

Best Life Derbyshire

Scrutiny 7th February 2024

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

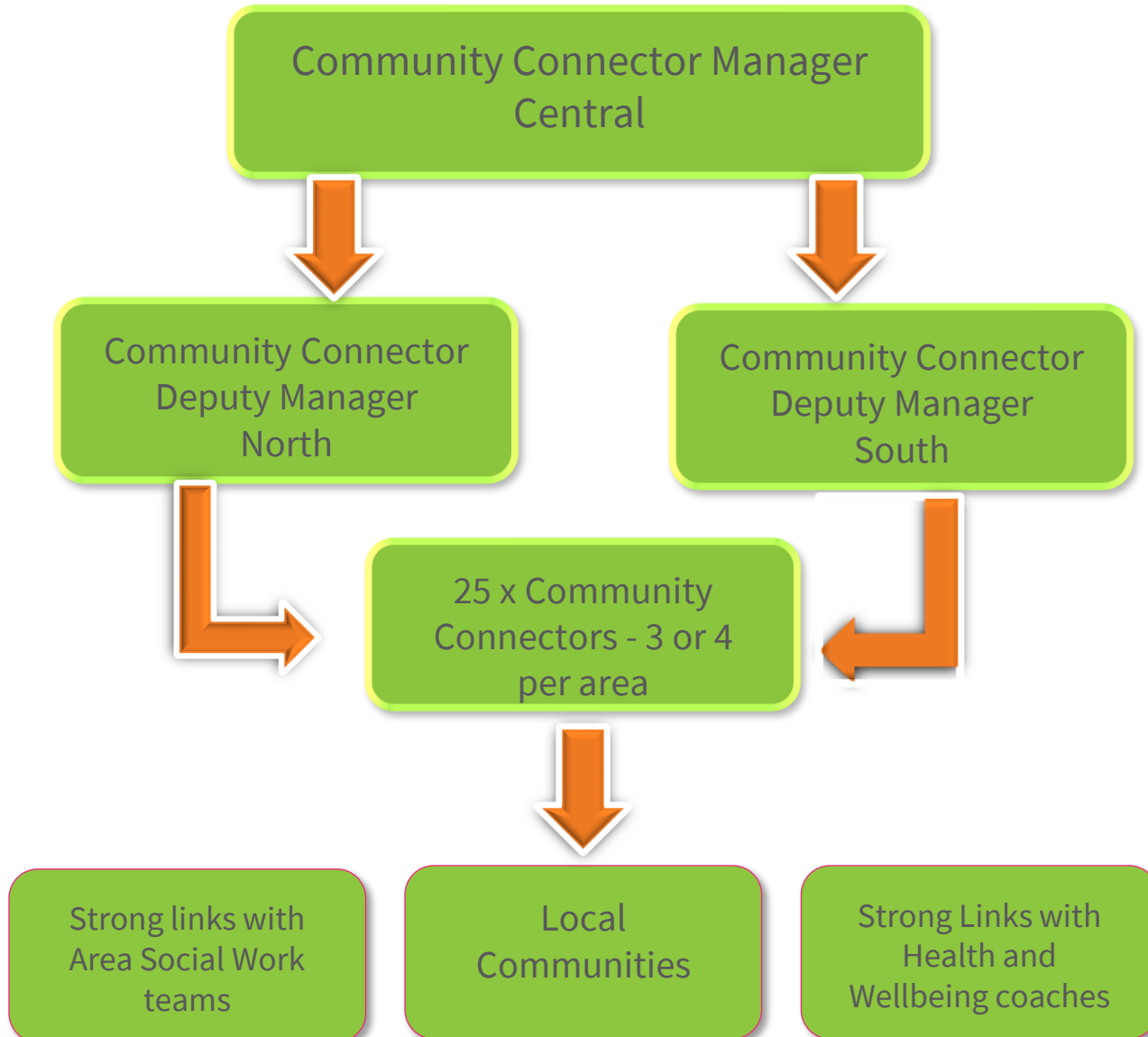


On 13th October 2022, cabinet approved the redesign of day opportunities to support a new model offered by Derbyshire County Council.

