

Public Document Pack



Helen Barrington

Director of Legal and Democratic
Services
County Hall
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 3AG

Extension

Alisha.Parker@derbyshire.gov.uk

Direct Dial 01629 538324

Ask for Alisha Parker

PUBLIC

To: Members of Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People

Tuesday, 30 January 2024

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the **Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People** to be held at **2.00 pm** on **Wednesday, 7 February 2024** in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG, the agenda for which is set out below.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen E. Barrington'.

Helen Barrington
Director of Legal and Democratic Services

A G E N D A

PART I - NON-EXEMPT ITEMS

1. Apologies for absence
To receive apologies for absence (if any)
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of interest (if any)
3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)

To confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People held on 01 November 2023.

4. Public Questions (30 minute maximum in total) (Pages 3 - 4)

(Questions may be submitted to be answered by the Scrutiny Committee, or Council officers who are attending the meeting as witnesses, on any item that is within the scope of the Committee. Please see the procedure for the submission of questions at the end of this agenda)

5. Day Opportunities for People with a Learning Disability and/or who are Autistic (Pages 5 - 24)

6. Updates on Current and Future Development in Fostering (Pages 25 - 34)

7. Work Programme (Pages 35 - 36)

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PEOPLE** held on Wednesday, 1 November 2023 at Committee Room 1, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG.

PRESENT

Councillor K S Athwal (in the Chair)

Councillors S Burfoot, C Dale, R George, N Gourlay, R Iliffe, T Kemp and P Rose.

Also in attendance was L Elba-Porter.

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillor J Wharmby.

24/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 06 September 2023 were confirmed as a correct record.

26/23 PUBLIC QUESTIONS (30 MINUTE MAXIMUM IN TOTAL)

There were no public questions.

27/23 RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE CHARGING POLICY FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS IN RECEIPT OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY

Linda Elba-Porter, Interim Director of Adult Social Care attended the meeting to present the results of the consultation on proposals to change the Charging Policy for local residents in receipt of Adult Social Care Support in the community.

A report was presented to Cabinet on the 15th June 2023 which sought approval to launch a public consultation; including consultation with local residents and their carers / families who were receiving Adult Social Care support in the community. Following Cabinet approval, the public consultation took place between the 3 July 2023 – 4 October 2023.

The Equalities Impact Assessment would be made available at the time the report was presented to Cabinet.

Members had questioned the attendance at both face to face and virtual meetings as well as the number of responses received overall to the consultation. It was confirmed that the number of responses equated to 36% of those receiving the care. Members were content that the consultation had taken place in a proper and appropriate manner.

It had been proposed by Councillor R George that the Committee make comment on the report, drawing Cabinet's attention to the key messages coming from the consultation results, emphasizing the impacts the options would have on users. Highlighting the top three responses in relation to finances, complexity and affordability; and the alternative suggestions made. The proposal was duly seconded by Councillor C Dale.

Following debate, the proposal was duly voted on and declared to be LOST.

The majority of Committee Members were confident that Cabinet would give due consideration to the points raised in the consultation before making its decision on the funding policy.

It was resolved that the report be noted.

28/23 WORK PROGRAMME

A number of items had come as suggestions for future work programme items following the previous two meetings.

Councillor K Athwal asked Committee Members for further suggestions. Members wished to see items on SEND Provision and Performance in regard to EHCP Assessments, School Governor Support, Support Provided to PA's and Full Time Carers, and a Review of Support Offered Following the Closure of Disability Day Centres.

Procedure for Public Questions at Improvement and Scrutiny Committee meetings

Members of the public who are on the Derbyshire County Council register of electors, or are Derbyshire County Council tax payers or non-domestic tax payers, may ask questions of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committees, or witnesses who are attending the meeting of the Committee. The maximum period of time for questions by the public at a Committee meeting shall be 30 minutes in total.

Order of Questions

Questions will be asked in the order they were received in accordance with the Notice of Questions requirements, except that the Chairman may group together similar questions.

Notice of Questions

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email to the Director of Legal Services no later than 12noon three working days before the Committee meeting (i.e. 12 noon on a Wednesday when the Committee meets on the following Monday). The notice must give the name and address of the questioner and the name of the person to whom the question is to be put.

Questions may be emailed to democratic.services@derbyshire.gov.uk

Number of Questions

At any one meeting no person may submit more than one question, and no more than one such question may be asked on behalf of one organisation about a single topic.

Scope of Questions

The Director of Legal Services may reject a question if it:

- Exceeds 200 words in length;
- is not about a matter for which the Committee has a responsibility, or does not affect Derbyshire;
- is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Committee in the past six months; or
- requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

Submitting Questions at the Meeting

Questions received by the deadline (see **Notice of Question** section above) will be shared with the respondent with the request for a written response to be provided by 5pm on the last working day before the meeting (i.e. 5pm on Friday before the meeting on Monday). A schedule of questions and responses will be produced and made available 30 minutes prior to the meeting (from Democratic Services Officers in the meeting room).

It will not be necessary for the questions and responses to be read out at the meeting, however, the Chairman will refer to the questions and responses and invite each questioner to put forward a supplementary question.

Supplementary Question

Anyone who has put a question to the meeting may also put one supplementary question without notice to the person who has replied to his/her original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The Chairman may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds detailed in the **Scope of Questions** section above.

Written Answers

The time allocated for questions by the public at each meeting will be 30 minutes. This period may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman. Any questions not answered at the end of the time allocated for questions by the public will be answered in writing. Any question that cannot be dealt with during public question time because of the non-attendance of the person to whom it was to be put, will be dealt with by a written answer.

