



<b>Report for:</b>	<b>Special Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b>	<b>Item Number:</b>	
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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Further information in response to “Call In” of decision of Cabinet of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b>
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<b>Report Authorised by:</b>	<b>Beverley Tarka, Interim Director of Adult Social Services</b>
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<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Beverley Tarka, Interim Director of Adult Social Services</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected: All</b>	<b>Report for Non Key Decision</b>
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**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide further information to support the Committee’s scrutiny of the issues raised in the “Call In” of the Cabinet decision of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in respect of Corporate Planning (Budget).

**2. Cabinet Member introduction**

2.1 The Adult Social Care proposals contained in Priority 2 of the Medium Term Financial Plan have previously been considered by the Adult and Health Scrutiny Panels on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015. They have also been considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

2.2 There was robust, but fair, challenge to the budget proposals and the subsequent discussions were both informative and constructive.

2.3 It still remains the case that the budget proposals are high level proposals and, if agreed at Full Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, further work will take place to develop detailed plans. Prior to Full Council’s decision, officers may not yet be in a position to provide detailed responses to the questions raised.

2.4 It is important for Committee members to note that the Council has a duty to meet an assessed need. This applies currently under NHS and Community Care Act



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1990 Section 47 and from April 2015 will apply under Part 1 Section 9 of the Care Act 2014. Therefore, for any individual who is assessed as having a need, that need must be met by the Council, irrespective of whether there are building based services in place.

### 3. Recommendations

3.1 That the report be noted.

### 4. Alternative options considered

4.1 None.

### 5. Further information on reason for “Call in”

5.1 **“Learning disabilities day care centres should not close, in particular the Roundway, as they deliver a high level of specialist care to people who have very high needs”.**

In respect of Day Services for Learning Disability, the proposal is to close three out of four centres with service users accessing community activities. It is recognised, however, that there are those with complex needs who will still need a particular specialist service and, for that reason, the proposal is that a service will operate from Ermine Road.

In the latter part of last year a feasibility study was conducted on the Roundway in terms of works required to bring the site to an acceptable standard. The outcome of this study will inform the detailed plans that will be developed and consulted on in the near future. The cost, however, involved in making the building fit for purpose, is estimated at £250-300k.

It is therefore proposed that specific autistic provision and provision for complex needs is developed on the Ermine Road site. It is envisaged that the business model will offer a mix of mainstream and centre based activities which is able to support individual need. Each individual will receive a personal budget based on their assessed needs, from which they can purchase the activity/session of their choice.

There is investment in advocacy of £20,000 to provide appropriate engagement of users of these, and other, services in consultation and co-design of alternative delivery models.

Alternative models of service delivery would be explored, and include having staff in place who are knowledgeable and understand the complexity of needs of the service user group.



5.2 **“In adult care the proposed cuts include closing the Haven. We believe closing the centre could lead to increased spending on care packages for people who would have been at the Haven. Closing the Haven is dependent on the Neighbourhoods Connect service working but there has only been a pilot run so far, it is not a proven service for this kind of care”.**

Currently the Haven provides a service to 48 Haringey residents. At 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015 there were 2,011 people in Haringey over 65 in receipt of a service from adult social care.

The majority of older people who receive day care services already receive additional care services. Addressing social isolation is an important element of day care and keeping people at home, but there are models, including Neighbourhoods Connect, which address social isolation without being buildings based, and is a service that would be offered to more than those who attend the Haven.

Neighbourhoods Connect is a community based service that is focused on improving outcomes relating to health, wellbeing and community participation. In Haringey the initiative has evolved from a pilot delivered by Age UK Haringey in west and south east ‘collaboratives’, from October 2013 to March 2014. The service has a particular focus on adult population groups who are at increased risk of social isolation, including:

- people with long-term physical and mental health conditions;
- unpaid carers;
- people who are housebound;
- people with dementia and their carers; and
- older people living alone or with an unpaid carer.

The pilot was designed, together with ‘Living Under One Sun’ (a local voluntary sector group), to deliver a range of interventions aimed at reducing social isolation and loneliness in line with the National Institute of Social Care Excellence guidelines. It supported residents in making positive choices about their wellbeing and increased use of activities and services currently available. The project also assisted local health and social care providers (e.g. reablement services and care agencies etc) to increase links with local community organisations that focus on the population of over 50s.

It is now proposed to build on the success of the pilot and to work across the borough of Haringey. Four Neighbourhoods Connect Services will be commissioned. There will be one service for each GP collaborative network. The four GP collaborative areas are:

- West Haringey;
- Central Haringey;
- North East Haringey; and



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- South East Haringey.

