

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER

15 June 2016

Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Care

**FUNDING FOR INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT WEST STREET
RESOURCE CENTRE TO CREATE 2 DISABLED ACCESS TOILETS AND
PERSONAL CARE SUPPORT FACILITIES TO PROVIDE IMPROVEMENTS
IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS FOR THE NO LIMITS (PMLD)
SERVICE**

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for funding from the Maintaining Minimum Standards budget for internal alterations to create 2 disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities in order to improve the current toileting and personal care facilities for the No Limits (Profound & Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) service at West Street Resource Centre, Chesterfield.

2. Information and Analysis

The No Limits Service (previously known as Chesterfield PMLD) was established in 2006 and has offered day opportunities to both adults with profound and multiple disabilities as well as those with high support needs from both Chesterfield and North Derbyshire areas.

The No Limits Service moved to West Street Resource Centre near Chesterfield town centre on 11 April 2010 and originally shared the facilities with Leonard Cheshire Disability Services. After Leonard Cheshire relocated, the No Limits Service remained at West Street Resource Centre where they are still currently based.

The current equipment/facilities in place for personal care and moving and handling were assessed and provided based on the needs of the Leonard Cheshire clients. This included a Commodore Europa ceiling hoist, a Voyager 420 Sunrise ceiling hoist and a Transactive Westholme ceiling hoist. Despite regular servicing of the ceiling hoists the service is no longer able to use the hoists that were inherited from Leonard Cheshire due to both general wear and tear over a period of approximately 25 years and the manufacturers/suppliers of the equipment and their parts no longer being

available. Professional opinions have been gathered from our colleagues in Occupational Therapy, Mediquip and Architectural services who are all of the opinion that the equipment is no longer fit for purpose.

As a result, the service has no choice but to use 2 alternative areas of the building to provide personal care to the people that are supported on a daily basis. One area is situated at the upper end of the building within a "lounge type" area. This area does not have running water or a toilet. These temporary arrangements are resulting in the department not complying with health and safety, infection control and hygiene regulations. Whilst the service is not regulated at this time by the Care Quality Commission, it is of note that the current arrangements would not meet their regulations. Due to the needs of the people the service supports, this area is used specifically for people who require a wider, longer changing bench to ensure that all moving and handling procedures are carried out safely.

The second area is within an old changing area at the opposite end of the building. Although this area does have running water and a toilet, it is not large enough to accommodate an optimum sized bed used by some of the people the service supports. Therefore, this area is being used with a slimmer changing bed which is suitable for 4 out of the 10 people that use the service. Also amendments have been required to their personal moving and handling plans to accommodate the environment that they are currently being supported in. In this area, the service uses a small mechanical hoist for both weighing people and supporting those who are of a very slim frame. This is now broken and cannot be repaired as it is obsolete. The mobile Maxi Move Arjo Hoists at the service cannot be used as an alternative in this area due to door widths and manoeuvrability. As a consequence, the service is having to arrange for people to be weighed at Wheatbridge Medical Centre and additional personal care tasks will continue to take place in the "lounge area" which is currently being used as a changing room.

Corporate Property Services have previously assessed the viability of the whole building at West Street and identified that it is not financially viable to carry out repairs and refurbishment so that it can be fully utilised through bringing in other services and teams to occupy the space. As a result of this there is an ongoing requirement to find alternative accommodation in the Chesterfield area. However this has been the case for over a year and no suitable alternative options have been found to date. During that time and until alternative options can be found the No Limits service continue to occupy and operate out of the West Street building and a further Suitability Assessment Survey which included the functionality, quality and condition of the building, was completed with regard to the No Limits facilities at West Street Resource Centre on 19 January 2016. The audit has identified the need for improvements in the facilities available to the No Limits service to meet the personal care and toileting needs of those people who access the service.

