

CONSULTATION REPORT ON THE RE-DESIGN OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES AND SHORT BREAKS FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR AUTISM

Purpose of the Report

A report was presented to Cabinet on 11 April 2024 which sought approval of:

The programme of formal public consultation on the re-design of day opportunities and short breaks for people with learning disabilities and/or autism set out in the report.

Cabinet was asked to approve the undertaking of a public consultation on a re-design of both services, with two options to be considered for each service:

Day Opportunities

OPTION 1:

- Discontinue the use of Alderbrook Centre, Chinley; No Limits, Chesterfield; Outlook, Long Eaton and Parkwood Centre, Alfreton. This proposed option would recognise the growth and success of Community Connectors and would continue to support people to access alternative day opportunities in their local community.

OPTION 2:

- To retain No Limits, Chesterfield and Outlook, Long Eaton but discontinue the use of Parkwood Centre which needs repairs costing around £1.7m and Alderbrook which currently only supports 9 people who travel on average 16.5 miles to attend.

Short breaks

OPTION 1:

- Discontinue the use of Petersham Centre, Long Eaton; Victoria Street, Brimington and Newhall Bungalow, Swadlincote
- Dispose of Hadfield Road as this service has not been open since 2020.
- Retain Morewood Centre, Alfreton, for planned short breaks only with the capacity to support 100 people for 36 days each a year. This proposed option would enable staff to support people with learning disabilities and /or autism and their families with long term and contingency planning, for example by working towards independent living skills.

OPTION 2:

- Retain Morewood Centre and Newhall Bungalow for planned short breaks. Under the proposals these would have surplus beds while meeting the current demand of people accessing short breaks with an ability to respond to future demand.

1. Methodology and Approaches

The report was presented on 11 April 2024 to Cabinet and the consultation was approved. This consultation took place between 24 April and 21 August following an extension on the consultation period. This report will summarise views and opinions submitted by the people of Derbyshire during this period.

Who was encouraged to participate?

Current and previous service users and their carers. The carers of those young people with Special Educational Needs. Private and voluntary organisations offering day care across Derbyshire.

Staff from the Adult Care Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Team arranged 8 face to face meetings and 4 virtual meetings. These were hosted by the Interim Service Director of Adult Social Care Transformation and Partnership, and participants were given the opportunity to comment on the proposals. The SECT also organised 12 drop-in sessions at libraries across Derbyshire to offer support to anyone who needed assistance in taking part in the consultation.

Derbyshire Webpage

People were directed to the Derbyshire Consultation webpage which gave information about proposals and links to either the standard on-line questionnaire or an easy read version.

The consultation used quantitative and qualitative approaches to gather people's views about the proposals. Officers enabled as many people as possible to take part, by offering a range of ways in which they could share their views:

1. Current attendees together with their carers received an introductory letter detailing the arrangements for undertaking the consultation and the proposals for consideration
2. Private and voluntary sector day care providers in Derbyshire were sent an email informing them of the proposals and ways to take part in the consultation
3. Offering the questionnaire in different formats, such as an easy read version if this was more appropriate
4. Completing the questionnaire online (both in easy read format and standard version)

- 5 Requesting a paper copy of the questionnaires via the Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Team and sending in comments using the standard or easy read postal questionnaire
- 6 Opportunity to write to the Council via a letter or a dedicated email address
- 7 Telephone interview for those people having difficulty completing the questionnaire
- 8 Being signposted to further information on the Derbyshire County Council website <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have-your-say/consultation-search/consultation-details/> which gave an outline of the proposals and the ways in which people could share their views
- 9 Media releases which were issued at the start of the consultation and news releases were published on the Derbyshire County Council website. We also promoted the public consultation on a variety of corporate channels
- 10 Virtual meetings using Microsoft Teams. 4 virtual public meetings were arranged in the early evening to enable as many people as possible to share their views and ask questions about the proposals
- 11 Current attendees and their carers were invited to face to face meetings. There were 8 meetings planned across Derbyshire giving people an opportunity to ask questions and express their views to the Adult Social Care Director of Transformation, Practice Lead - Transformation and members of the Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Team. 2 meetings were cancelled due to no-one booking on (Victoria Street and Morewood).
- 12 Letters were hand delivered to occupants of the Bungalow to inform them of the possible effect of the consultation of their tenancy and they were given the opportunity to take part in the consultation.
- 13 12 drop-in sessions held at libraries were offered across Derbyshire to provide an opportunity for residents of Derbyshire to have their views recorded and if required assistance to complete the questionnaire.
- 14 A BSL video was produced to explain the proposals and how to take part in the consultation and promoted on the Derbyshire County Council website.

Qualitative Approach

There were three distinct approaches to the analysis of the qualitative material.

1. information gathered during face to face and virtual meetings – including the drop-in sessions held at libraries
2. information gathered from letters, emails, and telephone calls

3. qualitative information contained in the online and paper questionnaires, both the standard and easy read versions.

Combined Analysis of the Qualitative Information

977 comments were received about the consultation. SECT themed the responses from all qualitative information, from the questionnaires, letters, emails, telephone calls, and meetings.

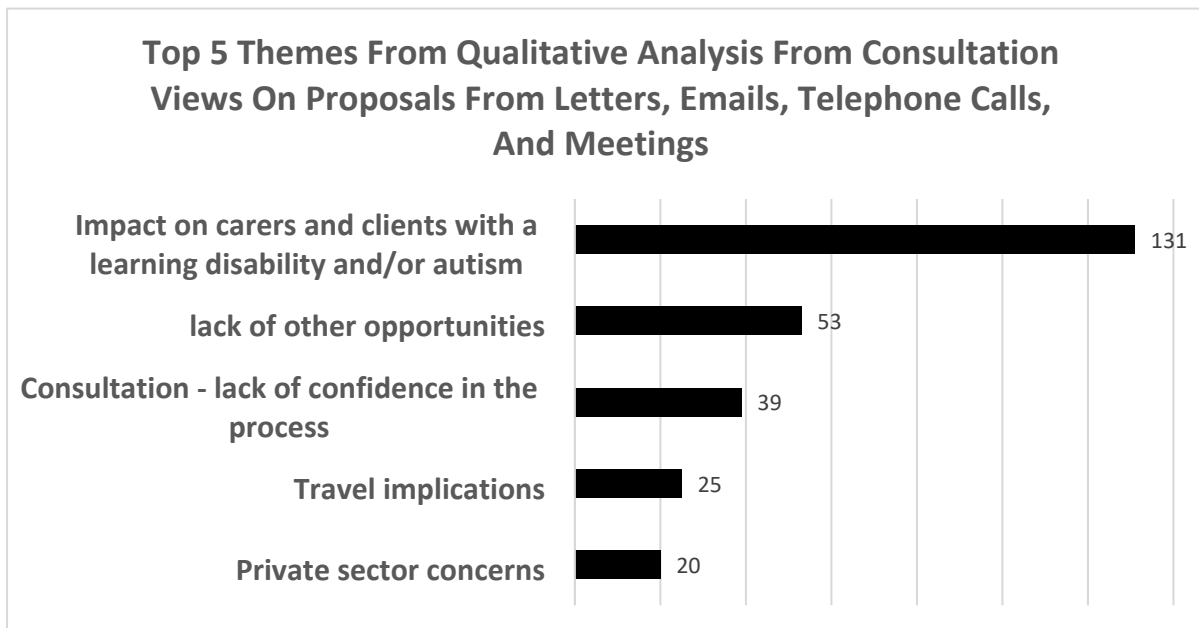
Overall, 200 standard questionnaires and 17 easy read versions were completed.

Scope of the summary themes used within the qualitative approach

- **Agree with all the proposals.**
A small percentage of respondents agreed with the proposals.
- **Agree with Option 1**
- **Agree with option 2**
- **Alternative suggestion**
Some respondents utilised the open text boxes to make alternative suggestions to the proposals.
- **Community Connector**
The success of the connector service was questioned by respondents together with an acknowledgment that the service was not suitable for most that are now attending building-based services.
- **Consultation (lack of confidence in the process)**
Some respondents commented on and questioned the method of the consultation, others made comments indicating the belief that the consultation was ingenuous, and the decision had already been taken.
- **Corporate Finance – lack of forward planning**
A small percentage of respondents felt that Derbyshire's poor investment choices and an increase in senior leadership had led to these proposals being put forward.
- **Disagree with Proposal one regarding day opportunities**
Some respondents disagreed with the proposals contained in option one regarding day opportunities, stating that proposal two was the more palatable of the two options as it meant more choice was remaining for carers and clients going forward.
- **Disagree with all Proposals**
Some respondents simply disagreed without an explanation, with the proposals.
- **Financial rationale e**
Some respondents felt that these proposals did not consider the financial implications for the County Council going forward and the cost of breakdown for the carers unable to carry on in their role – therefore costing the County Council more in the long term.

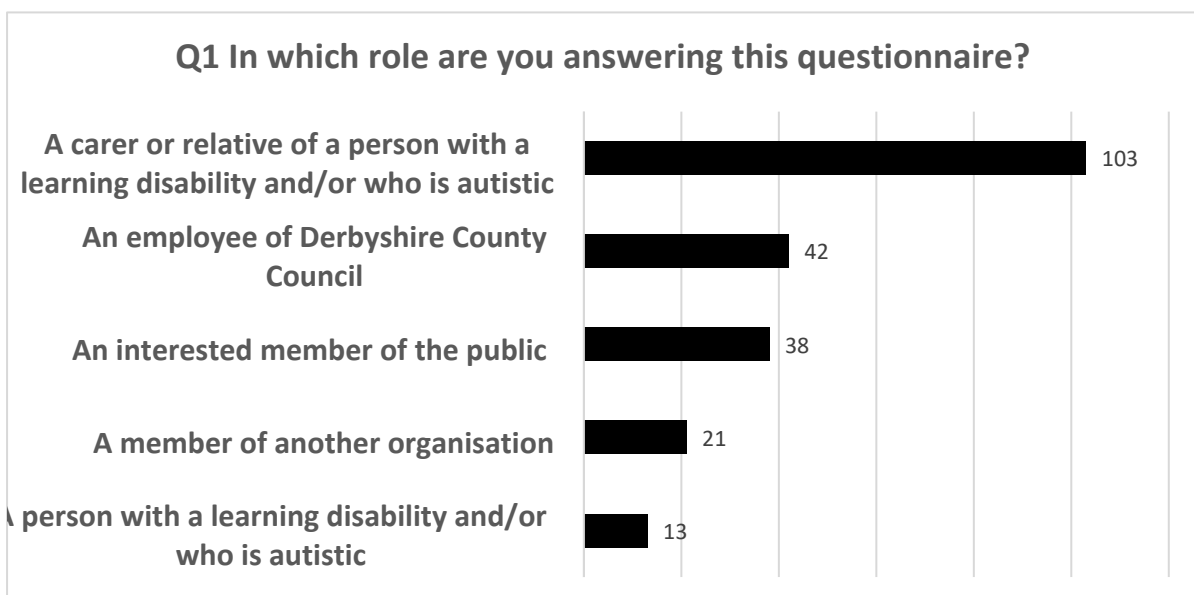
- **Impact on the person with LD and/or autism and their carer**
 Many respondents told us of the negative impact that these proposals would have on them as carers and/or people with a learning disability and / or who are autistic using this type of support for both building based in-house day centre support and short break services. Carers particularly stressed the importance of respite to both them and the person they were looking after.
 - **Lack of other opportunity**
 Many respondents reported that in their experience and understanding, there was not enough good alternatives in the PVI to make the proposal of closing centres viable or changing the location of the available short break's services.
 - **Private Sector concerns**
 Some respondents told us of their negative experience with care and support provided in the private sector and expressed a wish for there to remain a choice of Council run provision.
 - **Quality of Care**
 General standards and quality of care in the private sector were questioned. Many participants gave first hand unfavourable experiences, commenting that the standards and quality were not as high as those of Derbyshire County Council establishments. Adding much praise for the standards and care delivered by Derbyshire County Council front line staff.
 - **Questioning the rationale e of the Cabinet Paper**
 Respondents questioned the contents of the cabinet report indicating a non-belief in the research contained within it. Questioning Derbyshire County Council's under use of some of the building-based day services and short breaks services and the restrictions on attendance that has reduced these current figures.
 - **Travel implications**
 Respondents were concerned that should the proposal to redesign the offer be approved, there would be travel implications with people with a learning disability and / or who are autistic having long journeys and distances to travel to access day opportunities or short breaks services.
 Further comments described poor transport links that exist in parts of the county.
- ❖ Please note that the themes from the specific questions asking respondents "how they would like to hear about different opportunities in the future" (Q8) and "what are the most important aspects of day opportunities and what other opportunities were they aware of" (Q10a) Also "what are the most important aspects of a short break provision" – and Q20 "Please tell us about the range of short breaks options you are aware of and/or have experienced" and Q21a "how could we best inform and support you to find out more" - these themes have not been included in the summary of themes above – but are listed under their respective questions for information as they did not form the main themes emerging from the overall respondents feedback.

The chart below is a representation of the top 5 themes for the qualitative information, from the questionnaires, letters, emails, telephone calls, and meetings:

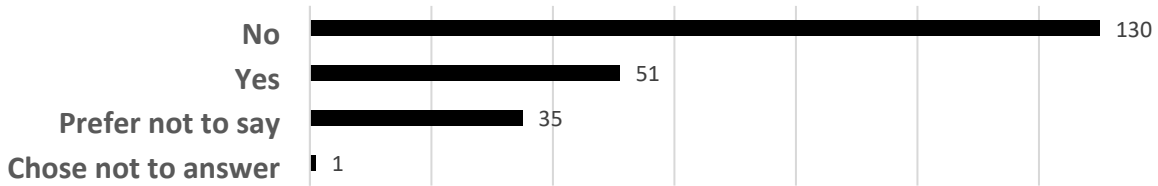


Analysis of the Qualitative and Quantitative Material within the Questionnaires

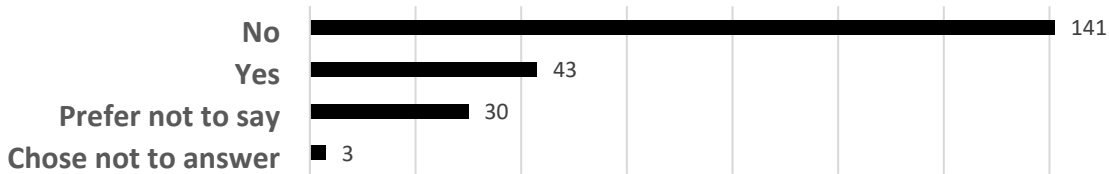
The following highlights the quantitative and qualitative responses for the questions within the two questionnaires. The free text boxes following questions that requested an explanation of the respondent's choice of answer were analysed and coded by the SECT to establish themes from the individual questions.



