



# Buckinghamshire County Council Select Committee

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**Title: Discussion paper on key lines of inquiry for Day Opportunities Centres agenda item at 20<sup>th</sup> October HASC meeting.**

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## **Context**

The original Transformation of Day Opportunities Strategy highlighted that Buckinghamshire County Council were committed to placing greater emphasis on giving individuals personal choice about their own support arrangements, as well as taking a more community orientated approach. Day services for people with very complex needs will now be delivered from a network of new, or refurbished, fit for purpose Day Opportunity Centres – and these were subsequently agreed as Aylesbury, Chesham, Buckingham, Beaconsfield, Burnham and High Wycombe. These centres will also be used as a wider community resource. In addition there will be a network of Community Bases which will be the main provision for people who do not need a high level of support. Community Bases will be situated in community venues such as local community centres, village halls, leisure facilities etc. These will be places where people can meet and /or use as starting points for other activities within the local community. These services may be run by a variety of providers including local communities themselves.

Prior to the paper being submitted to the Committee in October Members of HASC will have the opportunity to visit Chesham, Buckingham, Aylesbury Centres. In addition there will be visits to Hillcrest (for Members to see what provision was like before the transformation) and the Burnham site.

## **Aims of the Agenda item at the October HASC meeting**

For members to assess the impact of post transformation on:

- The breadth and quality of provision
- Spread of provision and accessibility
- Usage of sites by target groups
- Meeting future changes in need and demand

## Suggested key lines of Inquiry for session

### What's on offer?

- Spread of Centres across Bucks and assessing the spread of provision
- Accessibility to centres for target groups
- Establish plans to grow capacity at centres
- What is the charging policy? – Who does the Council fund and self-funders?

### Promotional activity

- How has the service promoted the changes to users?
- How do potential users find out about the services on offer, where they are and any charges for activities

### The User and staff experience

To have photo evidence of before and after from the centres

- Evidence of the before and after experiences from clients and staff working at the centres – breadth of consultation.
  - Areas that have received positive feedback.
  - Particular challenges users have faced?
  - Any gaps or issues to address?
- Visits to day care centres - services offered and service users and managers/staff feedback.

### Reaching the right target audiences

- How will the service identify changes in need amongst its target groups?
- How will the service ensure flexibility in delivery mechanisms that can respond to changes in need?

### Promoting and increasing use of personal budgets and the development of community based services

- What work is the service undertaking to engage the VCS and Community Groups to enable continued growth of direct payments?

### Progression of the refurbishment

- To have an update on progression of the capital programme at Burnham, High Wycombe and Thrift Farm Café
- How the challenges of refurbishments are managed – e.g. decamping clients.