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



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

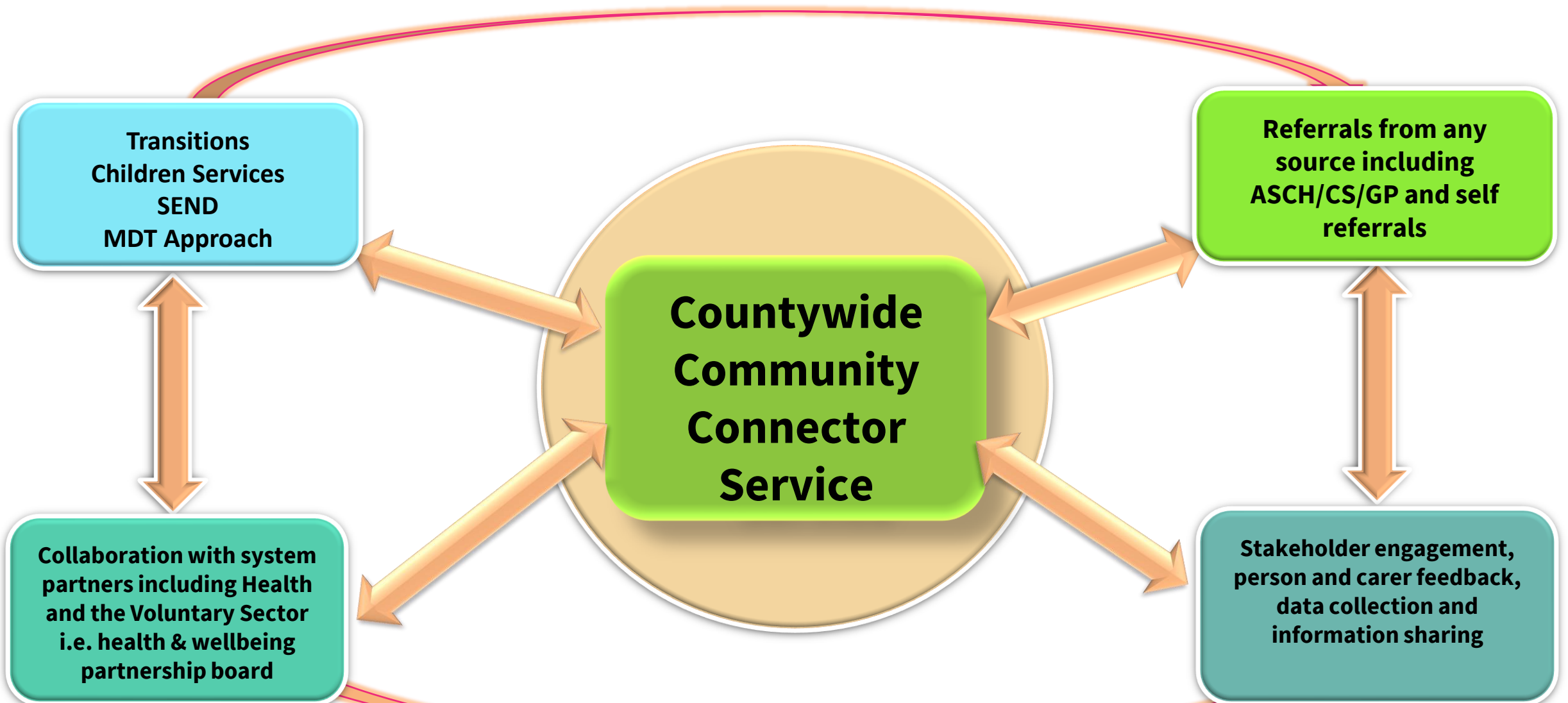
Developing meaningful relationships

Travel, education, voluntary and paid work

Review 3 months after involvement

Re-referral at anytime in person's journey

Community Connector Service in the system



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

“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.

Feedback from The Group - Consent

- 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

Feedback from The Group



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.