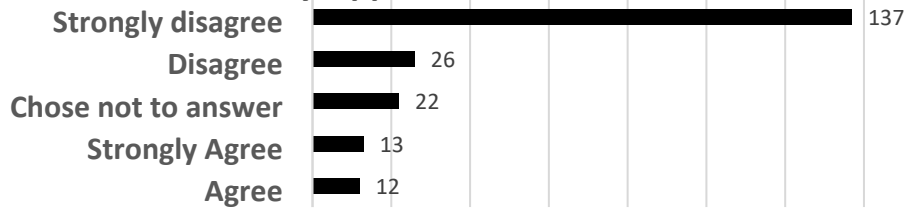
Q2 Do you access a Council day centre for people with a learning disability and/or who are autistic?



Q3 Do you access a Council short break residential unit for people with a learning disability and/or who are autistic?

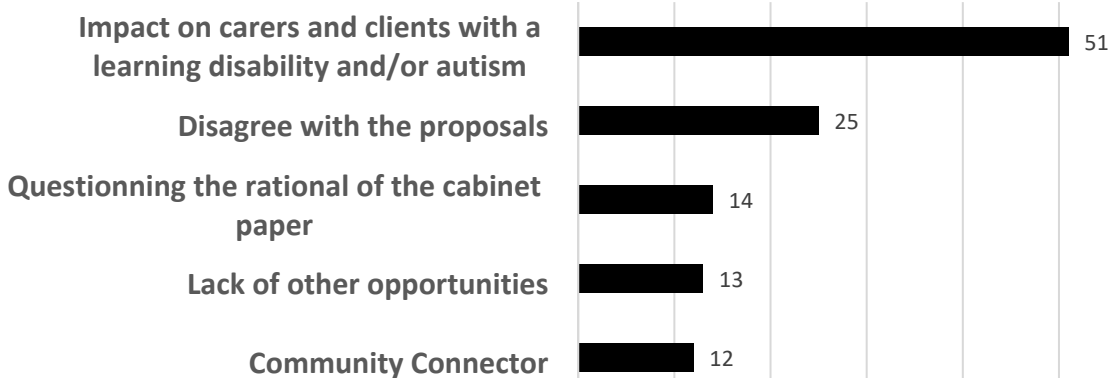


Q4 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Option 1 for Day Opportunities?



Q5 If you have any comments about the proposals in Option 1 – Day Opportunities, please put them in the box below:

Top 5 Themes from Q5



Overall, 138 respondents explained their choice. The top theme was Chose not to answer the Question (NAQ) with 79 respondents choosing not to leave any comments. This was not helpful in ascertaining a quality response so therefore the next top themes relevant to the questions were as follows:

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism 51

comments such as:

- You have already shut centres in the last year, community care does not get like-minded people together, it stops the service users meeting up and socialising together.
- Please leave the day centres alone. You already shut 8 less than 2 years ago and said you were keeping these open. It's really traumatic for the service users who have had to get used to a new place to be told another is shutting and also for the staff who don't know what's happening with their jobs again and for the families of the service users having things changed yet again.
- Day services are a much needed few hours breaks away for parents/carers to catch up on things they unable to do due to caring for their dependent. The clients who use the day service often are not suitable for your community connectors which may I add are only in place a few months then nothing! The clients who use the service have a purpose again, have an extended family and much wanted friendships, closing these or going private will stop all connections & progress made, will make the clients and carers even more isolated! Tendering it out private they will have no competition and their prices will shoot up to they wish to charge as they know you have to provide a service!! Not only that they will pick and choose who they take in meaning half will be left and again more isolated. Wellbeing and mental health are still paramount with adults with learning disabilities, taking away their day service and short break extended family will take a toll on their mental wellbeing.

Disagree with proposals 25 comments such as:

- It will be morally and ethically wrong to close all four Day Centres. The infrastructure is not yet in place to support LD individuals, with a clear lack of PAs to support. Community Connectors will only engage with an individual when a PA is in place, if required. This could potentially mean individuals have nothing to do for weeks/months. There is also a waiting list for individuals to access private Day Centres, so clearly there is a shortage. Having no Day Centres where individuals meet up with their friends could result in isolation. There is a danger that private providers may see this as an opportunity to increase their fees, resulting in additional costs for DCC.
- Day opportunities are a crucial and integral part of support services that should not be discontinued.
- Service provision for learning disability and autism support should not be degraded any further. It is clear that the decision makers have little understanding of their audience.

Questioning the rationale e of the cabinet paper with 14 comments such as:

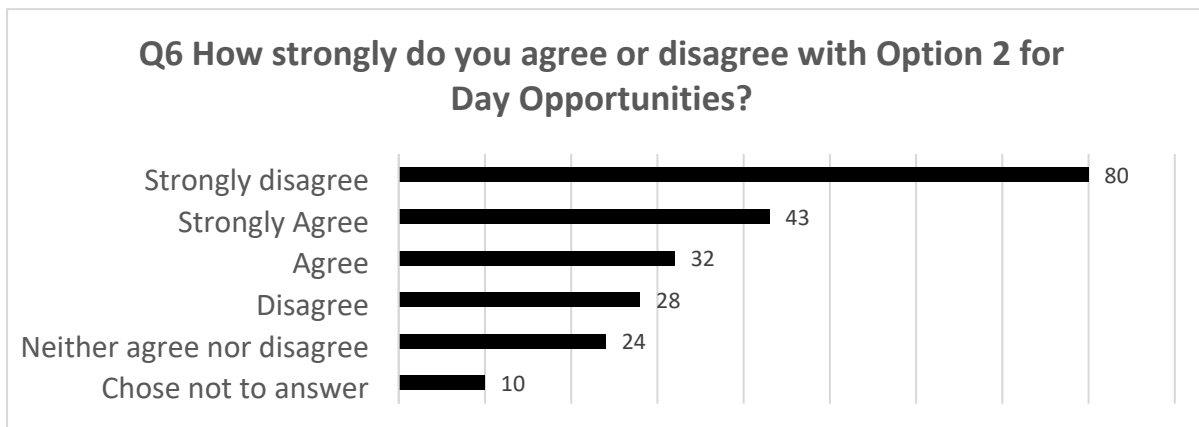
- Not all people with disabilities can/want to spend time in the community and need the option of a day centre.
- My concerns! people that use this service are not supported in a person-centred way. One service will not support all people in the community. We hear every day of children being murdered in the street, outside schools, our police force unable to protect the community from serious attack. NHS shut down support for mental health needs and now a trusted council is looking at doing a similar thing to LD. Who will understand their needs, their vulnerability. You may have asked the question "what do you want" but did you ask everyone?
- Even though DCC are telling the general public that no one wants a building base service anymore this is not true. We are in contact with lots of client/carers that previously attended the centre, and they consistently tell us that they are not happy with alternative provisions or activities that they have been offered. There will always be a need for building based services for some clients and the private sector is not always the answer. Long standing social workers have told us about their frustrations and the they feel about having to push clients away from everything they know. How is it right that a care worker (from an alternative private building-based service) who has limited English language and who doesn't know a client can support adequately (this was the case recently when I saw a client who previously attended our centre in the local park). I strongly disagree about closing all 4 remaining bases.

Lack of other opportunities with 13 comments such as:

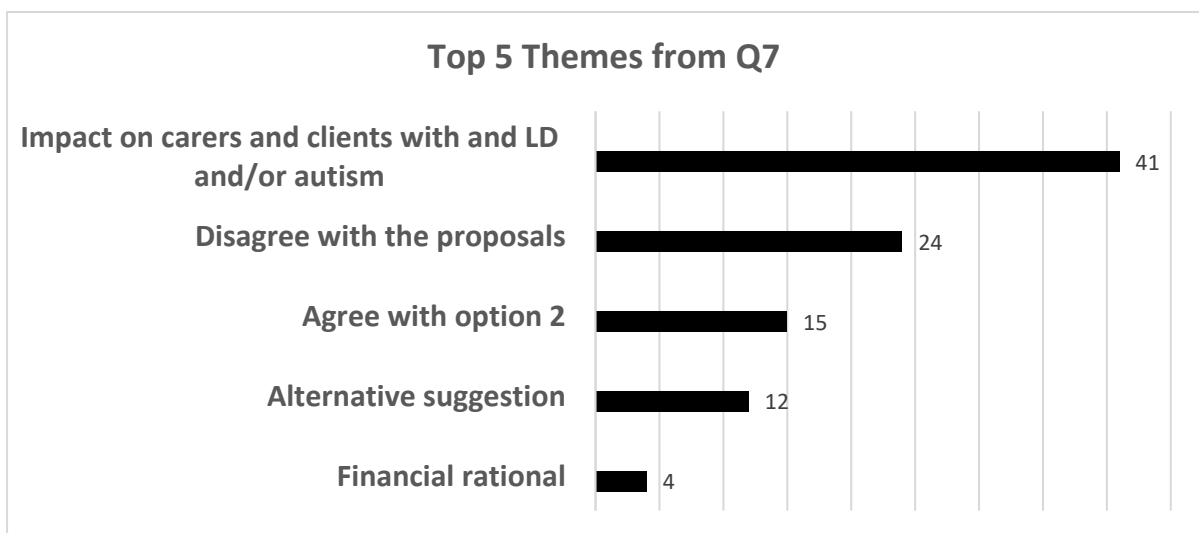
- The people currently attending the DCC Day Centres are those with the most complex needs and there are simply not sufficient suitable day opportunities currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate them should those Day Centres close. The people affected by the closures of DCC Day Centres are those assessed during the 'My Life – My Way' reviews as those with the most severe and complex needs and were identified as "building based". Day opportunities for this group of people are extremely limited and it is certain that there is not sufficient appropriate local provision currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate an additional 55 people with highly complex additional needs.
- There are scant services anyway and as a parent with children and grandchildren who are ASD, we get no help or support so closing any seems ridiculous.
- There are limited opportunities for people with a learning disability in the high peak. Even in the PVI sector. Some of these adults have severe learning disabilities and would be unable to attend roles within the community but families need respite.

Community Connector with 12 comments such as:

- Community Connectors do not offer a great service and did not accompany my relative to the identified opportunity expecting them to meet them there - totally unacceptable for a person with learning disabilities who would say yes to anything!
- The community connection service does not work effectively right now.
- Whilst I recognise that community connectors have been successful for some people with a learning disability, many people with a learning disability do not want the opportunities offered by community connectors and have disclosed that they feel that this actually limits the choices that they have.



Q7 If you have any comments about the proposals in Option Two for Day Opportunities, please put them in the box below:



Overall, 119 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes were as follows:

Impact on carers and clients with LD and/or autism with 41 comments such as:

- My son attends outlook 2 days a week. He has attended outlook for many years and the people there know how to deal with him. It would be difficult to fit him into a community scheme.
- My daughter has been at No Limits for many many years, she loves that she has her own friends in an environment that is safe and she is well cared for, her carers are a credit to the council and they should be rewarded and commended for their work, not sat wondering if they will have a job at the end of this and lose the people they have cared for all these years.
- People with learning disabilities are becoming more isolated without these services. They need them. They have friendship groups. They are lost without these services.

Disagree with proposals with 24 comments such as:

- Please leave all remaining day centres alone. You have already shut 8.
- None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer
- Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

Agree with option 2 with 15 comments such as:

- This is a better option than option one as it would still provide opportunities to access day services.
- It's the better of the two options and will allow continuity for some of those attending these much-needed facilities
- Option 2 would be more apparent. Families like me need to have options of day centres if needed. Not enough provision for private day centres either, so we're you get there is, untrue and want proper facts not lies, stopping people accessing the service and only offering odd private is unlawful. Full information and opportunities needed so the clients who don't fit in one place may fit well in another. You have a duty of care and sending it private companies to see who it can do the cheapest does not mean the best care.

Alternative suggestion with 12 comments such as:

- DCC should allow Private Sector providers to tender to run the Day Centres
- Alternative similar options (either private or LA ran) must be offered to those who prefer that model.
- Perhaps these support opportunities should be more widely offered to families in needs as most dcc staff do not know what is available.

Financial rationale e with 4 comments such as:

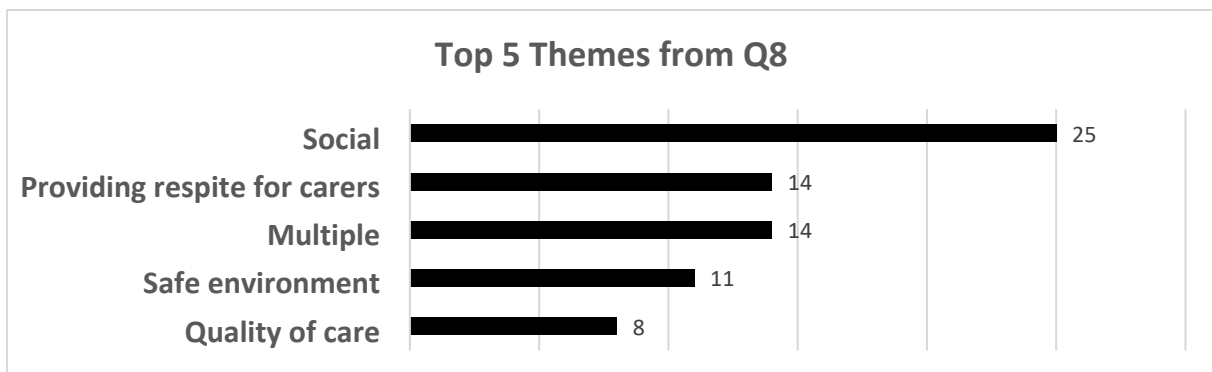
- The council should repair these buildings as and when they need completing. Having a 1.7 million repair bill shows that the council has neglected these centres over years. Hold your heads in shame for letting the estate get into

this mess in the first place, sort it out by using money from the sale of other properties in the county.

- Also worth noting that repair work is so high because DCC's assets have not been looked after sufficiently - which needs to be reflected upon across all DCC's estate. Lots of buildings are in disrepair and therefore renovation costs are extremely high due to a lack of good old fashioned "looking after what we have" principles.
- Think of the additional costs that will be incurred not just by the poor individuals you are turfing out but also yourselves when these people need funding for transport and more expensive care in other counties because we as a county cannot provide the care for them that they need. Disgraceful and totally unjust.
-

Q8 If applicable, what are the most important aspects of day opportunities for you or your family? Please put your comments in the text box below:

Overall, 81 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes where as follows:



Social with 25 comments such as:

- Spending valuable quality time with friends and staff I have known for many years.
- The disabled person has the social and necessary environment to enjoy a more fulfilling life than being stuck within 4 walls at home. Not every family has the facilities and space at home to allow outside activities.
- Stimulation...fun ...socialising with friends in a suitable environment ...in all weathers.

Providing respite for carers with 14 comments such as:

- Respite for family carers for them to work or enjoy a social life.
- The day centre gives me some much-needed respite for 2 days a week.
- It gets my sister out for the day and seeing other people, it also gives the family 8 hours rest.