Best Life Derbyshire

Scrutiny 7th February 2024

Day opportunities for people with a
learning disability and/or who are
autistic



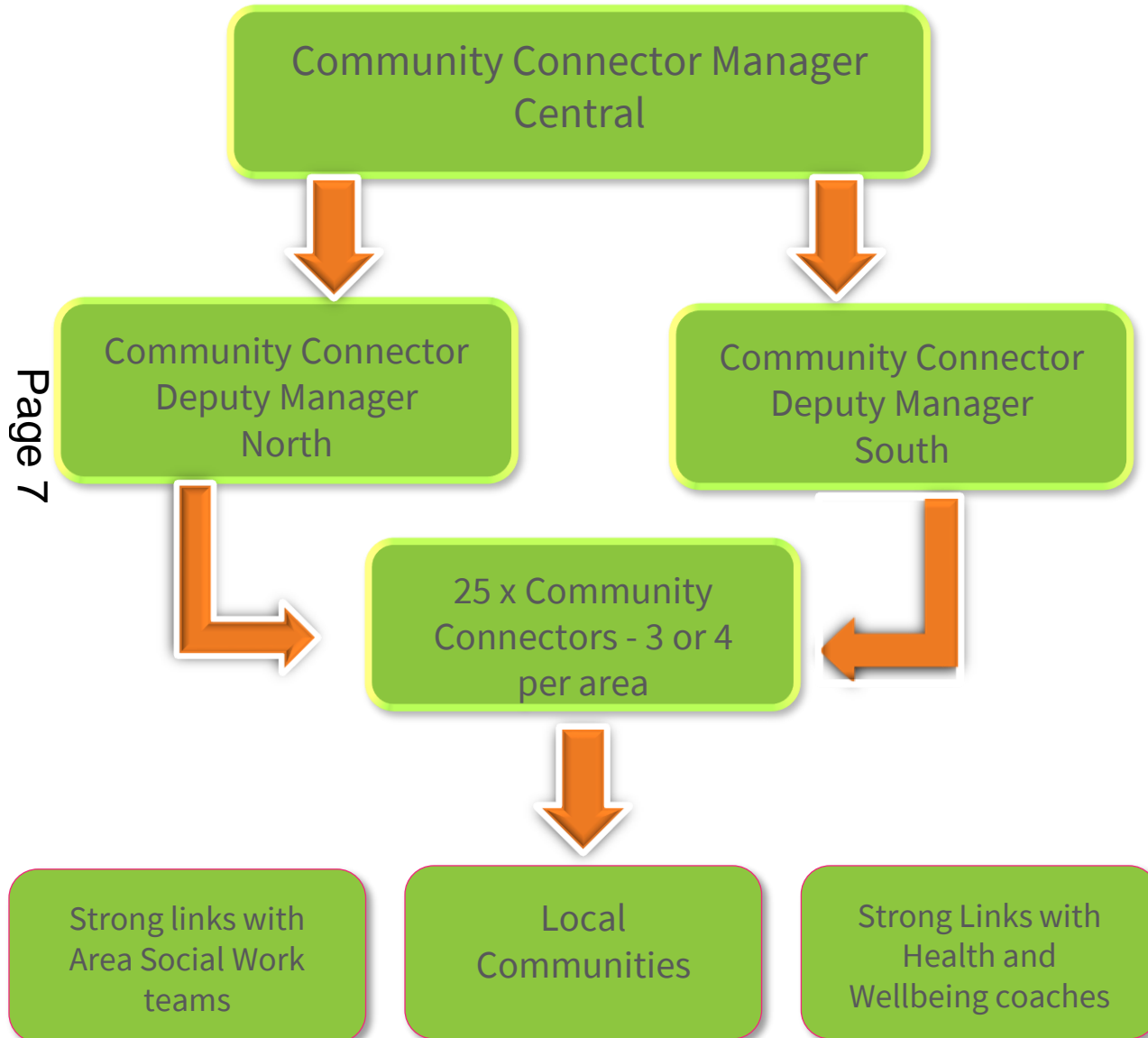
On 13th October 2022, cabinet approved the redesign of day opportunities to support a new model offered by Derbyshire County Council.

The new model consisted of the following...

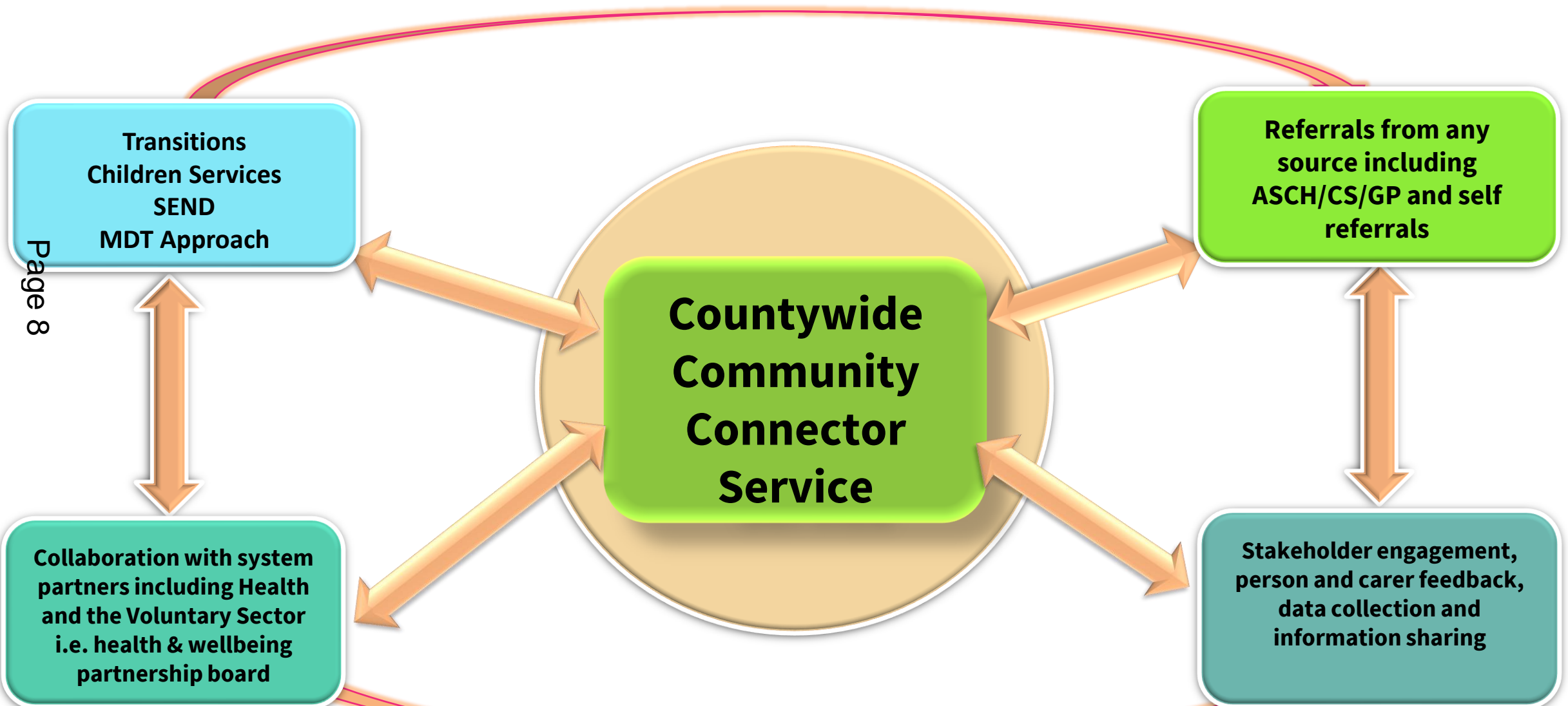
- **An enhanced Community Connector service**
- **Four building based day centres provided by DCC**
 - **Promotion of blended support planning**

