opportunity to make their views known in terms of the future direction of service redesign within Learning Disability. The Local Area co-ordinators will assist in this discussion.

3.4 At each of the listening events information will be gathered and the views of stakeholders will be recorded. These views will be a source of valuable local information when the Project Team consider a long list of options in relation to the redesign of the service.

3.5 The Council agreed on 12th February that “the future of the Fyne View facility as a resource for the identified client group is further investigated as part of the review of Learning Disability services which is currently underway”. This matter will be dealt within the options proposals for respite services and while recognising that the consultation process may require to target a wider group of stakeholders given that older people presently use the service, the methodology used will be adequate to consider the matter within the Learning Disability review and does not require a separate process.

5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 The Project Board are asked to agree to the Project Team’s request to five initial consultation events to take place across the Council area. These events will be led by an outside consultant Mr Alex Davidson from the Joint Improvement Team. Mr Davidson will be supported by the Local Area Co-ordinators from each locality during these listening events. These events will pre-empt the further detailed consultation process that will follow the Project Board confirming which options will go to full consultation. It is also proposed that the Project Team follow the direction from the Council and ensure that the Fyne View Facility is included in the review process

- 5.2 A written record will be kept from each of these events and will be used by the Project Team when the process begins to draw together a long list of options within the service redesign process. It is anticipated a number of broad themes will be identified at each event.
- 5.3 A final set of dates will be confirmed with Mr Davidson and these events will be organised promptly if and when agreed by the Project Board.

6. **IMPLICATIONS**

<i>Policy:</i>	Fits well with the policy “Nothing About You Without You” and strengthen the relationship with service users and carers in relation to the redesign process.
<i>Financial:</i>	Funding for the proposed Consultation process has been identified.
<i>Legal:</i>	None.
<i>Personnel:</i>	None.
<i>Equal Opportunities:</i>	None.

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