Multiple – with 14 comments such as:

- The most applicable aspects are having the vulnerable person cared for in a suitable building with trained staff, giving carers time to work, socialise and attend appointments. At the same time being assured the cared for person is in a safe environment
- Consistency! Familiarity and support!
- Interaction with friends, doing fun activities with trained staff in a safe environment.

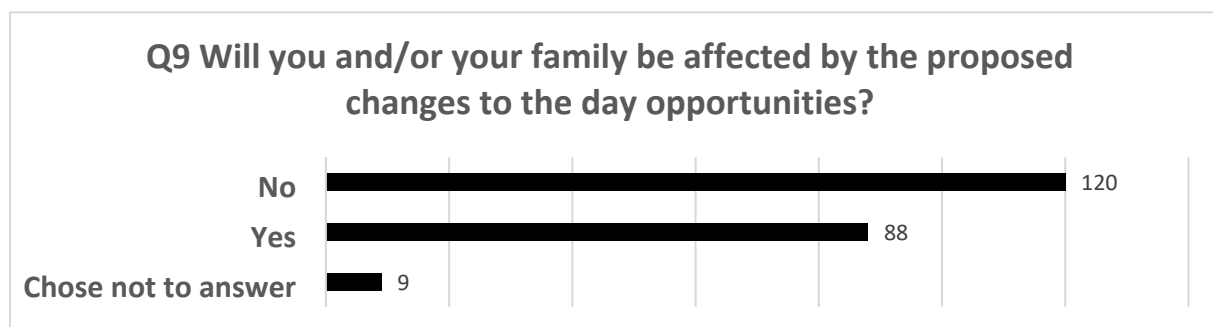
Safe environment with 11 comments such as:

- A safe quiet environment with supportive staff
- A safe and secure environment
- My daughter has her own space in a secure well led environment.

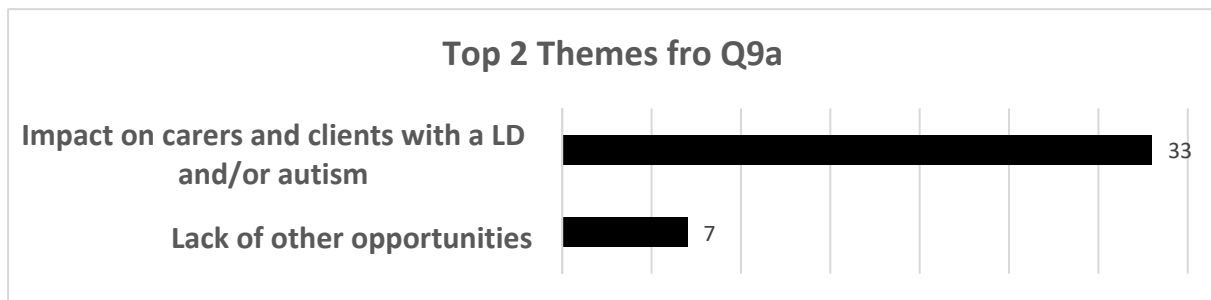
Quality of care with 8 comments such as:

- Day opportunities at council run services, offer the security of staff that stick around and get to know your whole family and what is important to you all, they are better trained than private services. The buildings are wheelchair friendly and made for purpose. A safe place to get together with peers, our communities are not safe for vulnerable people, we need to trust the staff. As carers, we can go to work or have some much-needed time to rest so that we can continue to be carers and do this well, if we know those, we care for are safe, and that they are happy with their friends doing worthwhile activities.
- That they have enough staff, a safe environment, and can work with all levels of disability, including those with more complex needs who may need 2-1 care.
- He enjoys it, he is well looked after, they know his needs. We don't need to worry about him, but they know him and us well enough to know when we do to be contacted. I wouldn't send him anywhere he didn't like. It takes him a long time to get to know new people. They support with meals and medicines which isn't an easy task.

Q9 Will you and/or your family be affected by the proposed changes to the day opportunities?



Q9a If 'Yes', please tell us how in the text box below:



Overall, 49 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. (For Q9a there were 2 top themes all the remaining responses only had 1 comment or were not answering the question - therefore not forming a theme.) The following are the top 2 themes:

Impact on carers and clients with a Learning Disability and/or autism with 32 comments such as:

- Definitely, there is a need to leave the family home for several hours a day to ensure continuing mental health. Also applies to enable respite for my family carers, giving them an opportunity to work/socialise.
- We have already been affected, we are in a substandard service, not allowed to mix and doing very little. This is not going to make my loved one have a "Better life" It has affected my life too with all the stress and anxiety associated with the changes. You should not be allowed to manipulate the situation to your own financial gain. If we are able to find a service that can accommodate our needs, we will need to travel many more miles each day. You have no idea how this has and will change my loved one's life - and you don't care.
- They will be with their families 24 hrs a day and night week in and out.

Lack of other opportunities with 7 comments such as:

- Lack of suitable, accessible venues for wheelchair users and people who require 1 to 1 care and also have health issues. Lack of accessible venues most private are fully subscribed. Journey times too long presenting a risk.
- Yes, if Outlook is closed there is inadequate provision in the area that gives a person outside space, rather than spending the whole day inside during decent weather.
- Looking at the framework there is NO provision for learning disabled people in the local area.

Q10 Are you aware of alternative day opportunities to Council run day centre provision?

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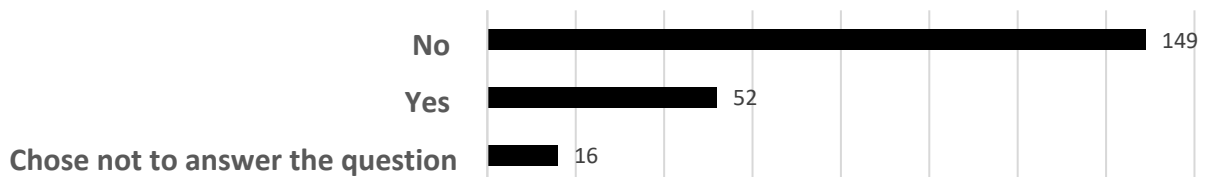


Q10a If 'Yes' please tell us about the alternative day opportunities you are aware of and/or have experienced in the text box below:

The following is a list of all the responses of day opportunities respondents were aware of in alphabetical order.

- ✓ Ability (1)
- ✓ Anthony Berry Day Services (2)
- ✓ Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise (7)
- ✓ Bright Opportunities (2)
- ✓ Community Connectors (7)
- ✓ Cygnet (2)
- ✓ Edmund street (2)
- ✓ Golding Grange (1)
- ✓ Help at home (3)
- ✓ MacIntyre (1)
- ✓ PA and Private sector (3)
- ✓ Personal Budgets to commission services (1)
- ✓ Portland college (1)
- ✓ Rhubarb Farm (1)

Q11 Would you like to find out more about the range of day opportunities available?



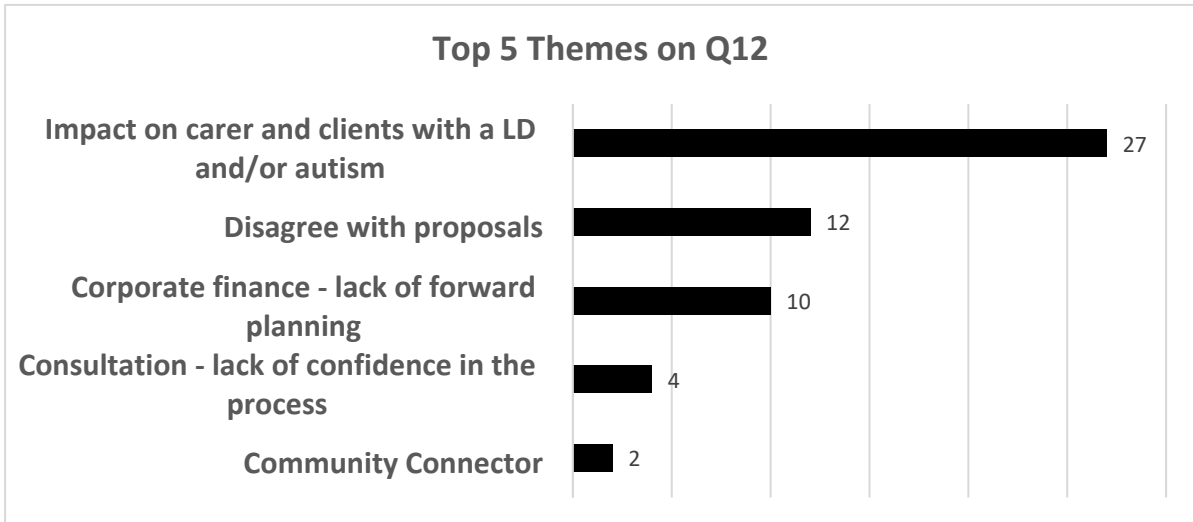
Q11a If you answered 'Yes' how could we best inform and support you to find out more?

In 39 respondents chose to answer this question and below is a summary of the feedback that was provided for Q11a.

- ✓ Email (12)
- ✓ Face to face (10)

- ✓ Letter (8)
- ✓ Publicity (3)
- ✓ Regular open days (3)
- ✓ DCC website (2)
- ✓ Booklet (1)

Q12 If you have any further comments about the impact of the day opportunities proposals, please enter them in the box below:



Overall, 60 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes where as follows:

Impact on carer and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 27 comments such as:

- We had a good service which you took away it was a community for people with a LD, you have now isolated these people taking them away from their friends and community. You are placing them in unsafe situations where they spend a lot of time alone or with single carers - but that's okay because it's saving you money!!!!
- You already closed Whitemoor. A dozen people from there moved to Parkwood. Now you're closing Parkwood after only 1 year.... cruel and disgusting. You treat people like dogs being re-housed. No compassion
- The impact on DCC day service users will be serious. Clients moved from their existing service to another are suffering mental health problems impacting on their families.

Disagree with proposals with 12 comments such as:

- Just stop cutting vital services for our vulnerable people
- Please keep all day centres open

- Historically, DCC has had a wonderful attitude to the care and provision of those most vulnerable in our society. However, over the last decade this attitude has hardened. It is the vulnerable and their carers who have paid an awful personal cost for this.

Corporate finance – lack of forward planning with 10 comments such as:

- Would the service shut if DCC wasn't overdrawn with money? And how did the money get so out of hand? We have plenty of managers to oversee the units stay on budget. Was the only way to close services everywhere? Schools, respite care for children older adults' services? Close a service that has only recently been built at a cost of thirteen million? I think your money situation needed to be revamped before you change ad hoc service. I was very proud to work for DCC but now I'm just one of the many workers who thought we needed to care for everyone.
- It's such a shame it's come to this, such poor management at DCC in my opinion.
- They're putting their own poor management of such opportunities above the public's requirement.

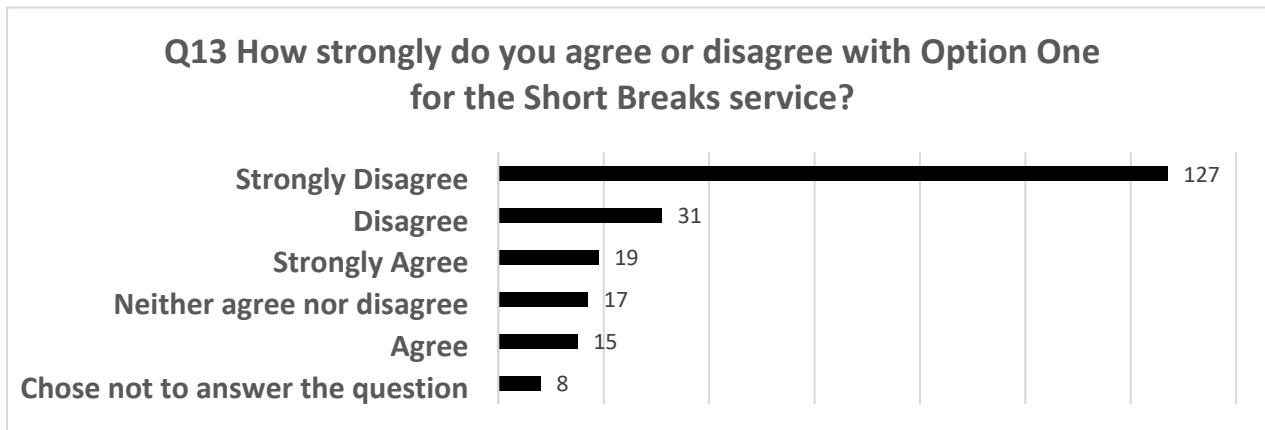
Consultation – lack of confidence in the process 4 comments such as:

- You have already made the decision to close them.
- You will do what you want anyway.
- You only give out the information you wish.

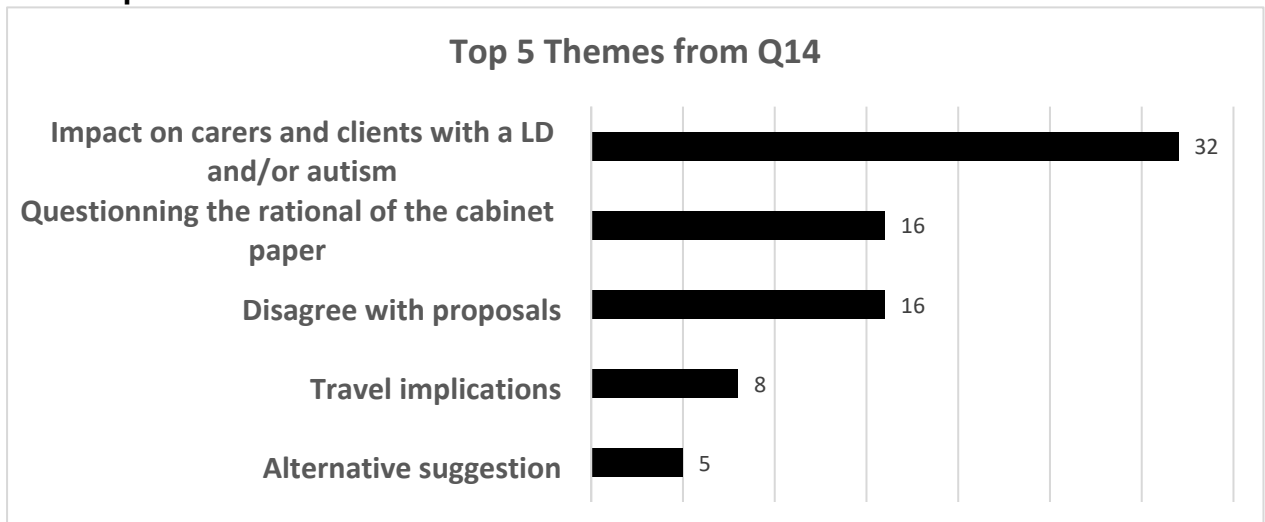
Community Connector (only 2 comments on this were provided by the respondents)

- Whilst I recognise that community connectors have been successful some people with a learning disability, many people with a learning disability do not want the opportunities offered by community connectors and have disclosed that they feel that this actually limits the choices that they have.
- Clients with challenging behaviour, significant personal care needs etc cannot be supported by Community Connectors.