Enhanced Community Connector Service

Page 7



- Working with people in communities*
- Involvement from 14 years of age to aid transition planning to adulthood*
- Proactive and preventative work*
- Strength based approach*
- Referrals from any source and no requirement to be open to ASCH*
- Exploring and trying new experiences*
- Co-producing blended support plans with the person and their wider network*
- Developing meaningful relationships*
- Travel, education, voluntary and paid work*
- Review 3 months after involvement*
- Re-referral at anytime in person's journey*



Transition referrals to Connectors

- Since the redesign and expanded Connectors service, we have been able to work with young people from an earlier age – 14. The team form part of the MDT.
- Early intervention from ASCH and other referral sources including Children’s Services, SEND and self/carer referrals
- Enabling educational HCP goals and outcomes to be transformed in sustainable and realistic post 18 aspirations such as employment or independent skills
- Joint commissioning avoiding people of working age ending up in high-cost, more restrictive residential care settings

In the last twelve months Community Connectors have worked with **over 60** young people **under 18** preparing for adulthood with a learning disability and/or who are autistic. They have explored a range of opportunities, interests and aspirations to live a meaningful life, some examples include travel training, voluntary work, rugby club and direct payments.

Feedback about the community Connectors*

*from people who previously attended a DCC Day Centre

“Thank you for everything you have done. You and the community connectors team have made a world of difference!”
Kind regards, L

Page 10

“I just want to say thank you for working with me. I feel like I’ve really changed, I’ve done things I never thought would be possible. I feel so much more confident my life’s improved you have really helped. I have always wanted to volunteer now I’ve achieved that and I’m so grateful. my life’s got so much more structure and purpose I’m not constantly stuck inside. I’m just very grateful to have had this help particularly the travel training has changed so much I would have never been brave enough to go apply for one on my own”

“K’s life has changed dramatically he is now able to go into the community with his PA ..(without Mum,) and socialise He has had an amazing opportunity at Burton Albion (football is one of his passions) selling 50/50 tickets every home game with the opportunity to watch the game also as paid work!”

“I met with SL from the Social prescribing service. I Just wanted to let you know that she was very complimentary about the work you have done with client “C” and advised me you had been great to work with and how positive the client had been about your input with them.”

“Thank you once again for persevering with finding something for J- this was not easy I must admit.” mum



Feedback from people with lived experience

THE GROUP

'The group' started almost two years ago when five people who had attended Derbyshire County Council day services for many years decided that they wanted to look at a blended service. This would enable them to have more choice and control of what they did in their day to day lives.

Two Community Connectors were working alongside all of the group individually. They were a group of friends and wanted to access the local community together, to do this a Personal Assistant was sourced and introduced to each individual. It was decided that they would pool their direct payments and this was set up and the PA began to work with the group.

The members of the group take turns each week deciding on where to go for the day. The PA set up a 'WhatsApp' group chat which they all participate on, adding photo's and chatting to each other when they aren't out together.

The Community Connector Deputy Manager (Anna) went out to have a chat with all the group members individually about the opportunity to give feedback for Scrutiny today – consent given.

- The group verbally consented to sharing their information and feedback
- We explained the purpose of why we are seeking feedback and explained to the group they are a fantastic example to others
- Each member of the group has completed a consent form with support from their PA
- Everyone involved fully understands that the information they have shared will be used to encourage others to consider creative ways to engage in their local communities
- The group were proud & excited to be asked to share their experience and more than happy to smile for the camera



Dennis

Dennis attended Whitwell Day Services for many years. Anna asked Dennis how it makes him feel being part of the group? he replied, 'it's alright, I really like it'.

Dennis went on to tell Anna that he attended Whitwell with his good friend Ian who is also part of the group and that he doesn't miss Whitwell as he likes going to lots of different places with his friends and Denise.

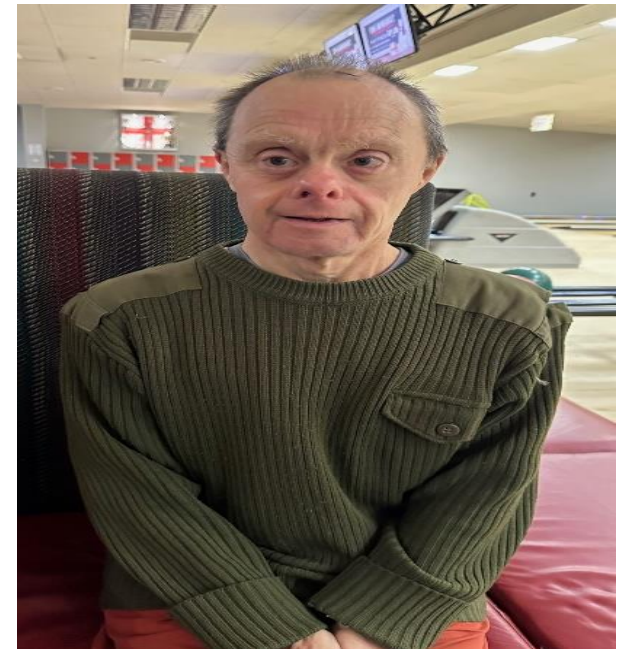
Dennis particularly loved his visits to the once-a-month nightclub event in Chesterfield where he got to 'stay out till 11.30pm, have a drink of beer, dance and call at the kebab shop on the way home and take his chips home and eat them in his bedroom'.

Ian

Ian attended Whitwell Day services for many years and is very good friends with Ian and his girlfriend is Kelly.

Anna asked Ian how it makes him feel being part of the group? he replied 'Happy'.

Ian said he much prefers going to lots of lovely places in the community with all his friends and the PA. He doesn't miss attending the day service at all and is now part of the group on a Wednesday too.



Feedback from The Group



Kelly

Kelly attended Whitwell day services for many years, Ian is her boyfriend, and she went to school with Tom H. Dennis and Danny are her friends from Whitwell.

Anna asked Kelly how it makes her feel being part of the group? she replied, 'really happy, I love going out and about with my friends and love the PA'.

Kelly attended 'Just Good friends' day service after leaving Whitwell, but said she found it 'boring' and being with the group attending lots of places together is much better and much more fun!

Tom H

Tom attended Markham Vale as part of Derbyshire County Council Day services for many years. When this closed, he decided to join the group as two of the original members had left. Tom now attends the Group on a Wednesday and Thursday.

Anna asked Tom how he felt being part of the group? He replied, 'it makes me feel good and its fun!'

