

<b>CABINET</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 9</b>
<b>13 MARCH 2023</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of: Claire Cluer Commissioning Manager – Day Opportunities	Debbie McQuade, Executive Director People and Communities	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor John Howard, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Health	
Contact Officer(s):	Claire Cluer, Commissioning Manager  Madeleine Hill, Senior Commissioner	Tel. 07442095059

#### **PETERBOROUGH CITY COLLEGE DAY OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT EXTENSION**

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> <i>Executive Director, People and Communities</i>	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<p>It is recommended that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve the extension of £3,656,914 funding for Peterborough City College to continue delivering Day Opportunities and Supported Employment Services in Peterborough from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2025</li> </ol>	

#### **1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

- This report is submitted to Cabinet following a referral from the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT).

#### **2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

- The purpose of this report is to gain Cabinet approval to extend the funding for Peterborough City College to provide Day Opportunities and Employment Support Services for people with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism.

Thus, ensuring the continuation of the Day opportunities and Employment Support Services.

- This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.4, 'To be responsible for budget planning, monitoring and expenditure/savings over £500,000,'

#### **3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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#### **4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

4.1 Since 2016, Adult Social Care have had a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Peterborough City College to deliver Day Opportunities and Employment Support to people with Learning Disabilities (LD) and Autism in Peterborough. The SLA has been reviewed by the Day Opportunities Transformation Project as the current SLA runs until April 2023. It is noted that Education's Service Director has confirmed that the agreement is an interdepartmental one and therefore a service specification is required and not a formal SLA.

4.2 The Peterborough City College Day Opportunities service supports 76 people with Learning Disabilities or Autism, who have eligible care and support needs, delivered across four sites owned by the City Council. It is the main provision in Peterborough, accounting for around half of all commissioned day opportunity support. Commissioned day opportunity support is delivered to those with eligible care and support plans via adult social care referrals. The service also supports an additional 22 people without eligible care and support needs, who have a learning disability or autism and need some light touch support, signposting, skills development and social interaction to be active members of the community. Support includes a drop in style hub where various projects run including skills for life sewing and vinyl printing, both being explored as possible social enterprises.

4.3 The Employment Support Service; is currently supporting 30 people with eligible care and support needs and a further 21 people without eligible care and support needs, of these 32 are currently in voluntary work placements and 14 are in paid employment. It is noted that the Employment Support Service was impacted by Covid-19 and is now focusing on rebuilding its social enterprises.

4.4

Service	Members with eligible care and support needs	Number of members with 1-1 support	Members without eligible care and support needs	Total number of support hours over an average week
City Hub	16	2 (plus 8 that have for 1-2hrs for personal care/behavioural support)		122
Industrial Hub	28	5	2	127
Kingfisher Hub	14	2		168
Kingfisher Centre	18	16 (others have 2:1)		435.75
441 Service Development Hub			20	84.5
Employment Hub	30		21	139
Totals over all services	106		43	1,076.25

Neither Commissioning or Contracts Managers have any concerns with the quality of the service and facilities provided. The college does not seem to be experiencing the workforce crisis that is reported by a lot of the social care market. However, a few changes are recommended as part of the extension

1. Complete an in-depth financial modelling exercise to allow benchmarking to ensure best value is being achieved.
2. The current SLA be transferred into a 'service specification'.

The new service specification will be developed from March 2023 in time for the start of April 2023. This will involve the Speak Out Council and Enabling Independence who have both agreed to check the document against the co-created 'what a good day opportunity looks like' document. It will also be written in collaboration with the provider to ensure KPI's are appropriate.

Key differences in the new specification compared to the existing SLA include:

- Better aligning to the Day Opportunities transformation project's vision and employment support plans. By defining what should be included as supported employment and what is in fact a day opportunity offering work-based activities, where the attendees are not actively looking for employment.
- Restructuring the support hours in consideration of the above, and the fact that an extra 100 hours per week are being delivered in the commissioned day opportunities, hence recognising hours that were once considered employment support are in fact work based day opportunities.
- Introduction of KPI's, to include an additional 100 hours per week of support delivered by the employment support service. There are currently no KPI's relating to outcomes and the specification only covers hours of support delivered. The new spec will therefore include KPI's to increase the numbers of people in paid employment and increased numbers of people with eligible care and support needs accessing the employment support service. It is recognised that this will also depend on referrals made by the authority. It is also recognised that targets of increased paid employments need to be agreed in collaboration with the provider as there may be specific barriers to paid employment, for those currently in volunteering positions, hence KPI's need to be realistic and relevant. The commissioning manager has a specification development meeting booked in with the provider for March 3<sup>rd</sup> to this.