Q13 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Option One for the Short Breaks service?



Q14 If you have any comments about the proposal in Option One for Short Breaks please enter them in the box below:



Overall, 90 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes where as follows:

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 32 comments such as:

- Why do you think taking away the one thing that gives carers a reason to carry on and the clients the freedom of being in a different building, different people, different ways of having a bit of fun.
- It is not good to have only one, this gives me no choice. If it is full I wouldn't be able to go my carers need to go on holiday without me sometimes, and if the unit gets sickness and diarrhoea they have to shut and not let anyone in.
- People with autism and learning disabilities need routine and the same faces.

Questioning the rationale of the cabinet paper with 16 comments such as:

- I believe there are far more carers needing a full break from their caring role as a regular thing or as an emergency than these figures suggest. I almost daily have conversations with carers of people with ASD/LD who are exhausted, putting off health appointments and in some cases operations due to not being able to access STC. It is not always appropriate for respite at home. Older carers are getting older too which is a ticking time bomb if we don't have the resources to fill this gap.
- Whilst this sounds good in theory there is an extreme shortage of respite services in Derby and Derbyshire at present and many families are searching for private short break services as they have been told that council run ones are not an option. Demand is likely far higher than recorded as so many people have been told that the council run ones are not an option.
- The short break service could offer a real opportunity to work with people with a learning disability in a dynamic and empowering way, but yet again, as with day services, DCC are employing a slash and burn policy. It is ludicrous to believe that the PVI sector will take up the slack of respite - it is not financially viable, and the services / placements are not out there. The cabinet report is disingenuous when it talks about the number of vacancies in residential homes- these are not respite.

Disagree with proposals with 16 comments such as:

- Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.
- This is an ABSOLUTE DISGRACE what you are proposing!!!!!!
- Until such time that positive efforts have been made and there are companies on the short breaks respite list, this option should not even be considered by cabinet.

Travel implications with 8 comments such as:

- To keep only one respite centre open in the middle of the large County is made without due consideration of people traveling long distances to access the facility. Possible journey time 1 hour plus, taking the hours out of the 24-hour day charge. In addition, take into account the return journey home for carers. Also take into account weather conditions during travelling time.
- For many residents in Derbyshire, Morewood would be a long way to travel and expensive if using public transport.
- Carers need access for the cared for to be in easy timescale to attend the person promptly in emergency. Not travel 30 miles from home. Also, person would be seen by medical professionals unfamiliar with their unique conditions.

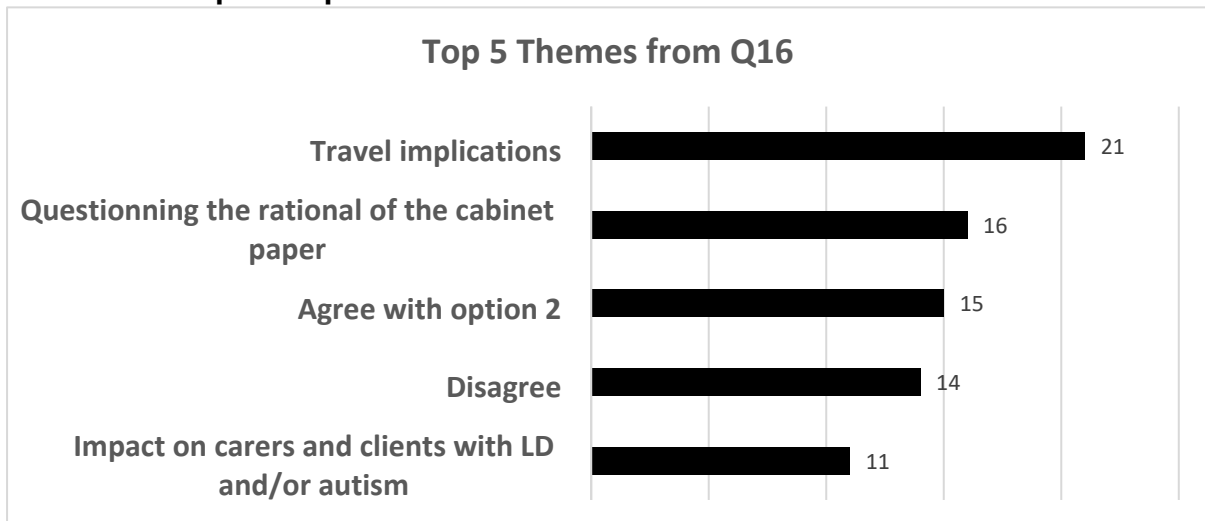
Alternative suggestion with 5 comments such as:

- That is fine and would work well if DCC had its own pool of carers to support in an emergency – but otherwise very difficult to offer a timely response in an emergency due to difficulties in finding PA's.
- Perhaps consider retaining two of these rather than one. Again, are service users fully aware that this is option available to them?
- Need to make sure there is adequate staff coverage and shift patterns for staff to cope with what must be a demanding role.

Q15 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Option Two for the Short Breaks service?



Q16 If you have any other comments about the proposal in Option Two for Short Breaks please put them in the box below:



Overall, 93 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes where as follows:

Travel implications with 21 comments such as:

- Although I don't totally agree at least this option leaves a service in the south part which is very much in demand. Older parents, parents who have ill health cannot travel. Some LD require the security the bungalow provides which gives peace of mind their loved one is safe. It is also a smaller environment which many find easier to cope with. Staff have proved undoubtedly; they cope well under pressure and are adaptable not only with the COVID years but with clients that were refused by other providers.
- Morewood is too far away, I am an elderly carer and the Bungalow at Newhall have always supported myself and my son. I feel both buildings are so important and don't think that Morewood on its own would be able to support both short term and longer-term clients along with emergency admissions on its own. It will leave no scope for future demand. Both buildings would enable this
- Too far from home to use as incurs 2-hour return journey Inc handover time which is a necessity to discuss medication.

Questioning the rationale e of the cabinet paper with 16 comments such as:

- The analysis provided of bed availability is crude - there's no real thought as to the quality and content of the service and how it could be developed to be empowering and dynamic. I'm also concerned that the most complex service users would not be accepted into a redefined service - people may need more space or increased staff input. Would this realistically be available? Both options seem fairly simplistic in how they've been presented. No real depth or understanding of the LD community.
- The basis for the closure of the four Short Break Centres appears to be that "Morewood would comfortably meet the current demand of 54 people.... with their 10 available beds." Indeed, the Cabinet Paper (Ref 1) suggests that it would have the capacity to support 100 people.
- "Focussing on independent living skills" really does translate to "We are going to tick a few boxes and then leave disabled people high and dry in Derbyshire".

Agree with option 2 with 15 comments such as:

- I strongly agree there should be two short break services AS A MINIMUM
- This is a slightly better option.
- This option appears to have more flexibility to support people, as not always appropriate in own homes.

Disagree with 14 comments such as:

- Should be retained your proposal is not strong when meeting needs.
- I strongly disagree with the closure of any of the short breaks/respite Centres. Having only the options of Morewood and the Bungalow, this will result in nothing available in other areas of Derbyshire. In respect to the closure of Petersham Centre, will also mean relocating the individuals in the supported

living bungalows that are attached. This could be very detrimental to their mental health. Have DCC considered other options, e.g. selling the properties as going concerns or renting out?

- None of these services should be stopped.

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 11 comments such as:

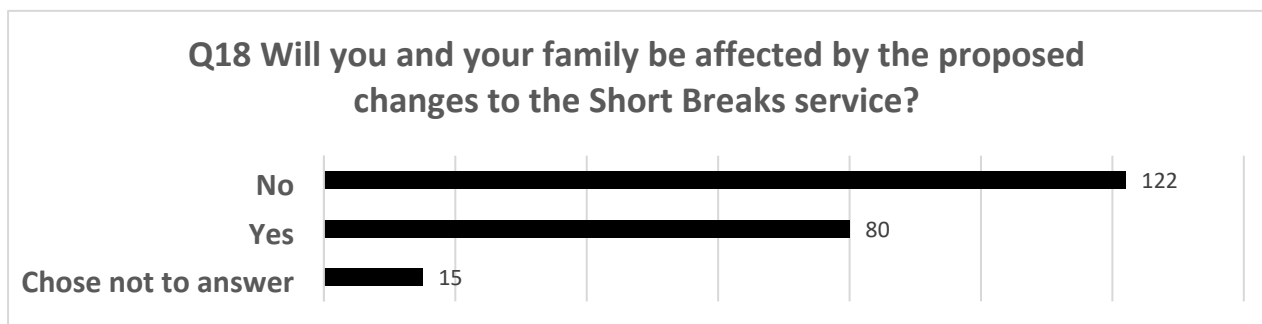
- I know that the occasional breaks she does get are a lifeline to her.
- My 34-year-old autistic son X has recently began respite/short break at Newhall Bungalow which is in the village where we live which enabled our eldest son to visit daily to help with X's anxiety as he's never been away from home other than with family in 34 years. Newhall Bungalow staff were unbelievable and so supportive to not only X but to us as well. The facility has allowed my husband and myself to go on holiday with peace of mind for once.
- While this is the better of the 2 options it takes time for my daughter to get used to going and in my opinion needs a time to adjust with gradual integration, I'm sure we aren't the only ones in this situation as this was part of the service offered. I need to start this process again to get her used to going but with all this uncertainty I don't want to start to suddenly have to stop again.

Q17 What are the most important aspects of a short break provision for you? Please tell us in the text box below:

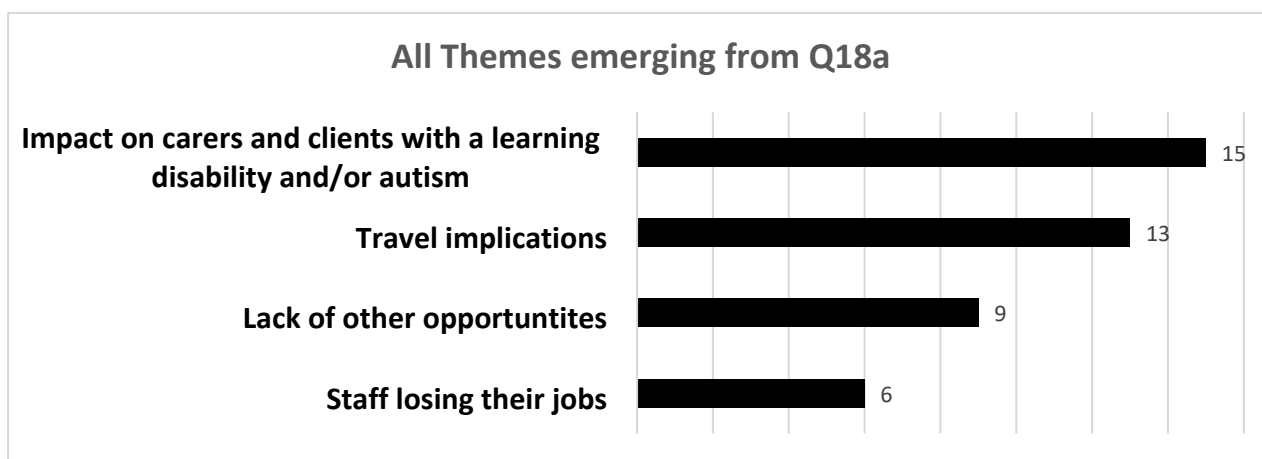
In total 95 respondents chose to answer this question and below is a summary of the feedback that was provided for Q17.

- ✓ Availability (2)
- ✓ Independent living skills (1)
- ✓ Local (1)
- ✓ Mix of all listed (15)
- ✓ Quality of care (10)
- ✓ Respite (47)
- ✓ Safe environment (2)
- ✓ Social (1)
- ✓ Support for families (3)
- ✓ Flexibility (1)
- ✓ Reliability (1)

Q18 Will you and your family be affected by the proposed changes to the Short Breaks service?



Q18a If 'yes' please tell us how this will affect you or your family:



Overall, 47 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes were as follows:

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 15 comments such as:

- after 3 years without a short break the local centres are a necessity to enjoy the breaks knowing the family member is being cared for by trained staff that have been known to them for many years
- I think the need for respite is invaluable for full time carers whether in emergency or short breaks and familiar people and surrounding make this much easier on the client and therefore the carer.
- Devastating to mental health of carers. Huge issues for emergency provision.

Travel implications with 13 comments such as:

- No short breaks! Not acceptable to be approx. 20 to 30 miles away with a journey of 90 minutes. If family have no transport available a wheelchair accessible vehicle with passenger escort would be required.
- Distance to travel. Not every carer can drive or even have a vehicle. Taxis are expensive especially if the respite is a 50-mile return journey.

- Unable to have respite as travelling distance and taken years for our son to become familiar with surroundings. If becoming stressed in unfamiliar places can cause seizures.

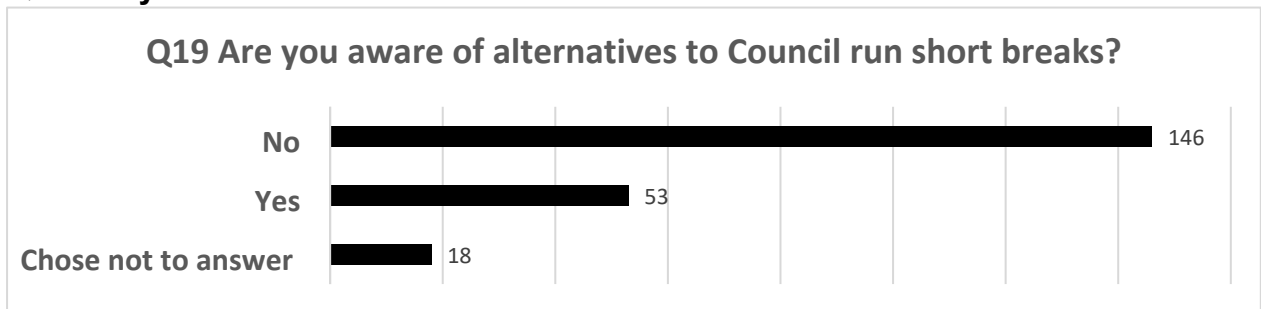
Lack of other opportunities with 9 comments such as:

- Limited capacity for specialist care and support, including hoisting and other moving and handling care.
- Future when children are old enough to use adult’s short breaks. I do not want people coming into my home to provide care if I go away or needed to go hospital.
- Less opportunities.

Staff losing their jobs with 5 comments such as:

- Could possibly be left with no job.
- Personally, no job no income for my family.
- It will directly affect myself as an employee for the council and in turn affects my family.