Tom particularly liked their day's fishing with the PA's brother but loves every week where they all take turns to choose where they go.



Feedback from The Group

Danny

Danny also attended Whitwell day services for many years. Danny was very nervous about trying something new and his social worker was optimistic if Danny would be able to go out with a group and meet lots of new people, but he did and is still attending two years later.

When asked how being part of the group makes Danny feel? he replied 'it means everything to me, I love it!'



Group Photo

Danny wasn't well when this photo was taken. Tom on the left of the photo is a new member to the group, he joined five months ago. Anna asked Tom how it makes him feel being part of the group? He replied, 'happy to be with my new friends and PA'.

All members of the group have given permission for Anna to share all content.

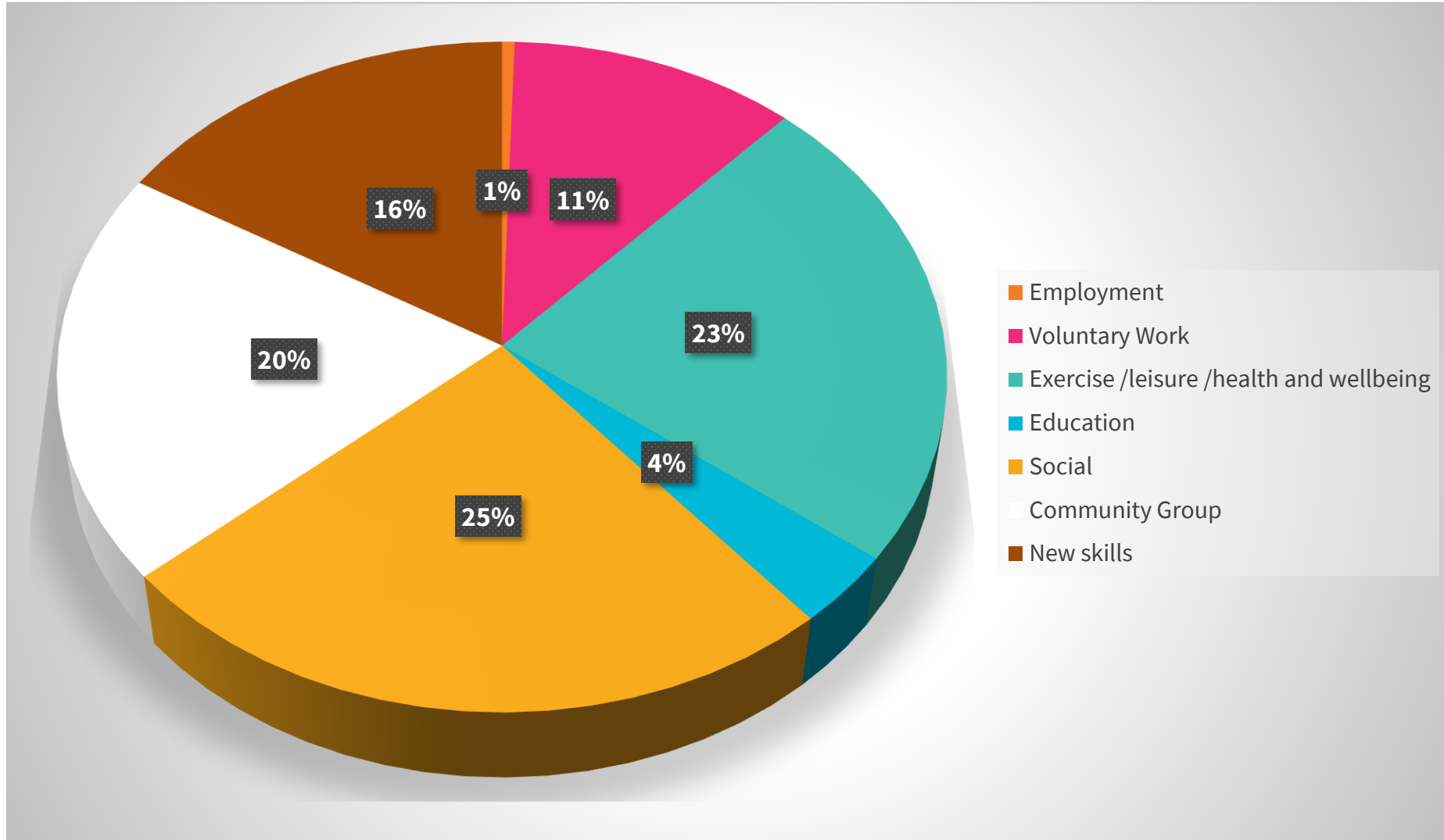
For a very small number of people, community-based opportunities may be unsuitable due to their complex level of need. In that instance, building based support can be provided. This could be a building-based provision in either the private sector or in one of our own day opportunities

In Spring 2020, The Hub practitioners worked with 379 people attending a DCC day centre to complete person centred, outcome focused assessments in conjunction with people with a learning disability and / or who are autistic and their carers. This work resulted in 278 people accessing alternative opportunities in the form of a 'blended' support plan. The overarching feedback was that people want to live safe, fulfilled lives as independently as possible, in their communities with equal access to opportunities and services such as social and leisure, housing, jobs, health and transport.