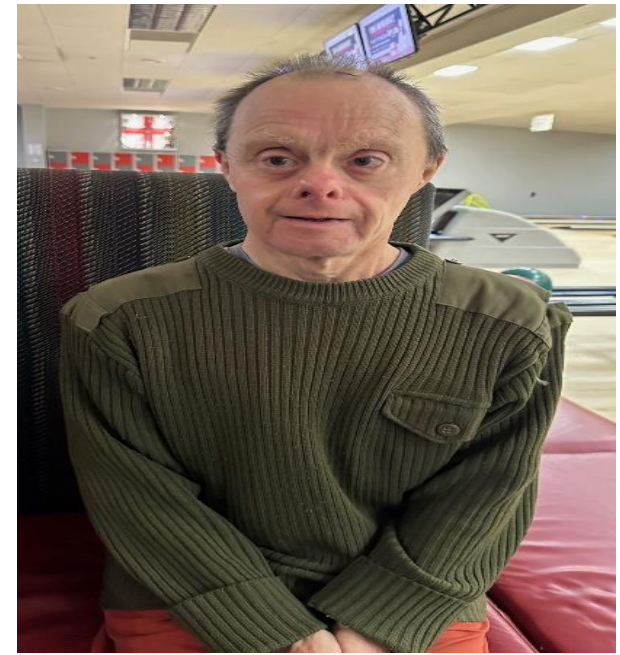
Dennis particularly loved his visits to the once-a-month nightclub event in Chesterfield where he got to 'stay out till 11.30pm, have a drink of beer, dance and call at the kebab shop on the way home and take his chips home and eat them in his bedroom'.

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.

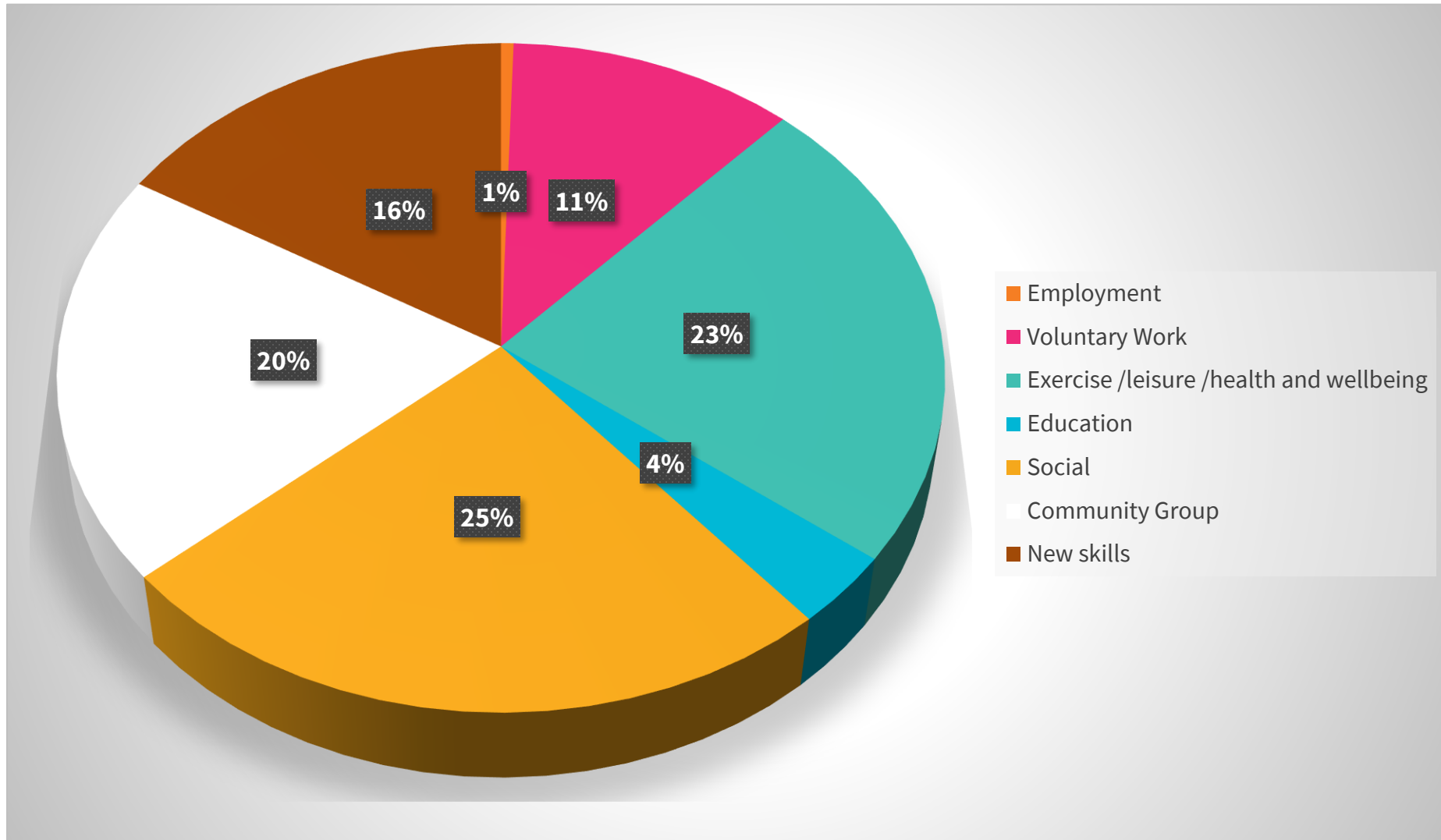
For a very small number of people, community-based opportunities may be unsuitable due to their complex level of need. In that instance, building based support can be provided. This could be a building-based provision in either the private sector or in one of our own day opportunities