Q19 Are you aware of alternatives to Council run short breaks?



Q20 Please tell us about the range of short breaks options you are aware of and/or have experienced in the text box below:

20 respondents chose to provide feedback on the range of short breaks – the following lists these in alphabetical order:

- ✓ Ability (2)
- ✓ Community connector (2)
- ✓ DCC (the bungalow at Newhall) (2)
- ✓ Eastfield (1)
- ✓ Family Placement (1)
- ✓ Home to home (1)
- ✓ Mencap (1)
- ✓ Portland (1)
- ✓ Rockery care (1)
- ✓ Shared Lives (10)

Q21, Would you like to find out more about the range of short break opportunities for you or someone you support?

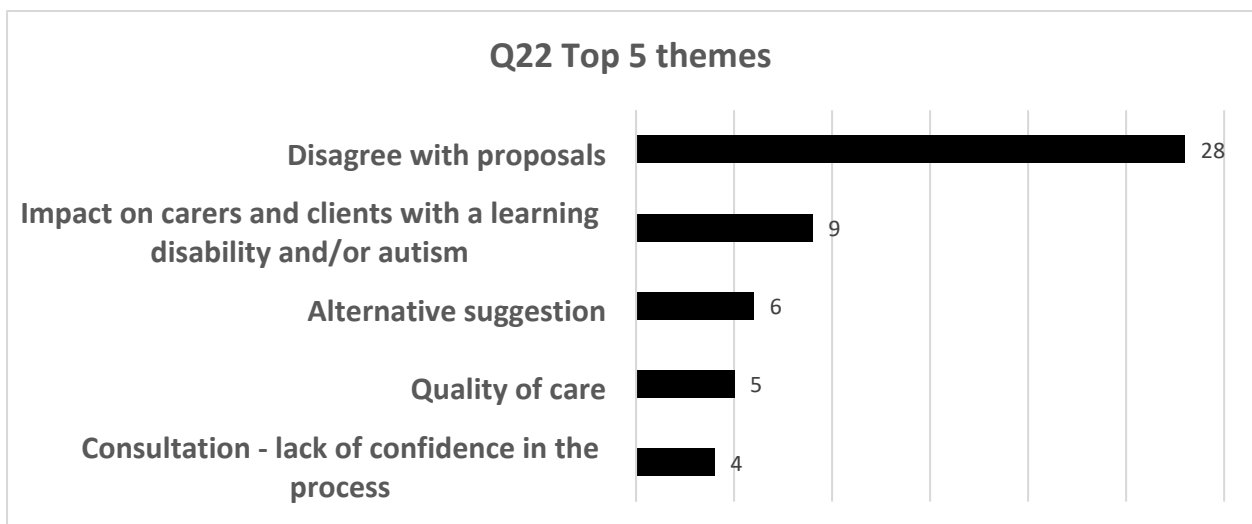


Q21a If you answered 'Yes' how could we best inform and support you to find out more?

28 respondents chose to provide feedback on how they would like to be informed and supported to find out more – the following lists these in alphabetical order:

- ✓ Email (13)
- ✓ Letter (6)
- ✓ Publish the alternatives with a list of all available (4)
- ✓ Social Worker (3)
- ✓ Staff (1)
- ✓ Website (1)

Q22 If you have any further comments about the impact of the short breaks service proposals, please put them in the box below:



Overall, 59 respondents gave an explanation for their choice. The top themes where as follows:

Disagree with proposals with 28 comments such as:

- Fund it properly and stop cutting everything. Disabled people are continually easy targets.
- This process should not be happening,!! You should have left the day centres as they were.
- The services need and must be retained this is taking advantage of vulnerable people. In closing these centres and making changes the council is not delivering the valuing people document.

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 9 comments such as:

- Massive impact. No thought by councillors on the impact the closures will have on carers and the family members.
- People with learning disabilities do not tolerate changes at all well. My sister would get upset at me organising respite for somewhere she didn't know so therefore it would be more trouble than it's worth.
- More families will be putting loved ones into full time care as will be at breaking point so would cost council more in the long run. If carers are assisted with breaks/ daycare it allows families to care for longer and return to work/stay in work which is better for the economy.

Alternative suggestion with 6 comments such as:

- Please think again. Speak to the social workers, senior practitioners, enablement workers. Ask how many families they work with that actually need help
- Also consult with Social Workers, Senior Practitioners, and wider support groups
- Refer back to transforming care to reevaluate the proposals with people with complex needs in mind. Ensure elected members have complete copies of all consultation responses.

Quality of care with 5 comments such as:

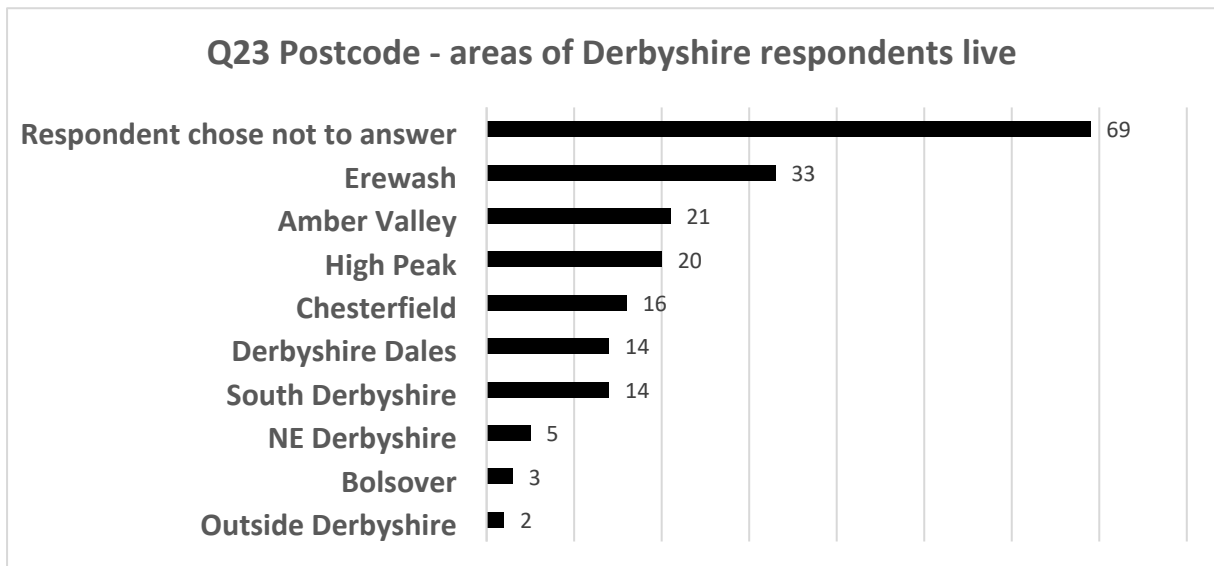
- I feel apart from the fact that a lot of their places are purpose built there is a wealth of knowledge experience and expertise that will be lost.
- Just starting to look at options for our son.... we want specialist staff and local
- People I represent deserve far better than DCC s offering of Morewood. You just need to look at its background.

Consultation – lack of confidence in the process with 4 comments such as:

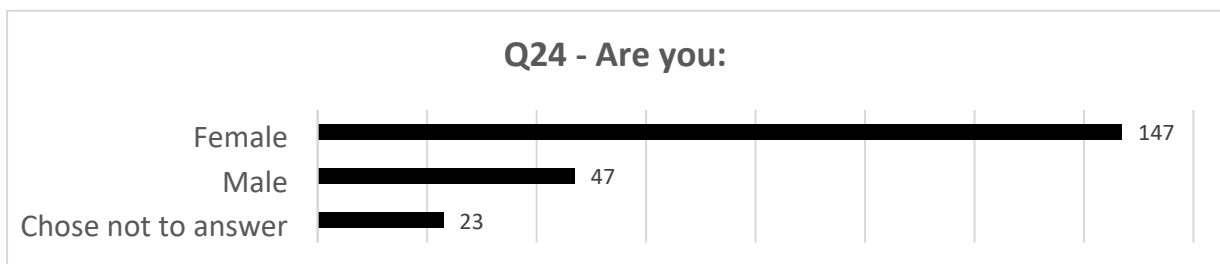
- Waste of time me filling this in
- Waste of time and money you've already made your minds up.
- You are all scheming lying two faced council members who have shut us before the consultation!!

Demographic information

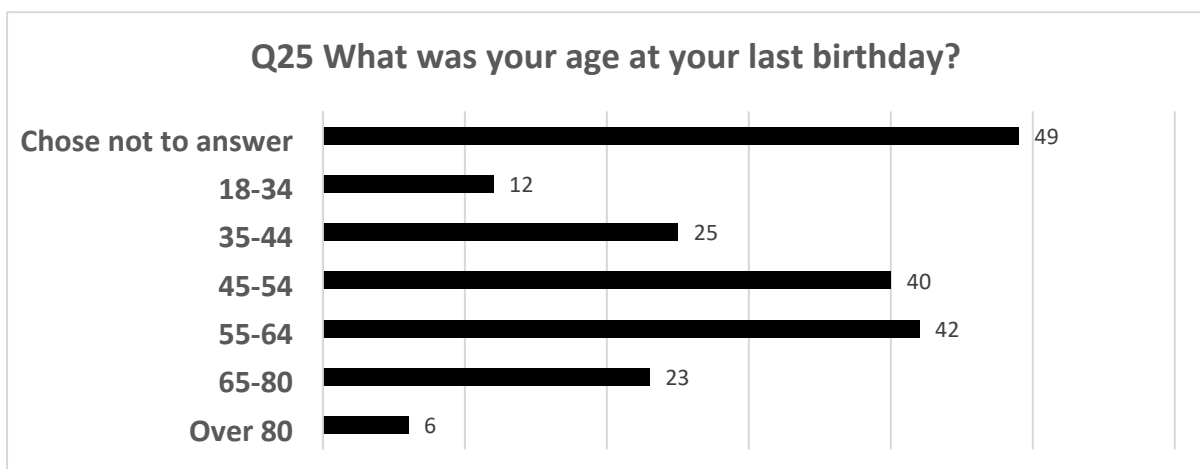
Q23 What is your home postcode?



Q24 Are you:



Q25 What was your age at your last birthday?

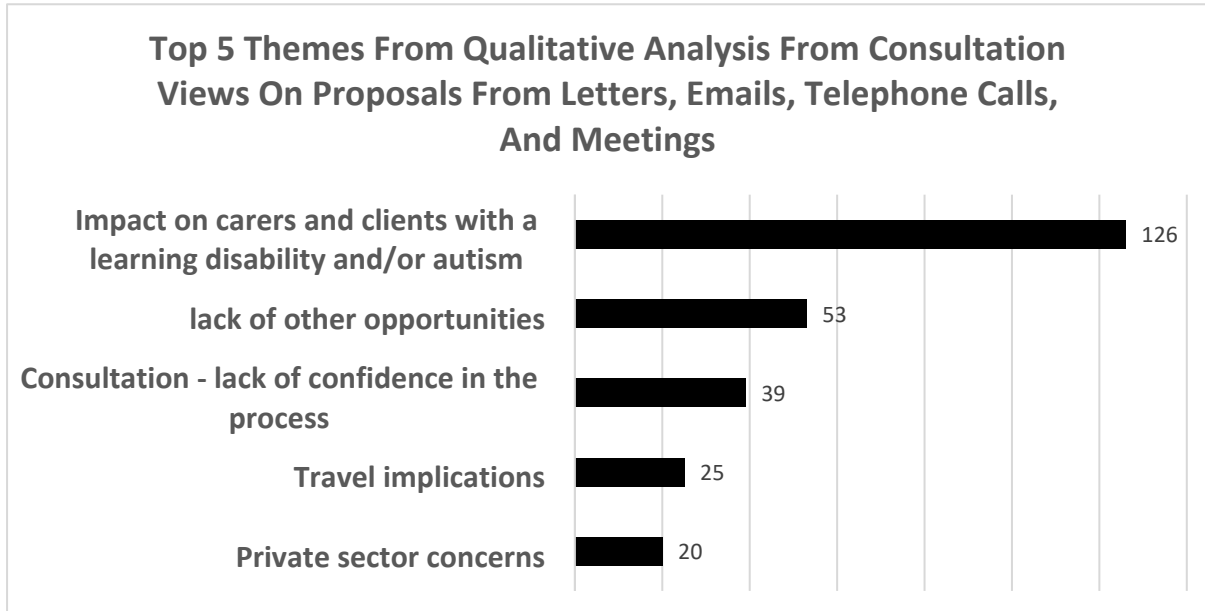


Q26 What is your ethnic group?



Qualitative analysis from consultation views on proposal from Letters, Emails, Telephone Calls, and Meetings

Overall, 364 comments were captured from those who chose to respond via email, letter, telephone calls or participation in meetings including library drop-in session. This chart represents the top 5 themes:



The comment from the top themes where as follows:

Impact on carers and clients with a learning disability and/or autism with 126 comments such as:

- Those with learning disabilities are already disadvantaged in terms of their health and wellbeing and are twice as likely to die earlier than the rest of the

population -day centre provision helps to promote and protect and safeguard their health and mental wellbeing. The council has a responsibility to protect vulnerable adults - because if you fail to keep these people safe you are contributing towards the harm on their physical and mental health.

- Our daughter has used Petersham centre for short breaks for 25+ years. At that time, she enjoyed the full 2-day 48-hour break arriving at the centre 10 minutes from home at 4pm and the final day pick up at 4 pm. Sometime later when Newhall opened the pickup time was altered to 2 pm, still allowing clients a lunchtime meal. Now I am informed the pickup time is 11am therefore denying family carers the full mornings break on the last day. Therefore the 2 days charged for is cut by 5 hours and does not include a midday meal on the last day. Actually, the final day from day one to two is cut to 19 hours. In view of the DCC consultation ref review of respite Services, the decision makers need to think about the impact on clients accessing the 1 or possibly 2 of the remaining centres how travel time will impact by cutting the actual hours spent in Council Care. Unless of course clients live in close proximity to them. Option 1 for clients living in the very South of Derbyshire will have a much lengthier journey. In our case leaving home on the final day by 9am. That's assuming carers can drive and have a vehicle. Can carers trust that the above points are given full consideration. For our family 2 hours return journey including handover time spent discussing medication on the first evening and 2 hours at pick up time, arriving for 11 am means leaving home at 9am, hardly a beneficial break for us and value for money for the client.
- Without good quality care provided locally – you will end up with carers not being able to cope.