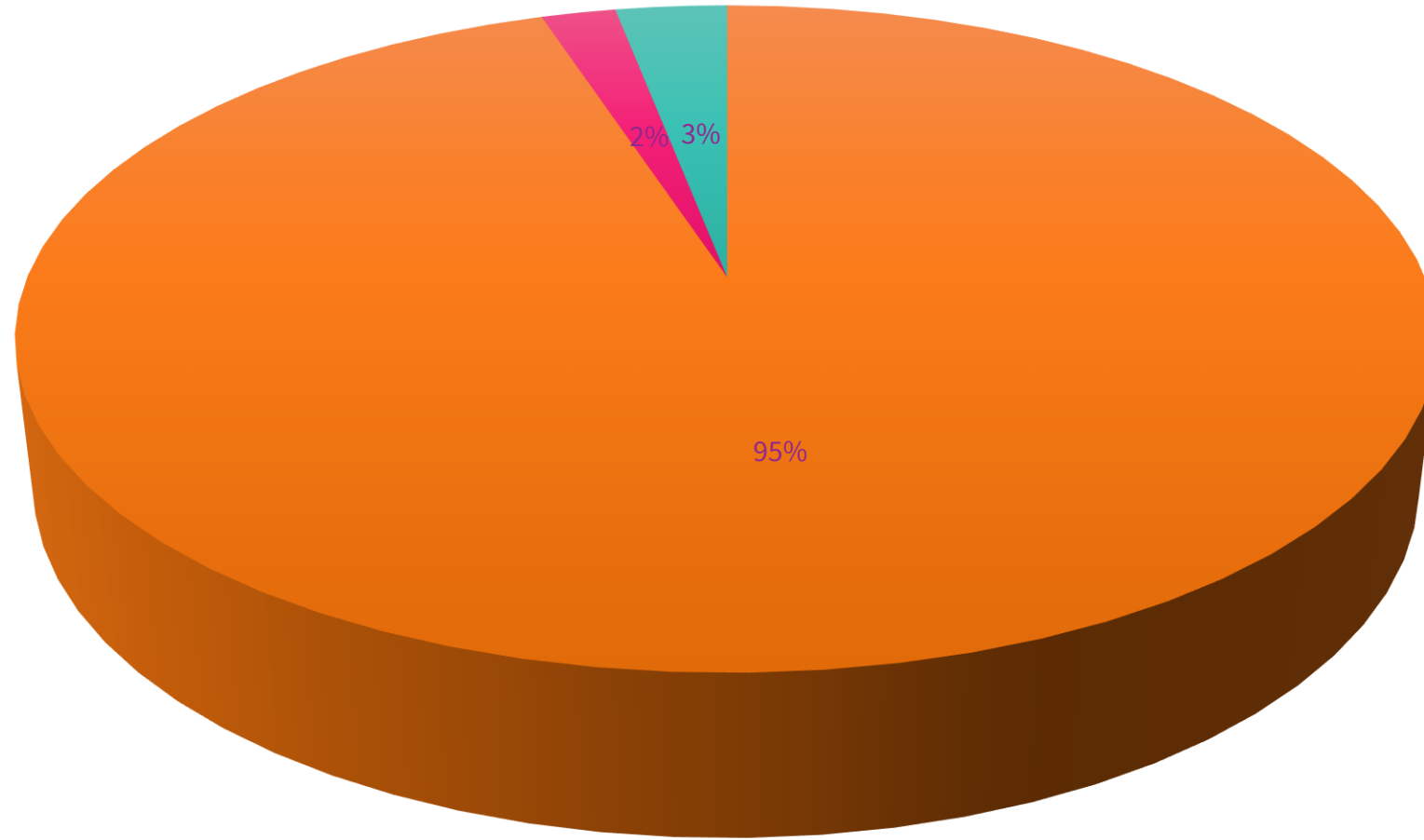
Since the redesign in October 2022, everyone that attended a DCC building based day centre in (101 people) had a further review from The Hub practitioners which also included Community Connectors support to explore new opportunities and/or an offer within the four remaining DCC centres

- **Nearly 50% of people took up alternative opportunities outside of DCC provision – some still exploring**
- **75% of people who remain in one of the four DCC day centres now have a blended support plan or are currently exploring other opportunities with the Community Connectors**