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.

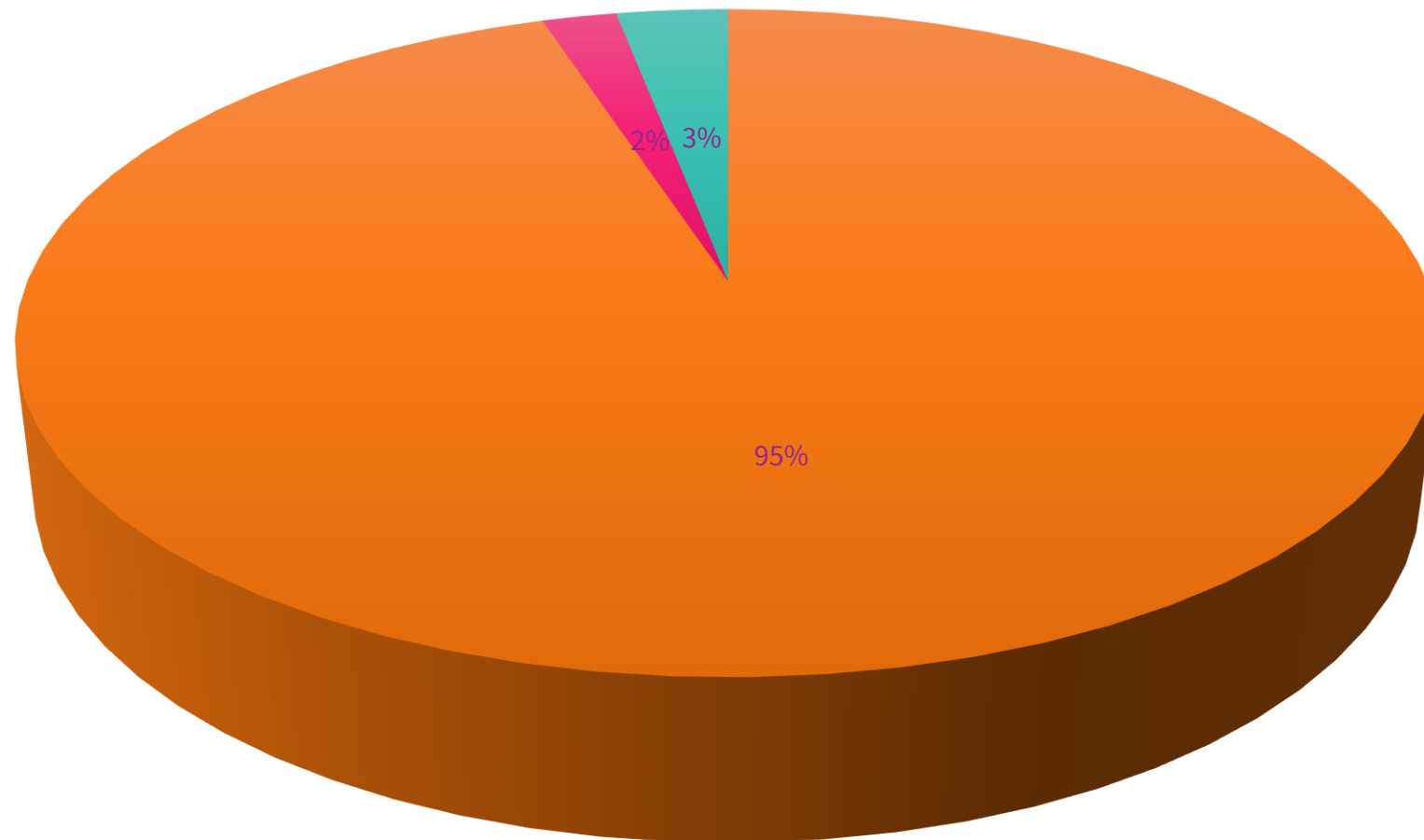
Since the redesign in October 2022, everyone that attended a DCC building based day centre in (101 people) had a further review from The Hub practitioners which also included Community Connectors support to explore new opportunities and/or an offer within the four remaining DCC centres