Lack of Other Opportunities with 53 comments such as:

- We just don't have anything here if you close Alderbrook – where does it leave us carers?
- There is no other provision in this area to enable my daughter to go out into the community.
- These proposals are for the benefit of the council and not the needs of the service users. No indication has been given as to what services they will be able to access, - there is a significant shortage of community PA's and private day centre provision is limited. Natalie Hoy talks of accessing services in the local community. What are they- you haven't said? There is limited provision in the community and access to services is also restricted, the community connector programme has shown itself to be flawed and not effective -in short there is no alternative community provision- this is the reality. Many will be left with nothing to do and nowhere to go. Many of these service users need access to a building-based service - rather than wandering the streets with a community PA which is what access to services in community actually means in real life if you didn't know. The day centres enable service users to take part in activities which develop their confidence and social skills in safe space with a continuity of care allowing them to ordinary and fulfilling lives. They also offer additional safeguarding and help to improve health and mental wellbeing for vulnerable adults. Everyone has the right to good social care and support to enable them to live ordinary lives.

Consultation – lack of confidence in the process with 39 comments such as:

- I, like the other members of the public have followed the process with the consultation, the faceless emails, and online questionnaires, attended the face-to-face sessions and listened to endless council spin from the stakeholder and engagement team. Sadly, many of us believe that our concerns will be ignored just like last time, the consultation process is just a tick box exercise for the council to hide behind. A faceless processes and decisions based on the sugar-coated results of a graph and pie chart, with fudged and skewed results that support a decision people oppose but has already been made.
- What we say just won't make any difference we have been here before with Whitemoor, and they didn't listen then.
- The last consultation promised our daughter would be able to do all different things such as horse riding etc and this would include offering weekends and evenings – but this was just not true and has not happened.

Travel implications with 25 comments such as:

- Long journeys are not good news for our son – he doesn't travel a long way at the moment – but if No Limits changes, they need to look at travelling and it needs to be a limited distance.
- I don't drive – I'm stuck if my son goes anywhere else – this is so stressful for us as carers.
- If we are ill what happens then – how do, they go to private day centres – they would have no way of getting there.

Private Sector Concerns with 20 comments such as:

- The choice you've left us with – either 2 days here – or you can have a 3rd day somewhere else – but we just don't feel comfortable him going somewhere else – we don't think that the staff in private care are experienced enough and would cope with him just hitting out.
- We hand our son over for care here because we know you have experienced professionals to look after them – in the private sector its 18-year-olds that are poorly trained – they are doing their best – to lose your staff and their quality of care is not what we want for our son.
- I came to Derbyshire from Sussex – and I watched the privatisation happen there and putting people 'out the community'. It just didn't work there and won't work for everyone here. The cost of provision just went up and friendships were lost.

Appendix One

List of all comments captured (Please note some comments have been split onto a couple of lines to assist with reading and context)

The need for hydrotherapy could be met here at Alderbrook and can't be met anywhere else locally.

Build this place back up to what it was before covid – that's what we need.

Would it be an idea that someone might take over No Limits – but run privately as the new building is now fit for purpose. – it would then mean that this place could continue but under a different provider

If a private provider could take over the building for No Limits and employ these staff – so that the group could stay together that would be acceptable to me as a carer.

Respite could really be improved by looking at the timing. We take them there for 2pm and have to fetch them back – respite should be a full 24 hours minimum per day – the hours really need to be looked at.

What you are providing now doesn't equal what there was before covid – they got supported to go out into the community. You want to equal or improve on what you used to provide at Parkwood before covid.

Where are the private residential and short breaks located – we need to know this

If you are going to cut the service then we need full information of where things are allocated

We would question the success of the connectors – when we know that they have just connected some people to private day centres rather than being allowed for the person with a learning disability just to come back to Outlook as they wanted.

The statement regarding the connectors is very idealistic.

I have never met a community connector – our son was turned out of Whitemoor – and in all that time I have not seen anyone not even a social worker – the one time I was contacted was in my job – not as a carer of my son – you just don't provide the support and I have never had a community connector.

My son just doesn't know what he wants to achieve – how do you then connect him to something – does this mean that if he has a cc, you will just deny him the opportunity to come back to Parkwood like you have done with other people who used to work here.

Community connectors are not for everyone and certainly wouldn't work for our daughter – she likes to see all her friends here – and that's what makes her day – and to lose that – which she will do if you close Parkwood would really upset all of our lives.

Can you publish the connector figures as most of the successes are people connect to day centres showing the needs and wishes for this type of service?

Are our comments going to make a difference this time – I think you've already made your mind up – we said lots at the last similar consultation, but things still changed.

You will do it your way no matter what we say as carers – you will still close Alderbrook and that is not what we want.

There is not a proposal to keeping Alderbrook open on the questionnaire so how are we expected to fill that out when we don't want Alderbrook to close at all.

The letters didn't originally go out giving the link to the online consultation and it wasn't until I asked for a copy that the easy read letters were sent out – it doesn't fill you with confidence in the system does it.

To put our role over and articulate this on a form is really difficult to make sure you understand how complex the caring role is.

Alderbrook is a valued commodity and I haven't heard anything today that reassures me that you will keep it open despite our comments.

The consultation letter mentions the success of the connectors – where are the figures available for this?

Invites for these consultations have only been sent to current users of DCC services, why not everyone with a learning disability or autism. There are people unaware of this consultation who should be involved and may wish to have a say in those services that impact their lives if not this moment, then maybe in the future. I know there are people who have no service at all and if family circumstance changed even slightly would be in need of services. This consultation should be more inclusive of everyone, you know who they are... even if they are currently signed off.

My son wanted an extra day at Outlook – but it was just checked out – so the basis of the cost and the change of people accessing the centres is not true – I don't believe they are being offered the opportunities.

We've known this has been coming for 5 years we have read the signs – Covid came as a gift from God for DCC and giving them the opportunity to reduce attendance at Outlook – and even when restrictions were lifted, we had a difficult job getting our daughter in. Petersham is the same – we have a heck of a job to get her in for respite.

The last consultation promised our daughter would be able to do all different things such as horse riding etc and this would include offering weekends and evenings – but this was just not true and has not happened.

This decision is done – you've already made said Outlook is not going to have anyone else in.

Firstly, I don't believe for a minute that these are purely proposals – we've been through this with Whitemoor – you've made up your mind.

This is just a mockery – you have already made your mind up.

What we say just won't make any difference we have been here before with Whitemoor, and they didn't listen then

The first question to ask of this council is – why when the majority of people who attended the consultations were against the closure of the 8 day centres – the council still went ahead and closed them – the answer is it would appear that you were going to close them anyway and that the consultations were just a tick box exercise and I see no reason to think this consultation will be any different

What was sinister about that last consultation was that it gave some compelling reasons why Whitemoor Day Centre should not close, and my words were very conveniently erased.

We all agree that we are flogging a dead horse – let's take them to court and get legal aid and get them to stop this and it will slow them down and will cost DCC a fortune in the process.

You say you are revising the services in the last round of cuts – I assumed that no staff would lose their jobs – but still you made 16 redundancies.

You honestly didn't know that you would be here again – we knew you would be back to close things.

The letters have still not been resent with the link in – can we have this sorted please to give everyone a chance to take part in the consultation.

I feel the way you have gone about making these changes to services has been underhand and you have purposely used the excuse of Covid as a means to change the way you provide services – youngsters with complex need will still need a building-based service in the future.

I question why you are going through this process – as you didn't listen last time when you closed the 8-day centres.

Outlook is a brilliant centre – the kids like it here.

You should keep Outlook; it's had a lot of money spent on it and the respite centre is only over the road.

Outlook is situated in a perfect place.

Outlook is the best one as it had a lot of money spent on it.

It's always these centres that suffer – it's just not fair.

My daughter came to Outlook 3 days a week after Covid (it was 5 days before then) and we asked for extra days – they recommended a private day centre which is a good service that has a hydro pool – however it does not have any outside space or

windows. There are 25 people attending that day service in wheelchairs. I personally would not like to think in the summer months that I was not able to sit outdoors As I said it is a good service, but it is not anywhere near the service that is provided at Outlook.

Of the 2 options – both are to close its Hobson's choice – we want Alderbrook to stay open.

Alder brook is what our loved one needs – when it was closed over covid his anxiety went through the roof. He doesn't like change – he's been here since he was 18 and he's now in his 50's – you need to consider tis and their mental health as well.

This is their community – the staff and their friends were here before covid – now that community has gone and nothing has come to replace that, and this is wrong.

I cannot stress highly enough how glad my son was to come to Alderbrook after Covid – he was on 5 days before and now reduced to 3 and on the 2 when he can't come anymore he sits in his chair and constantly asks where the bus is – 2 days difference for both my son and us as carers is massive let alone the change a closure of this place would mean to us all.

·Youd rather privatise it then run it in house.

The threat to close Alderbrook is massive to both carers and people with a learning disability as it's not being replaced by anything accessible to us locally – We need services like this locally and by locally we mean in Glossop – not Buxton.

In the assessments Social Workers suggest regularly why we don't put our son into a home – that just is not right and what we want as his parents is to stay with us and be able to come to Alderbrook.

My son has been coming to Alderbrook since he was 3 and he is now 58 – any change now will be so difficult for him.

Why have you got people cleaning tables or working in a farm – a lot of the people who use to come here don't want that and want to come back here – they knew the staff, the routine and it was good for carers providing them with a safe place for their loved ones and peace of mind knowing that they were being cared for and were happy

I just hope that the cabinet that are making the decisions have a conscious – as to think No Limits is going to close is just unthinkable – we just couldn't cope.

Obviously, we didn't want our children to be born disabled – but what we do want now is good care at No Limits

Before Covid there was at least 11-day centres we now only have 4 run by DCC – and now you want to chip away at them to 1 or 2 – or even none at all.

Why don't you just fill the DCC Day centres rather than place them in the private sector day services.

My son is totally blind – can't use his arms or legs and has a learning disability so struggles to communicate – closing Outlook and trying to put people like him out in the community is just not a viable option and is hurtful to even consider to the people who love him.

Direct care should be a priority of DCC not wasting money on funding hotels, solar farms and loans to private companies and paying for consultancies.

We were all told that they couldn't come back to Parkwood after it re-opened after covid by the better lives' teams – this is not what the people with a learning disability wanted – they wanted to come back to Parkwood.

I wanted to keep Parkwood as it was before Covid - it helps the carer – for example I lost my husband, and this really affected both me and my son and we needed Parkwood for that support – it was essential for both of us.

Savings could be made elsewhere – every time a council must make a cut it is always the people with disabilities that have to suffer – it's so sad.

If you close Parkwood, you will have lost a flagship of Derbyshire for caring for people with a learning disability – the standard of care here is phenomenal.

What will happen to the social fund monies for each of the day centres – this is not DCC money it belongs to those individual centres and the people that use them and had to be donated to and raised for that reason?

It will cost a lot more money if I can't look after her and she must go into permanent care – where is the sense in that for saving money for DCC.

Where is the funding being spent – I would question that?

When we were offered a day in Buxton – why were we asked to pay for it.

If my daughter had to go to Tameside who would pay for that – and this a daft way of looking at it when I live in Derbyshire – surely you should want to retain services in Derbyshire – particularly when they are excellent services here.

Derbyshire are going headlong into a bigger financial crisis – due to carers not being able to cope – so they will be in full time care, and this will cost the council more in the long run.

What seems crazy is that you have just spent thousands on No Limits and then you say you are proposing to shut it – it doesn't make financial sense to

Where is the savings coming from by using private providers – they would just be looking at the money side of things and not the quality of care?

As an example – and I know these aren't accurate figures – but say it costs £50 to go to Outlook and £70 to go somewhere in the private sector – if you close Outlook – what is to stop the private sector keep increasing their charging as there will not be any competition and control over price increases.

Why were you willing to pay a private day centre for the extra day – you have the capacity here and the staff – you are just manipulating the numbers?

You call it an ‘efficiency saving’ – in plain English – it’s a cut – why can’t you just say it as it is.

From closing Parkwood and then using as DCC offices – I just don’t see where the savings are coming from. You still need to legally provide a service to cover my son’s needs – and this will just cost you more eventually if you rely solely on the private sector to provide all the services.

Is it more financially viable to support people in their own homes – surely you will end in the same financial crisis you are in now?

Our son came here 5 days a week before – then he was assessed to come to Parkwood – 1 day – we wrote and said ‘will see you in court’ – then we threatened to take them to court, and our service was increased.

What’s troubling is that DCC are also going to close care homes – do we get reassurance when they close things that they do it separately – it’s all just so worrying for us as carers.

We need to be planning on when you will close Parkwood – we need the timing of when the closures are likely to happen so we can plan as carers.

We were all just waiting for someone official to tell us what was happening, but it just came out of the blue from staff at Whitemoor. In the end it did work out well because the staff were transferred to Parkwood, so it made the move for him ok because it was about the staff and not the building.

We would need to have a phased transition and to spend increased time for him to get used to somewhere else.

But if Parkwood closes, we at least need for him to keep his hours.

Some of you need to appreciate what the life of a carer of someone with a learning disability is like – you need to walk in our shoes for a while – then you would really understand how we feel.

Our choices in the future will be dramatically reduced – for example if I want two weeks in June – if everyone else who needs respite is also using this – you are trying to shoehorn too many people into too few beds.

Having familiarity is massive to people with a learning disability and this just happen overnight.

You say that you want people to stay in their own community – but there is nothing if you close Alderbrook and there is no suitable alternative for respite now you have never opened Hadfield Road again. I will be forced into a decision of my daughter having to move out as I will struggle to cope without adequate local service to help me – and I really do not want that.

I can't manage my 2 children without support – I start stressing with what is going to happen to her. I am a single parent now and I want to look after them for as long as possible – but you are making this very difficult with taking away our choice of Alderbrook.

I'm from Glossop as well and ever since covid my son should have had 5 days fully funded – 50% by health and we can't get those 5 days – we keep going through the process with the Community Connectors. It's just so stressful for carers to think that we will not have this service at nearly 75 I need help to look after our loved one.

I have a mobility allowance so at 75 and a carer of someone with severe difficulties you expect me to take her to alternatives a long way away – this will be such a problem travelling particularly in the winter. It's just unfair to ask carers to be a taxi even more so when that were difficult locations a long way away.

Without good quality care provided locally – you will end up with carers not being able to cope.

If we leave our sons and daughters on your doorstep, then you will know what we do to look after them – I am sure you just don't understand the role of carers.

People don't realise what is like to have someone who is so dependent on you. Were so lucky we have a big family, so she had stimulation – but they now live away. As carers we can't just choose to do something on impulse – the meals need to be provided at certain times together with the care – it's a very demanding role just which we don't think you understand.

·You don't know what it is like to be a carer until you look after someone who relies on you 24/7

Respite breaks are essential, and we have also used them from the NHS – which are also under threat to close – this is really stressful for carers and their loved ones – things are just winding up in front of your eyes.

If we say we are not coping it hits the press – if we say we are coping, we are expected to just get on with it – we just can't win as carers.

·The aim of DCC is to privatise everything – everything will be put on the carer like Direct Payments. This is all on the carers and adds even more stress to a stressful role – everything is being privatised and it's not good.