Outcomes for people living with family

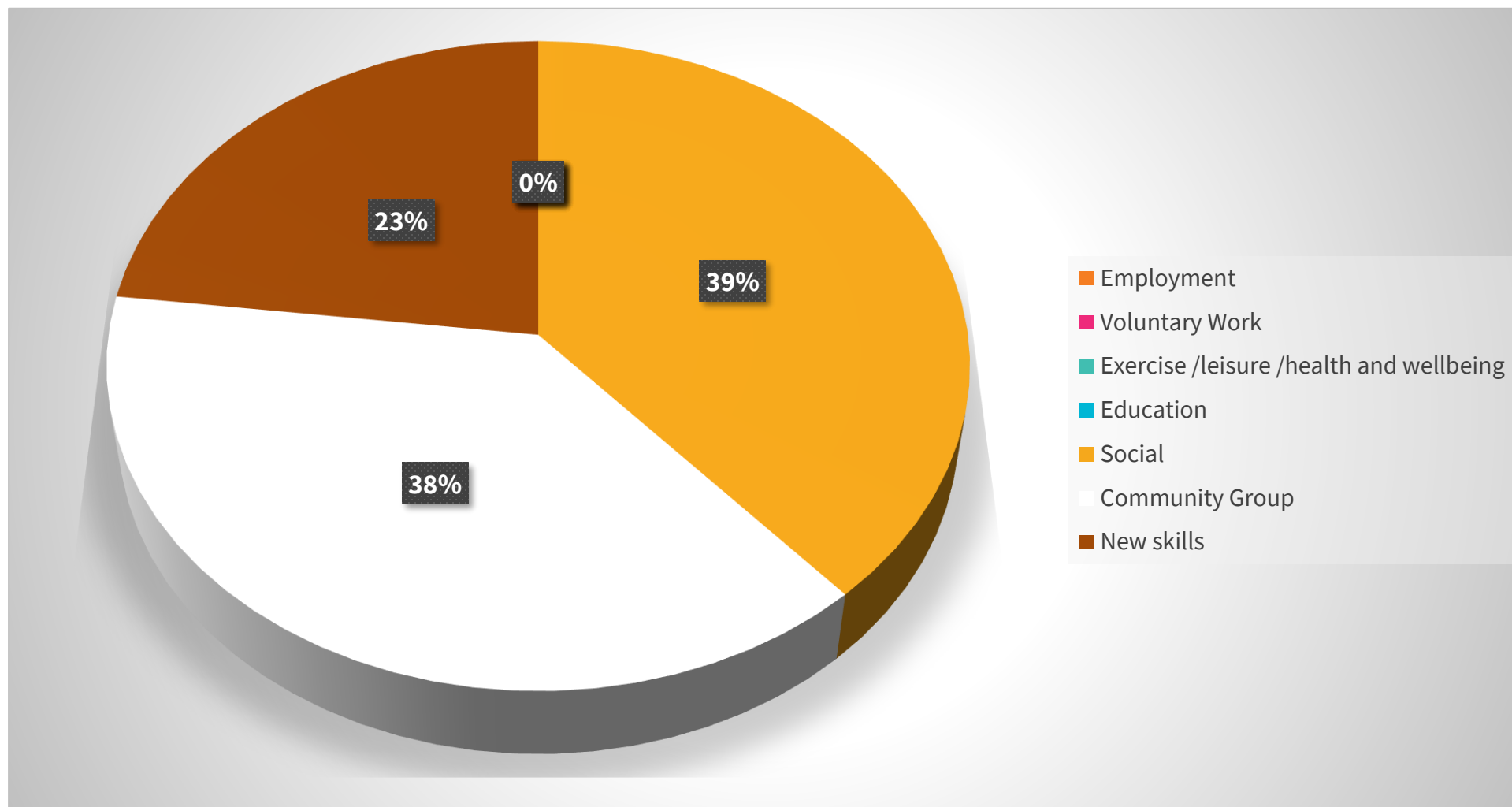


Reviewed outcomes for people living with family

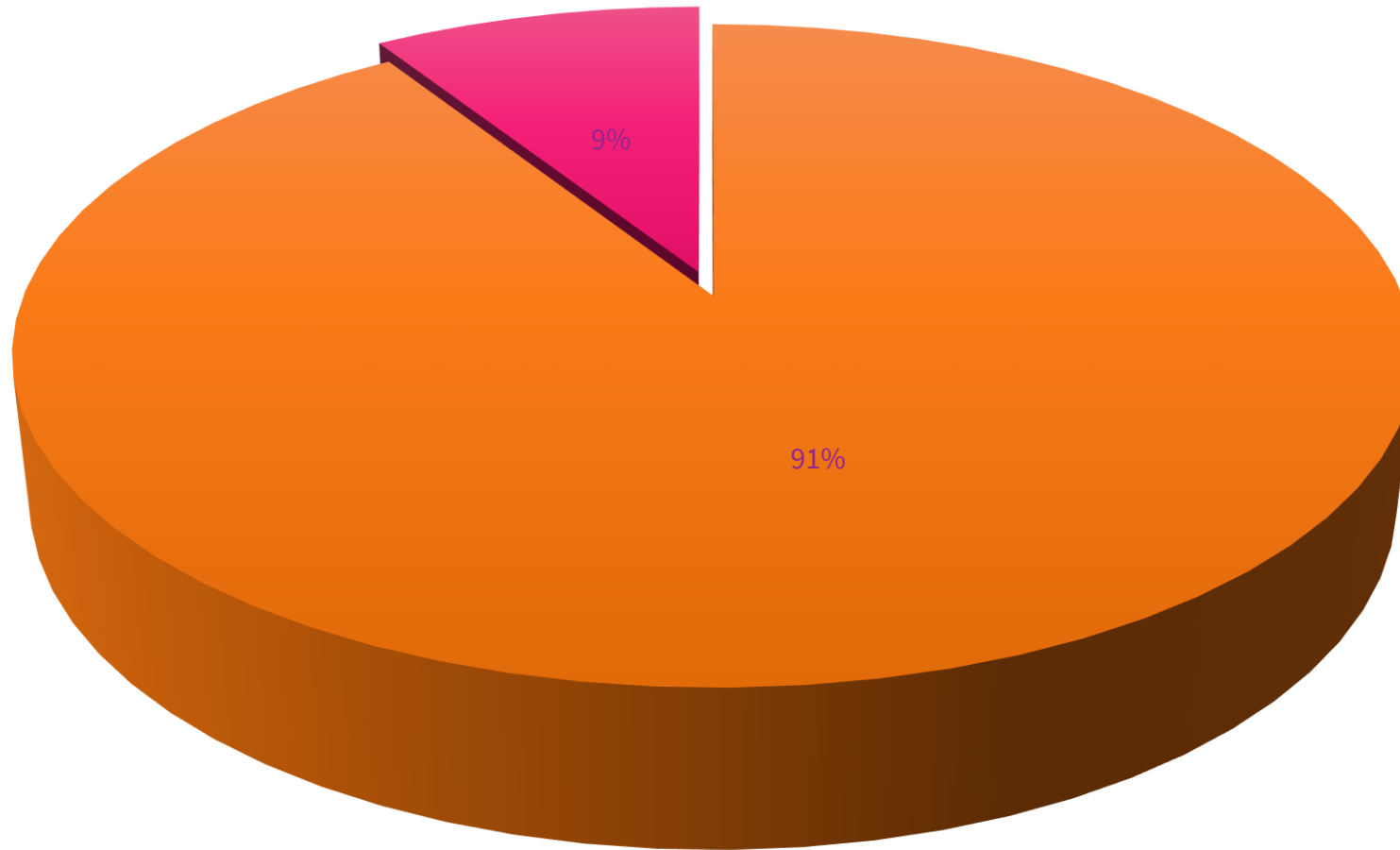


connections sustained connections not sustained Ongoing reviews

Outcomes for people living in supported living



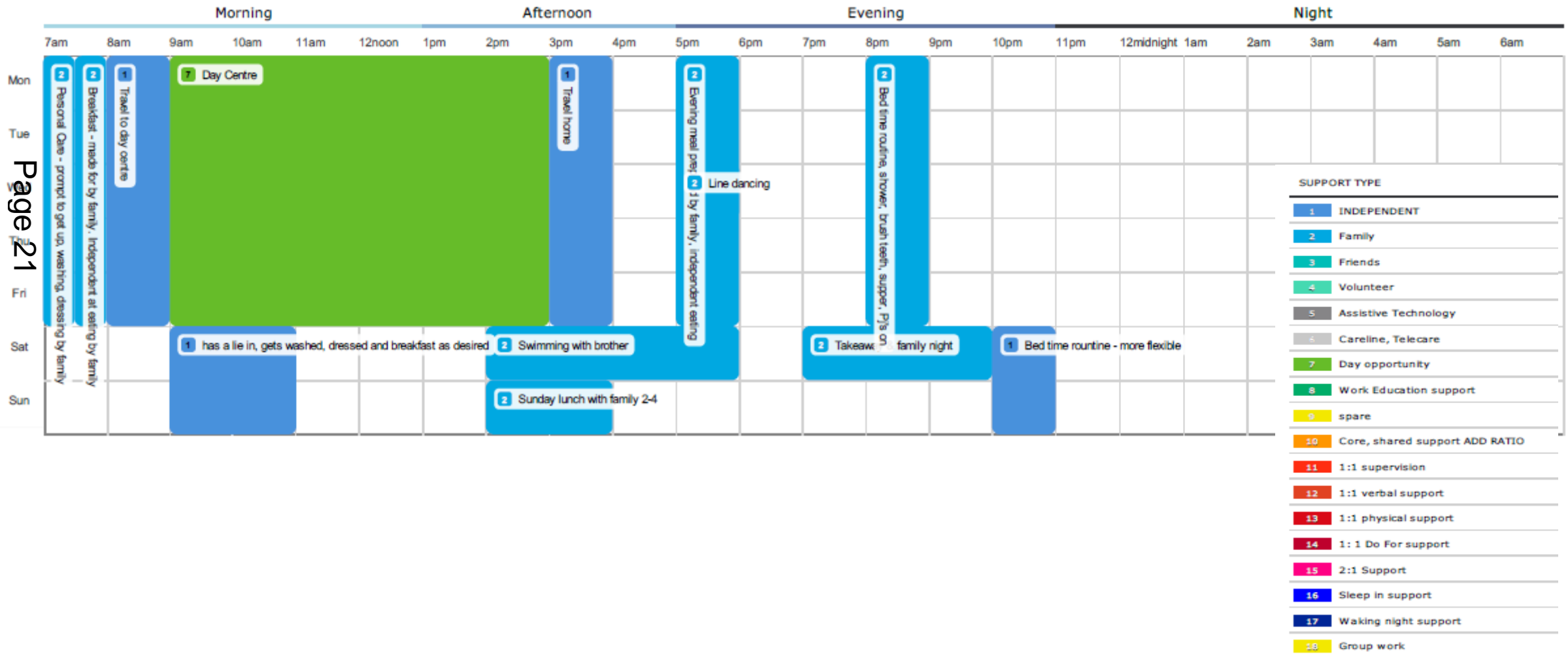
Reviewed outcomes for people in supported living