- **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

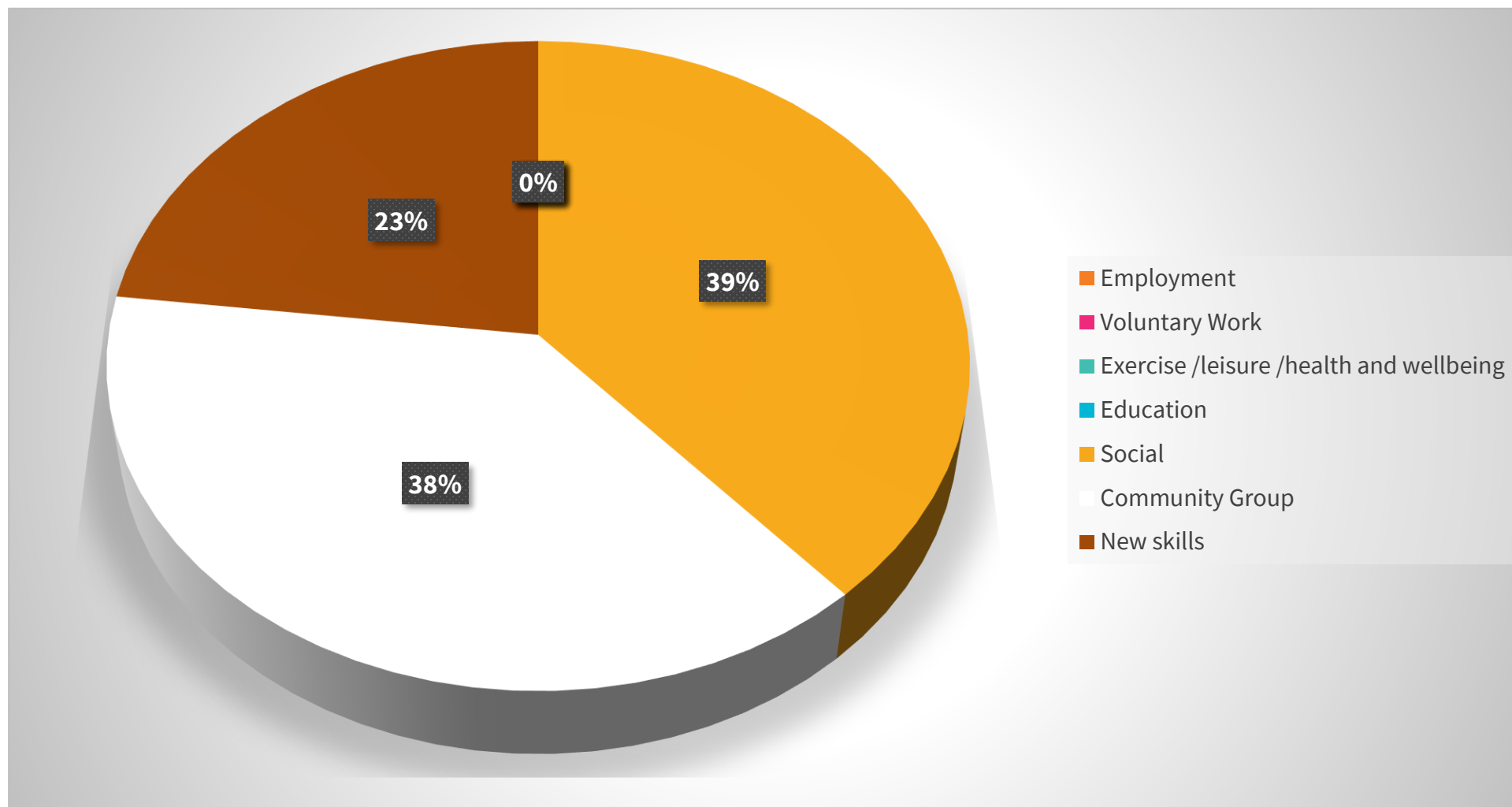


connections sustained