## **5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 The recommendation supports the Prevention, Independence & Resilience corporate priority.

Namely, supporting residents with long-term care and support needs to stay connected to their local communities. Enabling a range of options for support and maximising the choice and control people have in their day to day lives.

Carbon Impact Assessment Summary:

As the service is already running and has been for at least 7 years prior. No change is requested. If the service did not continue people would still need the support and associated carbon emissions from utilities and travel would likely be similar using a different premises. This is also the case for water usage, carbon capture and waste at another premises.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Day Opportunities Commissioning Manager met with the colleges Service and Day Opportunities Managers, and some of the people attending the service via visits to all 4 sites, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2022. There had previously been no monitoring data collected from the college, so this was collected to cover the 3-month period of July – September 2022. This included viewing the college's attendance data, outcomes aligned to the service specification, staffing levels and the latest internal annual satisfaction survey carried out by the college.

The College's self-satisfaction survey reports:

- 93% (25) would recommend Day Opportunities to their friends and family (from the Employment & Preventative Service focused questionnaire)
- 96% of people surveyed said they would recommend Day Opportunities to their friends and family (from the complex needs and hubs questionnaire).

Information about the day opportunities was also gathered via 1-1 service user interviews as part of the project's initial engagement activity, looking at 'what's working well' and 'what could be better' within day services across Peterborough. It was noted that the college provided an exemplary model of effective transition from education to adult services for young people.

6.2 This recommendation has been considered by the Corporate Leadership Team.

## **7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

7.1 The Day Opportunity and Supported Employment service will continue, people will continue to have their care and support needs and outcomes met. There will be more people, with learning disabilities, in Peterborough in paid employment. There will be improved quality monitoring and equalities data collated.

## **8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

8.1

The reason for the recommendation is to ensure the continuity of an effective service for 106 people with eligible needs and a further 43 accessing services without eligible care and support. It will also enable the opportunity to further develop the Employment Support Offer having clear performance indicators to increase the number of people with a learning disability and/or autism to gain paid employment (ASCOF measure 1E).

The reason that a 2-year extension is requested, is to enable enough time to complete more in-depth financial modelling, to begin in April 2023, to determine value for money as the budget was transferred over in 2016 and has not been reviewed since. By continuing to provide the day opps through the City College, it is advised that monitoring data is continuously collected so that a soft market test and benchmarking is carried out to ensure best value is being achieved. This could lead to commissioners needing to plan and develop the market for potential competition and a shorter extension period would not be sufficient to complete this, and any subsequent procurement activity.

## **9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 9.1
- Do nothing i.e., not continue to fund Peterborough City College Day Opportunities and Employment Support services. This option is not a desirable or viable option, as it will not meet our strategic aims and will leave vulnerable people without a service. Whilst Day Opportunities are not statutory this would likely have a knock-on effect on other areas with people needing additional services from alternative provision e.g., homecare or accommodation.
  - Procure the service to the external market. This option is not a viable option, going to the market would leave a service delivery gap.

## **10. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

10.1 The total value over the two-year extension is £3,656,914 equating to £1,828,457 per year. The funding aligns to current budgets.

## **Legal Implications**

- 10.2 Section 5 of the Care Act 2014 places a general duty on the Council to promote the efficient and effective diversity and quality in the provision of services. The Council must have regard to section 5(2) Care Act 2014 and in particular, the need to ensure that the Council is aware of the current and likely future demand for services and to consider how providers might meet that demand, the importance of ensuring the sustainability of the market and have regard to the importance of promoting the well-being of adults in its area with care and support.

The Council must have regard to this general duty in its decision-making on this issue and by extending the period for the arrangement with the City College, in accordance with his report, the Council can ensure it is meeting its duty under the Care Act.

Furthermore, the Council can obtain the relevant information, over the course of the two years to complete an in-depth financial modelling exercise to allow benchmarking to ascertain if best value is being achieved.

## **Equalities Implications**

- 10.3 The service is targeted at a group who are recognised by the Equalities Act. By not extending this provision there would be a negative impact on adults with learning disabilities and/or autism in Peterborough.

As there is no change or new service proposed a new EqIA has not been completed. However, this extension offers an opportunity to strengthen our contracts monitoring information to include equalities data.

## **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 11.1 None.

## **12. APPENDICES**

- 12.1 None.

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