# **AUTISM AND/OR LEARNING DISABILITY DAY OPPORTUNITIES**

**EARLY MARKET ENGAGEMENT – FEEDBACK QUESTIONAIRE**

People in Stockton-on-Tees currently access day opportunities service to meet the needs of adults with Autism and or Learning Disabilities through both commissioned services and through Direct Payments. The consultation with service users in 2020 identified this market has changed significantly, with the expectation of people with a learning disability and / or autism and their families highlighting: greater focus on social contact with staff and friends; a wide range of activities; support to access technology and a broader community day offer.

Feedback from providers of day opportunities was limited during this consultation and, as we move out of lockdown, Stockton-on-Tees Borough council (SBC) would like to explore and engage the market. Specifically:

* we would like to hear from providers who can offer a combination of building based and community based (utilising community assets) to provide meaningful activities to meet the needs of our service users;
* Providers who have introduced new and innovative models of support for people with a learning disability and/or autism who may have behaviours that challenge;
* Effective integration of technology; and
* How providers are ensuring individual person-centred outcomes as part of their service.

**WHAT WE NEED**

We need providers who can offer flexible, innovative and most of all meaningful day opportunities for service users, whilst also delivering value for money for the Council. Providers will be expected to work with Service Users and SBC, as well as other stakeholders, to evolve the service in line with changing expectations and need of both the service users and the market. As part of this we expect providers to:

Currently, delivery is based around individuals accessing the service on a sessional basis, although SBC is open to alternative models of funding.

Minimum expected standards for the buildings and the services include:

* Service normally operates between 09:00 and 17:00 – Monday to Friday, however, we would be looking to explore and expand the offer to evenings and weekends.
* Opportunities must be engaging and meaningful and enable people to live the lives they want to live.
* Support people to develop the confidence, skills, relationships and abilities that can maximise their control over their lives and access to opportunities.
* Enable people to establish and grow relationship in their communities and support people to be active and valued members of their communities.
* Empower people who benefit from day opportunities to participate, at all levels, in shaping and delivering the service.
* Enable people to access and benefits from the range of assets and resources that are available within their networks and communities.
* Work in partnership across communities and sectors to deliver outcomes that individuals have identified as important.
* Operate openly and honestly with SBC, sharing meaningful data and monitoring information.

**MARKET ENGAGEMENT**

We are at an early stage of designing these services and are keen to engage with the market and potential providers (both existing and new) to understand how you might deliver what is needed, and we are also interested to hear about your ideas and examples about what makes a good day opportunities service for adults with Autism and or Learning Disabilities who may also have other needs which may be deemed as challenging.

We are therefore inviting you to complete the attached questionnaire to provide us with your feedback and thoughts. We will use this information, alongside input from other stakeholders to develop a more detailed specification, and from there we hope to hold further engagement with potential providers.

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please use the form below to provide your response to us. We welcome feedback from those who already deliver similar services in Stockton-on-Tees, as well as those who don’t but can provide valuable insight from provision elsewhere.

**Please submit your response no later than 12:00 on 29 July 2021**

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| Name of Organisation: |  |
| Name of person completing this form: |  |
| Position of person completing this form: |  |
| Email address: |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Do you currently operate in the Stockton-on-Tees area? | Yes / No |

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| **QUESTION 1 – YOUR ORGANISATION** |
| Please use the space below to let us know about your organisation including where you are based, the size of your organisation, and anything else you feel is relevant. |
| Please enter your response here, the box will automatically expand as you type |

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| **QUESTION 2 – ABOUT YOUR SERVICES** |
| Please use the space below to tell us about the services you provide, and the types of people who use these services.  Please also tell us how you provide these services, and if you currently utilise community assets describe how you do this.  If you currently offer services outside of the Mon-Fri, 09:00 - 17:00 model, let us know how this is delivered and how it benefits the people who use your services. |
| Please enter your response here, the box will automatically expand as you type |

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| **QUESTION 3 – FUTURE COMMISSIONING** |
| Please provide feedback on services in terms of how the ways in which they are delivered and commissioned could be improved in the future, for example:   * What works well currently and where do you see opportunities for improvement in how services are commissioned and delivered, whilst being cost-effective and providing value for money? * How have you used technology and an enabler for high quality support; * Taking learning from Covid-19, what models of delivery do you think work well for the future? * If there are currently any barriers in the way services are commissioned that make achievement of outcomes for individuals difficult, how could these be removed? * Comments about our proposed approach to day opportunities. * How the types of services you deliver will support the key principles outlined in the ‘What we need’ section of this document |
| Please enter your response here, the box will automatically expand as you type |