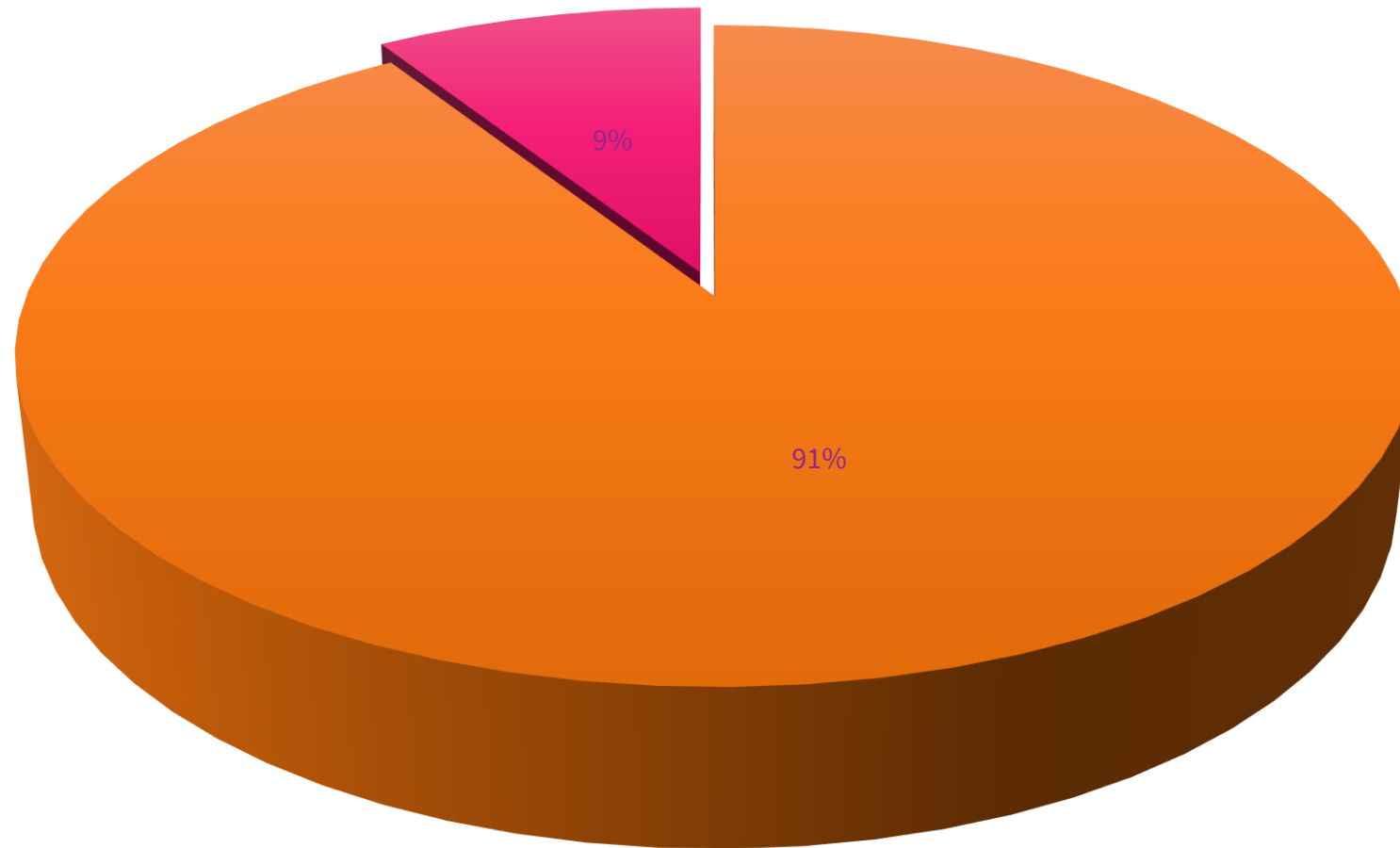
connections not sustained

Ongoing reviews

Outcomes for people living