The audit has identified that the following areas were assessed as 'completely unsatisfactory':

- Toilet facilities
- Layout of building for its existing use
- Inadequate toilet and bathrooms for the number of people who use the service
- A lack of suitable privacy and dignity areas
- Persistent odours present due to toilet drains
- Whilst not subject to this Cabinet Member funding request, the audit also identified the following areas that also require improvement:
 - Decoration, flooring, way finding and lighting
 - Improved furniture appropriate for the needs of the people who use the service.
 - Improved soundproofing and ventilation

Proposal for improved facilities

To respond to the situation outlined above, it is proposed that, despite uncertainty about the long term future of the building, essential work is carried out to bring the facilities up to a standard so that the service can meet the needs of clients safely and the departments health and safety, infection control and hygiene regulations. It is proposed that 2 disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities be funded within the existing toileting/changing areas at the front of the building. These facilities would provide all the equipment required to support people with profound and multiple disabilities with every aspect of their personal care needs. As well as providing crucial facilities to the people we support, these specialist changing facilities could be opened to members of the public both within the local community as well as visitors to the Chesterfield area. There are currently no changing facilities within Chesterfield or North Derbyshire for adults with profound needs, except at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

Without the alterations being made, we continue to be in serious breach of health and safety, infection control and hygiene regulations.

In summary, the building space being utilised by the service is in a general poor state of repair and is subject to a programme of improvements in terms of decoration, equipment and furniture. Whilst the service is not currently regulated by CQC, its current state of repair and facilities for meeting personal care would not meet their regulatory standards as well as the departments responsibilities under infection control, moving & handling and health & safety regulations. The toilet and personal care facilities do not provide an effective person centred environment for those who access the service and a safe working space for our staff to assist with complex moving and handling and

personal care. All people attending the service require suitable and adequate facilities to ensure they can be supported to complete their personal care with the necessary and appropriate equipment and facilities.

Asset management have confirmed that there are no proposed plans for the No Limits service to be relocated from West Street Resource Centre at this time.

Although there is an ongoing engagement process in place to review LD services and although the future of this service has not been set, it is highly likely that the complex needs of people using this service will mean that it will continue. In scoping for future services, the review group have factored in that No Limits will not only need to remain but will also possibly expand and that West Street Resource Centre appears to offer the best opportunity to accommodate the service (with some investment) in the future because of size and location. The relatively small investment required at this point is essential regardless of future plans in order to deliver effective, safe and appropriate care now.

There are currently no disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities in the centre of Chesterfield. It is proposed that both toilets and personal care support facilities could also be made available to members of the public during the opening times of the service as well as to those who access the support from No Limits

Proposed Benefits for clients and staff:

- The improvements will provide a social and physical environment that will maximise the quality of life for those who use the service and our staff's wellbeing and morale.
- The improvements will allow the service to be compliant in regard to CQC, infection control, moving and handling and health and safety regulations.
- The improvements will enable staff to provide care and support in a safe environment where people can be supported with dignity and respect.
- The improvements will enable the staff to provide personalised care for people with complex care needs. The present condition of the facilities sends a negative message to those who use the service and their carers in respect of the quality we attached to the service we provide.
- The improvements will allow our staff to safely promote an ethos that allows maximum independence by providing facilities that those who access the service can use safely and independently.

3. Financial Considerations

Property Services (Architectural Design) have assessed and costed the work required to remove the existing facilities and to fit and install 2 disabled access

toilets and personal care support facilities within West Street Resource Centre. Detailed costings are available for each room.

This project will cost £58,930 and will be funded from Maintaining Minimum Standards, the current budget is £1,421,125 prior to this commitment, this will leave a balance of £1,362,195 for future projects.

The headline costs are detailed below :

Room 1: £26,230

Room 2: £21,340

Preliminaries / Contingencies: £6,000

Professional Fees / Disbursements: £5,360

Capital Funding Requested: £58,930

4. Human Resources Considerations

There are no HR considerations

5. Legal Considerations

None

6. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered:, Equality of opportunity, health, environmental and property.

7. Background Papers

None

8. Key Decision?

No

9. Is it required that the Call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report?

No

10. Officer's Recommendation

To seek approval for funding from the Maintaining Minimum Standards budget for internal alterations to create 2 disabled access toilets and personal care

support facilities in order to improve the current toileting and personal care facilities for the No Limits (PMLD) service at West Street Resource Centre, Chesterfield.

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