People are getting older as well as us – physically as carers we are stressed /shattered we are on the edge too.

Our children are in her 30's and her 40's – its tiring for us.

We as carers also have illnesses – I was ill last year, and it is really hard for us to get support.

You do have the feeling that people with disability are being edged out – that feeling that carers will cope – but we are not coping – it doesn't matter who you go to they just can't help.

If you take our day centres away from us – it will not just be the children who suffer – it's us as carers as well.

Our children have a very rare syndrome – we are friends and carers of children with the same condition – we have known one another for 9 years – and that support from other carers here is important to us.

When you take your children for respite – you don't always want to leave them – but as carers we need that care as well.

I would like the cabinet to walk a mile in our shoes as carers – they would then know just how we need this help from No Limits

It's like with the respite – the social worker said we can get someone to sit with her or stay with her – we don't know them – but if you are there – you would be forever checking – that's not a break

My daughters' medical needs are quite complex to get specialist respite support in my home I would need specialist carers.

You would need to book in 6 months before for a respite break – if you want something say in 2 months as it has come up at short notice – you just can't get in – you don't always know what is coming up that you will need respite for

It may sound selfish to say we need respite – but we do miss out on a lot because we have caring duties.

Finding alternatives if No Limits shuts as we are fully funded by health would be another pressure on us – as I suspect that health would just leave it to us as carers.

You've got to live it to appreciate the life of someone with a learning disability or their carers.

I don't believe that any of you or the Cabinet know what it is like to have children like ours – not only are you taking the respite away from them coming to Parkwood – we have to miss our son's wedding – because my son who comes here didn't want to go – not only are you making decisions about our family you are making decisions that will affect our lives as carers and we don't think you understand that

With these types of decisions being made – the parents must manage direct payments to find somewhere suitable to take them out – being taken for a coffee/lunch and home – this is their stimulation? – you can't compare that with a day at the centre like Parkwood used to be.

We as carers are getting older and need the respite that a building-based service provides and the security and friendship that it gives to our children.

It depends on age of the individual – older people with LD are their carers have more need for a residential placement.

What happens in a crisis? – these places will still be needed for this.

I don't like the title "short breaks" it makes it sound like a free holiday and for us it's about respite.

When our son first started at the Bungalow his behaviour was terrible but with the support of the staff who have been brilliant, he has settled in. He has 2 nights a month which is vital to us.

I am not comfortable with other people staying in my house and having carers in during the week to support with activities our son simply would not do it.

I fought the closure of Whitemoor but thought there would be a transition period to Parkwood. It did not happen; we were just told one Wednesday that was it and he would be going to Parkwood Monday. It should not have been left to the day centre staff to communicate this to us.

How will better lives support us and those we care for to deal with the aftermath of this upheaval – this is not the first move for some people?

They enjoy their life here at No Limits and love coming here.

Familiarity with routine is so important to our loved ones – they need to be comfortable with what is going on – they don't like change.

They don't even like weekends because they are not at no limits.

If they can have an anchor on their life with routine – that is good for their health and mental wellbeing.

Her daughter has moved from school at Chesterfield and then on to No Limits – it's the only life she has known – they really don't like change.

I never wanted a direct payment – I didn't want to sort out her money – I wanted to have a social interaction – she wanted and needed this little group of her friends – it's something that she has had for so long – I don't know how she will cope – it will be like coping with a bereavement.

Our children are the most affected in society – with all these proposed cuts it's the most vulnerable that are going to be affected the most.

Why are you doing this to such vulnerable people – it's just not fair.

You need to look at how many people you are hurting, and you are ruining their lives.

The mental health aspect is awful for people with a learning disability – they use to be able to meet all their friends at Outlook. Out in the community with a Personal Assistant doesn't replace that social interaction that they got when they came to Outlook.

When he wasn't allowed to come to Outlook, his mental health wasn't good – we were lucky that he now has two days and are really concerned how this may affect him if he doesn't get this in the future and they close Outlook.

The people who have a learning disability who are not allowed to attend Outlook anymore really miss out on their friendship groups and we need to look at ways of making sure that they build friendships.

Have you met any of the children down there – do you know you are taking their friends away from them again if you close Parkwood?

Are you are going to pick them up and move them all somewhere else with the staff – it's the staff that make all the difference – take them to a private day centre and they wouldn't adapt – it isn't about goals it's about them being with their friends?

They need to be together with their friends.

My son sees it as going to work – how do we explain it to someone who doesn't understand – he's got to adapt again if you close Parkwood.

I still can't understand why Whitemoor had to shut – it was just DCC negligence and lack of planning – it's just not fair on the people who receive these services.

Now, having sent our daughter to Parkwood you want to cause our daughter further upheaval in her life by shunting her off to Long Eaton (Outlook) or Chesterfield. What I want to know is why – when the Parkwood Day Centre building needs £700,000 spending on it over 5 years – as Marcel Van Der Venne has revealed – not £1.2m as the council has been saying

When my daughter had 4 days - but now she's been reduced to 3 days a week and no visits to horse riding and all of the activities that used to take place – you are not just closing down the day centres but reducing the quality of life for our daughter.

It is just an aspiration with the community connectors – our son needs permanence – the people we look after don't need something for just 8 weeks – they need stability and permanence.

It's just such a shame that it is targeting vulnerable people – it could be classed at bullying.

You are just not listening to us – we know he enjoys it here – we know our son best.

It's like having a hang man standing over you and you are waiting to be hung – we are all getting older and have difficult children to ensure that they are well cared for – you just have no idea what you are putting us through.

You need to look at what they have got from the experiences they have gained using the connector services and then compare it to the experiences that they used to have here with their friends at Parkwood – there just is no comparison.

Poor individuals in a crisis – then they are sent off to a long way away – that's just not fair on the really vulnerable people who use respite services at Petersham.

If the Bungalow closes and he had to go to Morewood it will be starting all over again for him and it is a long way from us.

South Derbyshire has very little and if the bungalow goes it's even less if Parkwood goes too that is the 2 things he is comfortable with the transition will just be too much and upsetting for him.

We looked at private for the 3rd day and felt he only settled on the 3rd day because there is stability and happy for the 2 days at Parkwood.

He talks about the people he sees there and the staff I don't know how we will cope with him moving again like we had to 10 years ago. We are 10 years older, and our lives have changed we now have grandchildren that we like to have in our lives. This will also mean a lot of upheaval for us spending time with them.

How would we factor in respite if everyone is needing weekends. At times we have had weekends booked with hotels booked then have been told last minute we can't have the planned respite, which has a big impact. We need to have reliability.

When we had the weekend cancelled, we were offered somewhere else but that will not work for our son, and I would not have had a rest worrying if everything was ok.

We can't have agency staff because we need to have consistency, or he will kick off.

There was a plan for our son to spend more time at the bungalow getting him ready for supported living when the time is right, and he is settled. I don't want to rock the boat, but I do realise we will have to face that at some time. But if the bungalow closes this will not happen anyway.

He can't make friends, he will talk to people but not to make friends, he will only have a conversation if someone initiates it and its about something he is interested in and he needs support for the interaction.

We are not at a stage when we or he is ready for change, and we don't want him to feel we don't want him.

I feel that having been given support its now being taken away and things are going backwards. Our main concern is that the 2 days that we have been helped in his transition is now a waste of time and we are back at square one.

It is sad that the staff that have supported him so long will not be there for him anymore.

The work should have been done on creating things for people to do before you started to close things.

There is nothing in Glossop -for respite since the decision to close Hadfield Road.

Only 9 people are currently at Alderbrook – which I blame on the way you administered the transport policy. The people that were here before love to come to Alderbrook – there was lots for them to do like the garden centre and planting, woodworking machinery – so many things and now you see them on the High Street

in our local town with nothing to do other than go to McDonalds or something similar to try and see friends.

We have got a place here, but you make everyone leave – the alternative is just not there – there is nothing available locally that will provide the care that Alderbrook does.

We just don't have anything here if you close Alderbrook – where does it leave us carers?

The provision of the private sectors isn't good around the High Peak – you can't just magic up Personal Assistants and Support workers when they don't exist in this area.

We worry that the remaining people who attend Alderbrook will have difficulty which the other attendees have found that used to come to Alderbrook. We have Connex, Bright Opportunities and Moore Care – they all have staffing issues and are fighting for the same people to work for them.

I think you know what is missing in this area already without us pointing it out to you again – we have had enough engagement and consultations before where this has been pointed out.

Hadfield Road was immaculate and a fabulous place and now it's gone reducing our choices for respite here.

People with a learning disability must have friendships and links made for them and need extra help to make those friends and maintain them.

I have 2 autistic sons – they are now in Oldham – DCC are cutting everywhere. In this area there is very little to no alternative provision for someone with learning disabilities

Alderbrook is only local facility around here that would meet our needs.

We have the same worry – where are they going to go – there is nowhere else for day opportunity than No limits – respite is getting difficult too – there are no other options available at present – she was at Ringwood that's shut-Pinewood shut - it's her life at No Limits – during covid we saw her go down – No limits is her social area – she doesn't even like me being here – this is a place she likes and wants to be

The other carers in our area – have aged limits and not everyone takes complex needs.

The services are really needed.

If it's not on offer – how can they choose something else.

When you did the assessment was weighted the questions. My daughter would love to go into the town – but if she did there is nothing there for her.

Everything on that list of other activities that someone with a learning disability could do in the community – like bowling, swimming – horse riding etc - all of these sorts of activities were already available to people who attended Outlook.

There is no other provision in this area to enable my daughter to go out into the community.

Cygnets is no longer on framework – will someone look into this and ensure that they are as they provide a good service – although they currently do not have any vacancies.

You can't provide suitable alternatives if you close Outlook. If the private sector is full of other people with a learning disability – I am really worried that we won't be able to find somewhere suitable locally for X to go to where he will enjoy and meet his requirements.

What can you expect to connect our son to? What? – there is nothing in our area

We know far better than the Community Connectors what is available in our area.

We have been telling you for years that there is nothing available in our area – and you still have done nothing – if they don't like gardening for example – and it's raining – what do they do then?

Would everyone get a place at another day centre run by DCC – I don't think there is enough capacity and I want a DCC day centre for our daughter.

Private services – is there a list to browse for the cost and availability – if a private organisation closes – they are not governed by the same rules – we will start to be put to ransom for the cost – will we be told that we will have to have less services because of the cost.

Your framework – South Derbyshire – there was just gardening – it will take years of expense to grow the opportunities on the framework – yet you already had it here with the inhouse services.

What happens to the clients that can't be found suitable alternative placements if all the services are closed? Especially those with complex needs – are DCC going to admit that the community does not meet the needs of everyone?

Is there a list of Private services for us to browse, with their costs and their availability and how are these services regulated – we are having a consultation about closure of DCC services but if a private organisation decides to close we will get no notice at all – here today and gone tomorrow and those we care for will be left with nothing and our families at high risk of having a serious situation

There is nothing else in this area that is available to replace Parkwood.

You will have a job to find alternatives in the community. My son used to love going to the pottery here at Parkwood – opportunities for disabled people like that are just not out there locally.

It's a great shame you changed the criteria of the day centres – we see them wondering around and when asked do you miss the day centres – and they say yes. If it wasn't for the voluntary groups, this would never see their friends.

We were offered home 2 homes, but we could not do because they had dogs.

Councillors and officers of DCC couldn't give a toss about our children – be honest that it is about the money - I would respect them far more if they were honest about this.

What is to say you won't cut services further in a years' time?

We are being blocked from coming and having an extra day at the day centre – we've had 2 separate social workers – one said that you have to have 2 separate day centres – my general social worker said that they can't come and have another day – the message that you can't just have inhouse day services is coming from somewhere.

We just don't trust anything from DCC and what they say any longer – I don't believe it's the social workers lying – it's coming from somewhere.

We all can see the attempt to make DCC services more unattractive (the activities offered, compared to previously) We would like to know that the remaining service will be valued by the council.

There is a covenant on this building for people with a learning disability.

It will work for some people.

We have a bit of optimism that if we boot out the cabinet next year – they hopefully will keep Parkwood open.

I have a lot more concern about the respite than the day centre.

Can't believe how you can look so pleasant and happy as staff when you are doing this to the people that you are supposed to be caring for and their carers.

Future planning for funding from health is not very accessible.

You mentioned other services – its people that are vulnerable – when we hear things like £11M to build a hotel who make these decisions.

ST Christophers Trust was provided as alternative respite to Hadfield Road and the standard of care that they provided for my daughter was poor – for example that had not given her vital medication – washed her properly and she smelt when she came here. It was dangerous for her when they can't follow instructions like taking medication and then you don't trust the private providers and you don't want to use them – this just means extra pressure on already pressurised carers.

We are expected to accept lesser care – DCC trained their staff correctly and to a high standard – the Private sector doesn't do this.

My friend has them go to private care in a taxi and doesn't like to do this.

There is an assumption here that the care provided by the private provider that they would be better to provide this than the council would.

I don't want to be over cynical – if I was a private provider – I could make a cut in savings by not providing one to one or two to one care.

I would rather have my children looked after by someone who is adequately paid for their service and care, and I don't think the private sector does this or is its focus.

It appears most people have been connected into private day centres – reiterating the need and wishes for this type of services, somewhere for people to feel safe and mix with their peers. These are not necessarily local (AP taxi costs £300 per month) could be on other activities, clothes holidays!! It looks like people have been pushed from DCC services into these Private services. What happens when there are no DCC Services, and private services decide to hike their prices significantly, as there is no longer a base line price? i.e., if it cost £50 for DCC and £70 for private, when they want £100 or £200, will we be told we can afford less services or will DCC be held to ransom by private organisations. It appears obvious that people have been ejected from DCC to private, to make DCC services appear underused, as a way of the council ridding themselves of these services for cost cutting purposes. Some of the private services people using already cost double what DCC provision is, would it not be better for people to have an extra day with their peers, loneliness is a big issue with mental health.

Will the private sector be able to hold DCC to ransom if they have no inhouse services.

Not every home is adapted to wheelchair users to let them go out into the community and have care in the community for respite.

If Outlook does close and we are pushed towards private – is it 7 days a week as well, and will we be mixed in with older people – will we still have the same choices – I am concerned that we will have no-where for our learning disability community to go to.

We hand our son over for care here because we know you have experienced professionals to look after them – in the private sector its 18-year-olds that are poorly training – they are doing their best – to lose your staff and their quality of care is not what we want for our son.

I am concerned about any LD day services who are not contracted to DCC.

The choice you've left us with – either 2 days here – or you can have a 3rd day somewhere else – but we just don't feel comfortable him going somewhere else – we don't think that the staff in private care are experienced enough and would cope with him just hitting out.

It has to be said that Day services are a last resort, and we feel we have been pushed away from DCC services and into private to make them seem underused as

an excuse to shut them. Can we unblend the services and go back to our preferred DCC establishments?