in supported living



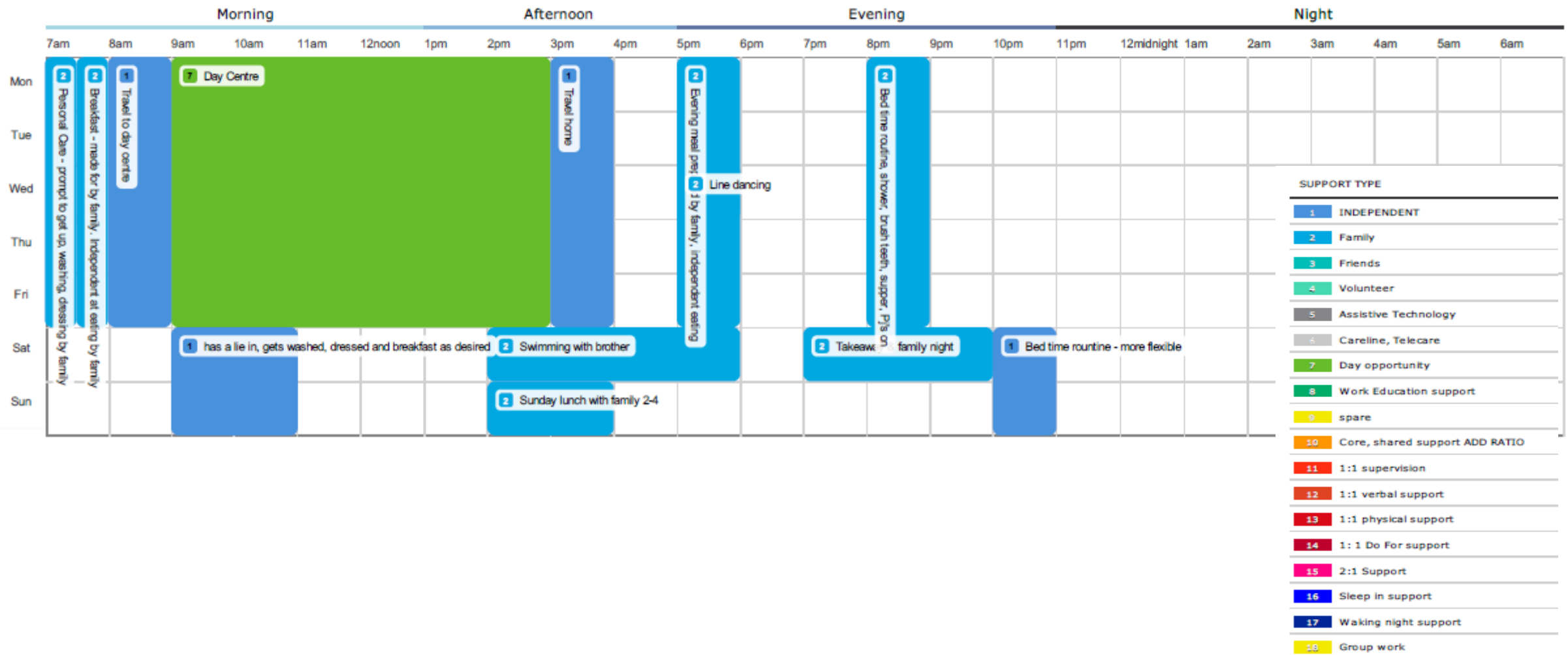
Reviewed outcomes for people in supported living