■ Placement/outcomes sustained ■ Placement not sustained

Case Study - Tony

Tony 1

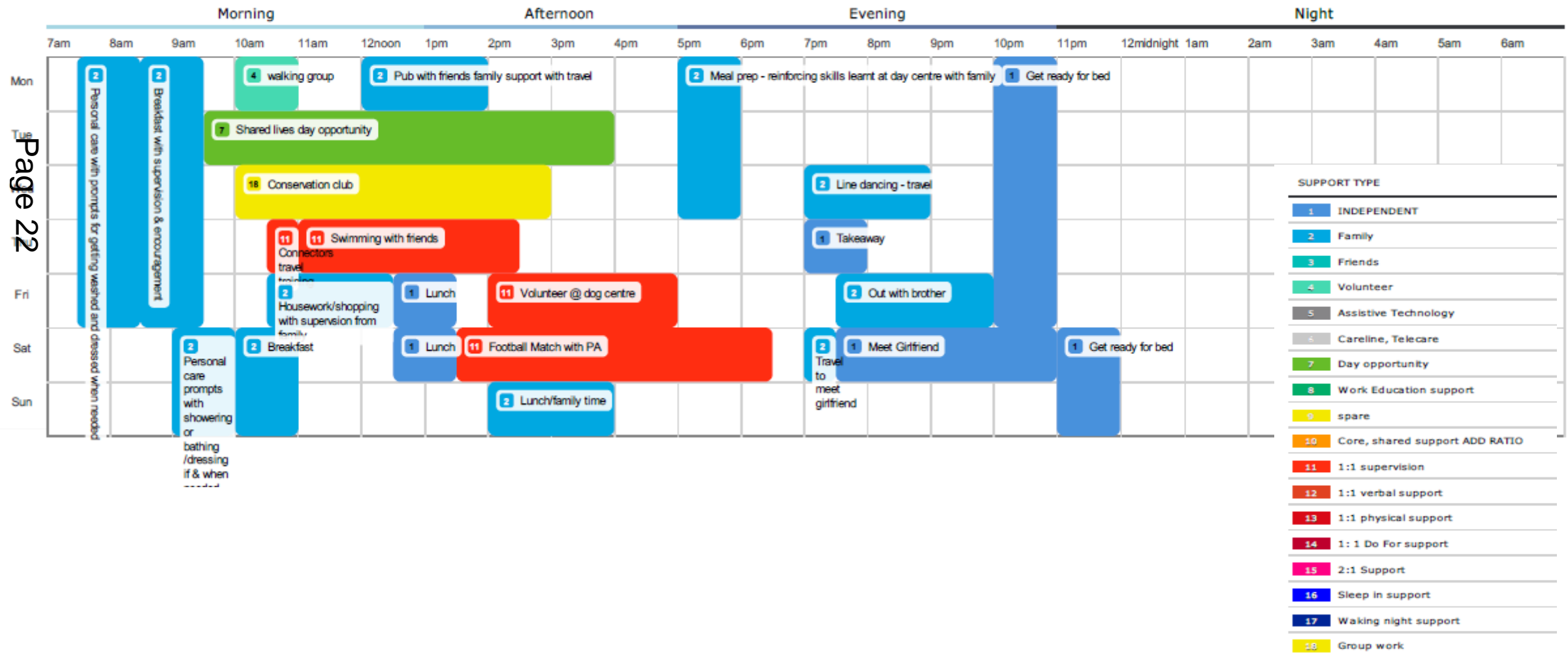


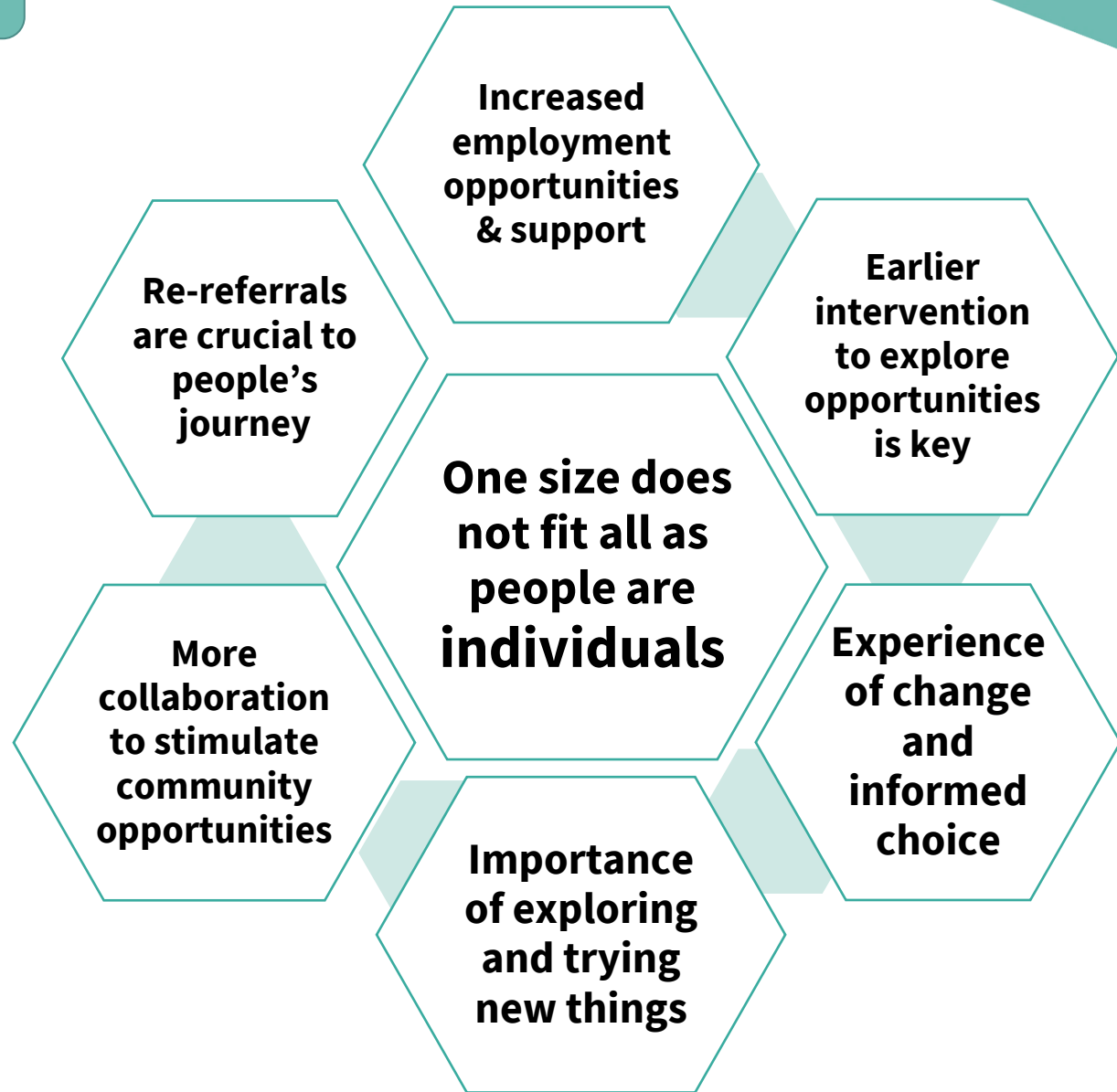
SUPPORT TYPE

1	INDEPENDENT
2	Family
3	Friends
4	Volunteer
5	Assistive Technology
6	Careline, Telecare
7	Day opportunity
8	Work Education support
9	spare
10	Core, shared support ADD RATIO
11	1:1 supervision
12	1:1 verbal support
13	1:1 physical support
14	1:1 Do For support
15	2:1 Support
16	Sleep in support
17	Waking night support
18	Group work

Case Study - Tony

Tony 2





This page is intentionally left blank

Updates on current and future development in Fostering

Areas of discussion

- Recruitment and Retention
- D2N2
- Service Structure
- Step out of residential care.

Recruitment and Retention

- **2023-24-** Derbyshire County Council- 9 fostering Households recruited (Nottinhgamshire-9, Deby City-10 Nottingham City-8)
- **2023-24-** 30 fostering households retired/ left the service.
- **2024- Present** 13 fostering households approved.

Key Recruitment Objectives

1. Increasing the number of in-house foster carers.
2. Boosting the supply of Contract Carers, with a specific emphasis on experienced carers capable of meeting the needs of complex young individuals.
3. Growing the pool of foster carers for disabled children, siblings, and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC).
4. Expanding placements for hard-to-place children and young people through targeted recruitment campaigns, specialized training, and support packages.

Page 28

Challenges

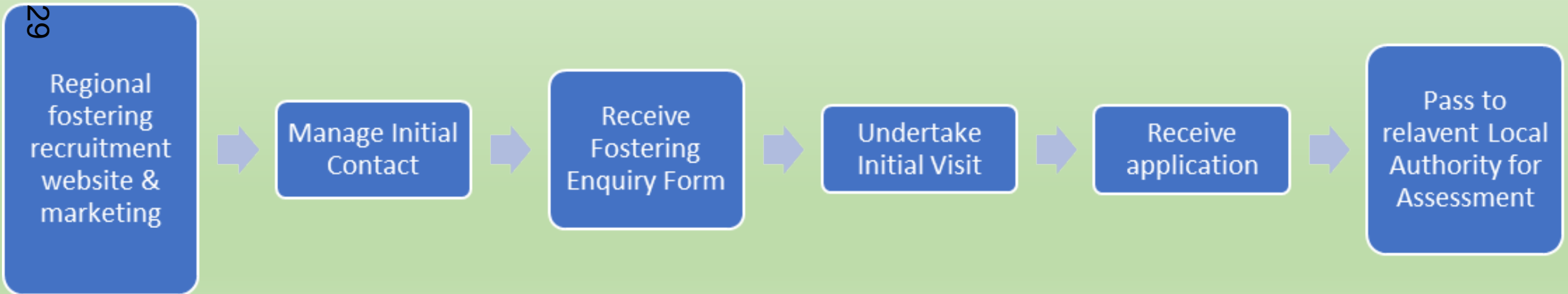
- Nationally more carers are leaving the profession than joining.
- Mixed market, competing against Independent Fostering Agencies.
- Retention- Aging profile of foster carers, large proportion of DCC carers who have been fostering for 10 year plus, typical career of a foster carer is 5 years.

D2N2 Project

The D2N2 project, a £1.6 million Department for Education (DfE) funded initiative, spans 18 months and aims to innovate foster carer recruitment and retention through: Implementation is the 1st of April 2024.

- Implementing a Regional Front Door for initial discussions with prospective foster carers. This will be from enquires to initial visits and responsible for all the fostering marketing. If the initial visit is successful, it is then passed on to the individual Local Authorities.