Each service has aims and objectives for people with all tiers of need and, again, the model is for an individual to receive a Personal Budget which is based on assessed need and for the individual to have choice in what they do.

It is envisaged that Neighbourhoods Connect would be responsible for signposting, connecting, organising/activities, and identifying venues as necessary. Sessions such as art therapy, music sessions, and bingo would be available for individuals to use their personal budgets. It is proposed, for example, that community venues such as communal areas in sheltered housing could be used to host such activities.

Personal Budgets are based on an individual's assessed need and cover a range of complexity and disability. It therefore follows that people with a complex needs assessment will attract a higher Personal Budget as compared to an individual whose needs largely require preventive solution ( e.g. reducing social isolation).

## **6. Variation of Action Proposed**

- 6.1 **“We also believe the Haven should remain open for at least a year whilst proper independent study is undertaken to ensure Neighbourhoods Connect is capable of delivering the service that has been commissioned for and that people with high care needs who would have used the Haven are now confident that NC delivers these outcomes instead”.**

The Neighbourhoods Connect specification has been successfully tendered. This has been a parallel activity which is not dependent on the outcome of the consultation. It has always been envisaged that, if the Medium Term Financial Plan proposal, which includes closure of the Haven, is approved, there would be further detailed project design and implementation plans which involve a transition period. This would enable the necessary arrangements to be made with people who currently attend the Haven.

Any decision taken forward will require Cabinet approval.

- 6.2 **“The council should at least undertake an independent study to show that there are other appropriate settings in the community that people with autism with high level needs can access safely and that expert staff are present in these other community settings before any day centres close”.**

It is proposed that autistic specific provision is incorporated into the future development of the offer from the Ermine site, as above.

- 6.3 **“The social enterprise model should be up and running with an assessed appropriateness for people with Autism and high level learning disabilities prior to any council day care closures. This will ensure the most vulnerable**



**people in our communities and carers are not left without a “safe outside home” provision”.**

A social enterprise model would usually involve the transfer of the service, including the possibility of TUPE transfer for staff. It would therefore not be possible to keep the two options running simultaneously. As part of any delivery modelling there would need to be a planned safe transition, and any proposal to transfer the service would also require Cabinet approval.

**7. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications**

- 7.1 This report provides further information in response to specific questions and comments raised by Councillors. It should be read in the context of the Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Planning report to Cabinet on 10<sup>th</sup> February – especially the Medium Term Financial Planning section of that report and the earlier reports to Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> December. These reports set out the legal requirement to set a balanced budget, the basis of the budget gap estimates and the principles followed in developing the plan.
- 7.2 The savings proposals approved at Cabinet on 10<sup>th</sup> February, including the ones discussed in this report, contribute to the balancing of the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy over the period to March 2018. Should any of these decisions be overturned, therefore, alternative proposals will need to be identified and implemented to ensure the Council’s budget remains sustainable for the future.

**8. Assistant Director of Corporate Governance Comments and legal implications**

- 8.1 The Assistant Director, Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and makes the following comments.
- 8.2 Pursuant to the Council’s Call-In Procedure Rules, the Committee is required to determine whether the call-in decision is “inside or outside the policy / budget framework”. In reaching that judgment, the Committee is required to consider the views of the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer. Those views are expressed in a report which forms part of the report pack to this Committee. Both statutory officers agree that the called-in decision is inside the policy / budget framework – see paragraphs 5.7 and 6.1 of the report.
- 8.3. The report of the Monitoring Officer also sets out the options open to the Committee to determine the call-in decision in the event that it resolves that the decision is inside or outside of the policy / budget framework – see paragraphs 5.11-5.13 of the report.

**9. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments**



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- 9.1 Equalities Impact Assessments have been developed on the high level proposals, and will be subject to further development on any proposals that are being taken forward following budget decision.

### **10. Head of Procurement Comments**

- 10.1 If the Medium Term Financial Plan is agreed, further modelling work will be developed to support the proposals. It is at this stage that Procurement would be engaged.

### **11. Policy Implication**

- 11.1 If the Medium Term Financial Plan is agreed, further modelling work will be developed to support the proposals. This will include any required changes to policy. These will be subject to further detailed consultation and Member decisions.

### **12. Reasons for Decision**

- 12.1 The purpose of this report is for information.

### **13. Use of Appendices**

- 13.1 None.

### **14. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

- 14.1 None of the information in this report is exempt information.