■ Placement/outcomes sustained ■ Placement not sustained

Case Study - Tony

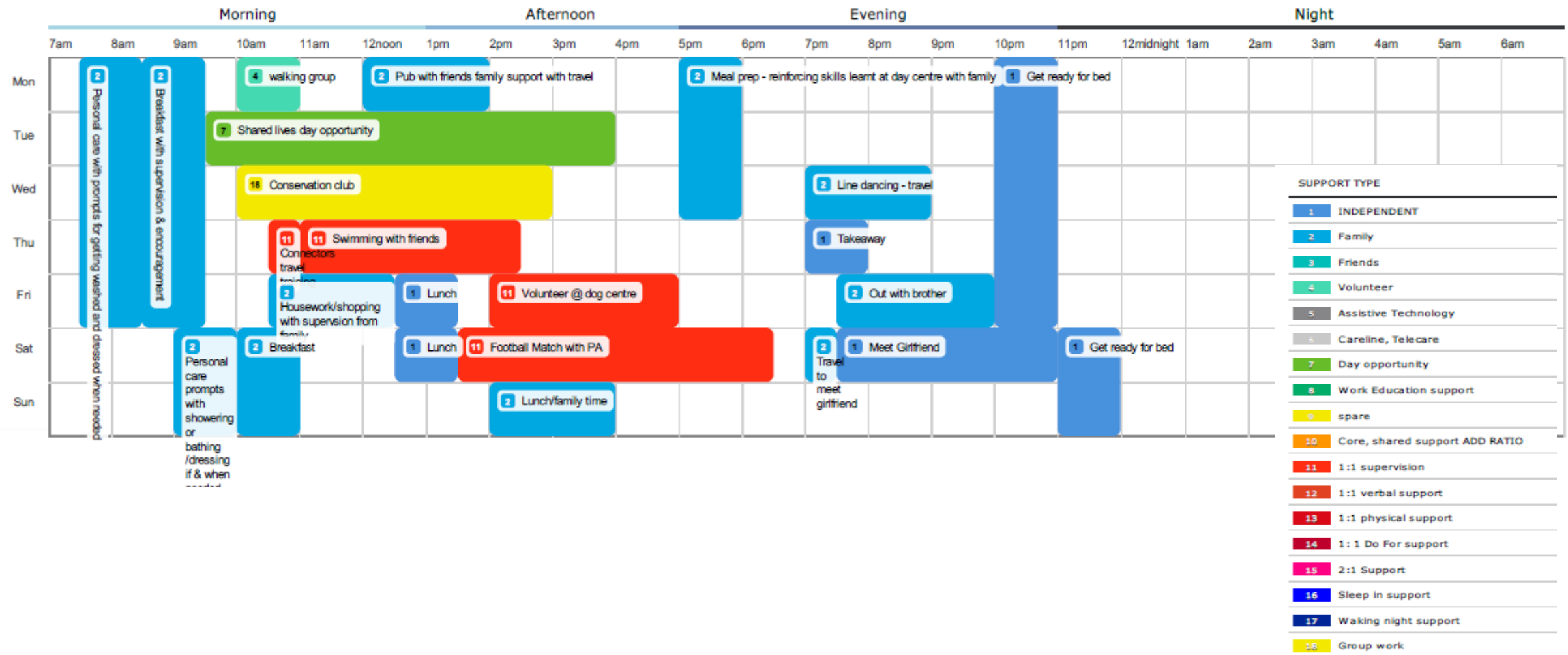
Tony 1



- 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



Learning from the redesign...