Page 29



- Establishing Mockingbird Regional Hubs to nurture relationships, build resilient communities, and improve foster carer retention.



Fostering Service Structure

- Realignment of key personal and staffing resources. This is to reflect the changing landscape of fostering.
- New key positions from existing staffing budget
 - Fostering Recruitment and retention manager
 - fostering IRO officer
 - Placement Support Team
 - Lead Family Finding/ Duty officer
 - Single Head of service.

Step-Out of Residential Care :

- Transitioning young people out of residential care involves a multi-faceted approach:
- 1. Establishing strong connections with Neurodiverse hubs for comprehensive support to foster carers, young people, and residential care providers.
- 2. Strengthen collaboration with Stronger Families to facilitate smooth transitions for young people and provide post-placement support for both carers and young individuals.
- 3. Strengthening the education links to eliminate barriers for children with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) needs by facilitating seamless transitions in educational provisions.
- 4. Streamline the care planning process by providing comprehensive support from external residential care to internal residential care and preparation for fostering.

Achievements:

- Since October 2023, we have successfully facilitated 9 step-outs, with an additional 3 planned for February-March.
- Additionally, we've identified 9 children for internal residential care, with 4 slated for a fostering care plan.
- A typical child in residential is costing between £6,000-£9,000 per week (£250K- £400K per year.)

This page is intentionally left blank

Suggested Work Programme Items

Adult Care –

- Update on information finder
- Annual review with residents – feedback on how they feel we are doing
- Work force plan and funding
- Support provided from DCC to PA's and full time carers with third party contracts

Children's –

- F Boden Case Review
- SEND Update
- Children's Strategy Update
- Progress on recruitment / success for Stronger Families Service

This page is intentionally left blank