I came to Derbyshire from Sussex – and I watched the privatisation happen there and putting people ‘out in the community’. It just didn’t work there and won’t work for everyone here. The cost of provision just went up and friendships were lost.

Its certain that the service will not as good as it was.

We looked at private - they had a waiting list and also said, “why should we take your son who needs a lot more work than a lot of others on the list”.

At other organisations it’s a concern that staff are very young and inexperienced.

Morewood is really good, and we are really grateful for Morewood.

The 9 people that are here at present have complex needs and have dedicated staff.

Having a Social Worker – that’s a joke – we don’t have one – when you do get a good one, they just move on to better jobs.

Hadfield Road was brilliant – I tried to find out why it was closed and isn’t open any longer – but could get an answer even from my MP.

Some staff question principles and are missing the point re our daughter A – some can be unpleasant with their attitude when dealing with us when we ask for help.

Because they have complex physical and mental needs – no one knows them like their carers do – the carers here know them well here through – the familiarity of the carers is so important.

A little grunt or a nod – the staff at no limits know what that means.

We rely on these people here at No Limits – and it takes a long time to build that trust up with people with a learning disability as well as physical disabilities.

My wife died in October and this place has kept my daughter going.

The social aspect of Outlook is not here anymore as there are not enough people now attending.

You can find the support but without Parkwood and staff familiarity it won’t be the same service.

What does our son do whilst he is here – he can’t do anything now whilst he is here – because you have stopped all of the activities that you used to do here – going down the private route doesn’t improve his life at all?

We are comfortable with DCC staff, we know for example in an emergency like we are running late he will be cared for and not left.

Communication at DCC is above any other organisation, DCC staff always tell us what he has been doing in the day at his other place they just say “yes he had a good day. “

What has been actively done to engage with carers to encourage the use of current DCC provision?

We feel that Derbyshire County Council ceased having Outlook as an opportunity on the list and used this as an opportunity to put this on the list for closures. You haven't given it the opportunity to have more people to attend.

Why when it only costs £700,000 to refurbish the day centre itself has the council been paying – as Private Eye revealed a fortnight ago - £715,000 on two consultancies for 'strategic' help on children's services, schools and learning for a council to admit it faces a £46m budget black hole this year, how can it crow that Parkwood day centres is going to £700,000 to refurbish when its wasting money on consultants? Is Private Eye lying or is the council not being transparent enough?

Is it true that when you close Parkwood – that you will not close the building, but it will continue to be occupied by DCC staff as it is now in the top part?

We've heard it from social workers that day services are the last resort – we chose to come back to these services and choose to come back here. – there are 2 3 or even 4 times more staff than clients – but they are still being told that they need to go to private day centres

I don't understand the blended approach – it's like saying you have two jobs for insurance- just in case, instead of just one.

Does the council wish for everyone to live in some form of supported living or residential care then there is no need to have any form of activities as it becomes someone else's problem?

Petersham is not full and your only allowing 2 people in at the moment.

Shared lives sound nice but it will not work for our son if he gets upset, he kicks and punches holes in walls I don't think shared lives carers would be very happy with that.

We could not have increased PA home support as we both work from home and if he knows we are there we could not get on with work. He will not do things like activities, or life skills for example with a PA it would mean that all he has is a" baby sitting" service sat watching TV with him.

The other thing that you have said – is that there is a change of demand for places at the Day Centres run by DCC – they have been told that they can't come here but need to go to a private day centre – you are manipulating the figures so you can take it back to Cabinet and say we don't need in house services any longer.

You quote £1.7 million of repairs I can't find this anywhere – my son is going through this all over again – he's come here from Whitmoor and you doing it to him again – why didn't you keep Whitmoor open – you're not telling me that £1.7 m of repairs has just appeared – you've been negligent in not keeping up maintenance and

ensuring the buildings are kept properly and are now just using this together with not allowing people into day centres as an excuse to close Parkwood

If you are quoting that amount for the day centre and not for the other parts of the building that aren't going to be used for the day centre – it shouldn't be part of the consultation.

A member of staff at Whitemoor stated that pre covid there were 68 users and there was a waiting list – where it not for covid there would still be 68 people there with a waiting list. How many users were there post covid – 26 and 42 were denied access leaving us with the clear conclusion that the council used covid as an excuse to wind the place down.

It's so obvious that you have been trying to close the day centres a long time – and you are using finance.

Those at Whitemoor were told Parkwood was a more suitable building and only 2 years ago, now Parkwood is going too. Yes, it needs money spending on it but that is money going to be spent anyway turning it into offices – has this decision been made purely because staff have to move out of Matlock so need a building.

comment

She used to go to Hadfield Road but now must travel to a private respite centre that is not as good, and the standard of care is nowhere near as good as that which was provided by Derbyshire County Council.

The success of the community connectors is unrealistic for our daughter and everything that is on offer is such a distance away – it looks like if Alderbrook does close everything will be such a long time traveling and a long distance away.

We need the service to be local and a reasonable distance away from us.

This place is central for everyone.

Alderbrook is in an accessible central location.

I don't drive – I'm stuck if my son goes anywhere else – this is so stressful for us as carers.

My daughter was offered a place at a private centre – long before covid – social worker took us to have a look around and it was lovely, but it was a lot further away than Chesterfield and it didn't cover transport and it wasn't every day for 5 days – it was a big chunk out of our life taking them – which took an hour and bringing them back.

If we are ill what happens then – how do, they go to private day centres – they would have no way of getting there.

We don't have a life if all we are doing is transporting our children – we need a break and a life as well.

With the transport I am the only driver of the mobility car – my daughter is also on the list – but she works in Sheffield so she can't share the driving duties.

Water damage at Orchard cottage – Brockley is over an hour away from me for respite care – transportation and travelling time needs to be taken into consideration.

It seems to me that travel needs not too be so long for our son – as travelling then eats into the day and foreshortens that day and care for him – he is not comfortable travelling –

Long journeys are not good news for our son – he doesn't travel a long way at the moment – but if No Limits changes, they need to look at travelling and it needs to be a limited distance.

Is this a genuine offer re short breaks – or has this been done as a sweetener? The option for respite is too far – Morewood and Newhall is way too far away and the alternatives of our daughter going to stay in someone's house is not a real offer – it would be a miracle if she could adapt to that.

Why spend £2.2m on Parkwood – where is the logic in that. Morewood and Newhall are dreadful routes for carers to drive their loved ones to and from for respite. It takes 2 and ½ hours for the return journey and would be far too far to get to in an emergency.

Their preference might be to use a Derbyshire County Council Care home – and you're taking that preference away as they will be too far.

Since Petersham closed to respite it's a 60-mile run there and back to alternative respite down in Swadlincote – for an older carer this is difficult.

If they close Petersham and Outlook there will be nothing within easy reach.

I just don't want to drive that far to alternative respite that on offer if they close Petersham – and then what does that mean to already stressed carers.

My son doesn't care where he is – it's me at my age and the distance to travel for me – keep Petersham open it's a good local facility.

Whitemoor was the only place that would take him, and the bungalow is 10 minutes away, Morewood is 1 and a half hours just to get there and that eats into our respite time we have.

I have a daughter at Parkwood – it is important to recognise that when the changes were made – it never got back to what it was before Covid- for my daughter that has had a massive impact. Her behaviour has spiralled – you made these changes, and her behaviour has become so bad because she is now so isolated at Parkwood. Parkwood is not a proper day service any longer – I would like it to go back to a proper day service and have the activities it did pre covid. I am now looking at other provisions as you are not offering a proper day service. I am working with the community connectors – she went to one private service, and she ended up staying for only 20 minutes. I am afraid that no one will take my daughter on – and I am

frightened that the private sector is going to cherry pick the people who attend their services. I am looking in Staffordshire now as there is no-one available who will provide services for my daughter.

My daughter might have to travel 2 hours per day as the only option available for her is in Staffordshire – so we wouldn't be able to travel that far as we work. There is no provision for her in Derbyshire that we have found so far.

I am here in my capacity as a district councillor – one of my constituents have asked me to raise this on their behalf. They are worried that if he has to have a two-hour journey to alternative provision. They are quite elderly so they wouldn't be able to take him. He has also never been allowed to go back into Morewood and they haven't had any respite since Covid.

I've seen that myself in LD service – elderly people want to look after their son/daughter for as long as possible and don't plan for contingency – this needs to be improved.

He doesn't go anywhere now other than the two days that he goes to Parkwood – they have also told him that he doesn't qualify for respite any longer, so his elderly parents don't get a break.

Why choose Chesterfield rather than somewhere central like Parkwood – it would make more sense to keep Parkwood because of this.

You have already taken over a lot of the buildings of Parkwood for office buildings.

Whitemoor is still for sale – you could always reopen that one as that is central as well.

I have been to all the provisions that have been suggested for my daughter – so when you say there is stuff in Derbyshire there isn't – these places are full – if you want one to one provision – you need to look out of County.

You are hoping that we will go away and find somewhere else, and you then have no one there and you will close it.

There are people since covid that haven't had a service at all – so there are people sitting there and waiting for the service to be offered again to them – they are thinking that they have an allocated social worker still.

I think that a decision has been made – what are DCC going to do to make more provision in Derbyshire – how can you make more places for people with LD to go – you say you are proactive in encouraging to make companies come in to fill the gaps.

My connector is good – but she can't find things for my daughter that don't exist – there just isn't alternatives out there in Derbyshire for my daughter.

There will be other people out there in the same position as my daughter that doesn't have the options of private care presently. It's obvious that the providers will take the 'easier' care options rather than the more difficult care requirements.

"I have no confidence in the consultation process as you did this last time stating that you will listen - but still you are doing this again. The Community Connectors came out to see our daughter and agreed that there is nothing in the community for her to access and that a day centre was the only place suitable for her - so if Alderbrook closes where does she go then?

Nothing in the south, option 1 is moving to Alfreton, everything in Matlock, Alfreton or chesterfield, nothing in south of the county, I don't see how it's going to work'.

I have written to you before, contributing to various 'Consultations' about the impact of reductions in the Council's budgets. These responses have been primarily about Learning Disability Services. I responded to the changes in Day Services Provision, and the changes in Council Charging. I am now formally requesting that you give me some examples of where Derbyshire County Council, following public consultation, has acted on the responses it has received in favour of service users and has reversed proposed cuts in the services it was proposing to 're-configure' them, (or whatever anodyne term is being used at the time to sugar the pill that services are being reduced.) I am asking this question on behalf of my three adult children. X,X and X) They all stand to lose if their services are cut even further. There is plenty of academic evidence that cuts to LD budgets adversely affect both the opportunities of People who have LD and also impacts their mental health and self-esteem badly. X cannot even speak and has a very few Makaton signs he uses to indicate his opinion. He cannot even tell us if he is in pain. So, I am asking on his behalf - what services has Derbyshire not cut because service users have protested?

I have heard rumours this morning that yet again you intend to close another day centre which my brother has just settled in. What the hell are you doing don't you care or understand about people with learning difficulties? Please do not fob me off again with this at least you can do is tell the families if these involved. I am in the process of sending an email to the papers/TV and our mayor who is a good friend. Derbyshire county council ought to be ashamed of themselves.

So, the cuts again have to come from the likes of my brother when you are spending god knows how's much money on the spectacle that is the Heanor Market. When Whitemoor closed you told us to go to Parkwood as we got told that would not close as Parkwood was gifted to Amber Valley not brought. You really don't give a dam about the likes of our families struggles and want them to go into assisted living of being took out for the day but what I witness about a service user walking down our street whilst the person supposedly Looking after them riding a bike instead of watching them or walking with them but on their phones, you can forget that. And please don't give me all the speech we heard it before when Whitemoor was closing. You all ought to be ashamed of yourselves, but you probably don't care as it's not your family going through it yet again!!!!!!

Good afternoon, Cllr Hoy, I'm writing this email on behalf of several of our constituents who have contacted us regarding the consultation to potentially close some of the day centres in Derbyshire, particularly Alfreton Parkwood Centre. They have raised concerns pertaining to these closures and referenced the impact this would have on the community and availability of services in Amber Valley, especially after the closure of Whitemoor Centre in Belper a few years ago. I appreciate that this has now gone to consultation but felt it necessary to raise their concerns regarding this matter.

Your report gives the only reason for closing Parkwood as NEEDING REPAIR WORK COSTING .£1.7m.....However the "clarification statement" alters this amount to £700,000, and verifies they ARE NOT additional savings. This report is untrue and misleading and needs rectifying. Please respond.

Please tell me what the point is I campaigned last time for you not to shut Whitemoor as you said then we've not made a decision yet, you made the decision when you decided that's how you will save the money. My mum only gets help 3 days a week by sending my brother to Parkwood apart from that no one gives a dam.

You really do not get it do you, any of you. My mum tried to call the social worker for help about the potential of Parkwood closing and all she gets from. His social worker is she does not know anything about it, she never helped last time. No one gives a dam. And what's the point of giving my views again at another consultation when my views last time made no difference whatsoever you have already made the decision and just a tick box exercise.

Dear sir or madam, after receiving a letter from you a few weeks prior, regarding possible closures/changes to the Learning Disability Services, I would like to include my own input. Firstly, how are those parents who have no choice but to remain at home all day with their disabled son/daughter going to be able to work if said changes take place, and closures are inevitable? Secondly, as parents are paying for said service, how will cutting be affordable as there will be then a 'loss of income' on both sides? Thirdly, will you be able to 'pick up the pieces' of their lives when they cannot afford to live in their homes anymore because they cannot work, due to loss of support? Fourth, would you be able to support parents in their 'hour of need' if they become ill due to their being glued to the house all day? As you may be aware, parent's physical and mental health will suffer because of this. It truly amazes me how the vulnerable in our society - in the 21st century - are being starved of the only structure they get, and how money somewhat supersedes our 'fellow man' to the extent of cold, hard unjustifiable measures that go beyond the unthinkable. If my daughter loses her day service, not only will her mental health suffer, but her physical health too. And what I would like to end with is this - If 'the boot was on the other foot', would you personally be at a loss over this, if this your flesh and blood? In conclusion, this is a 'damning state-of-affairs' that goes beyond the norm, in a society that is about nothing more than "Don't know? Don't care."

Hello, I've seen the Derbyshire online change to people with learning disabilities. Honestly, it's not what I thought. Sessions listening to people who support people,

with L D is a need. And to people whose lives have been turned upside down trying to keep a quality of life for friends or family in need. So sorry I'm not going to continue with you r online, do it myself online say.

The people affected by the closures of DCC Day Centres are those assessed during the 'My Life – My Way' reviews as those with the most severe and complex needs and were identified as "building based". Day opportunities for this group of people are extremely limited and it is certain that there is not sufficient appropriate local provision currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate an additional 55 people with highly complex additional needs.

The Cabinet paper (reference 1) identified that 38 private providers currently offer 110 different support opportunities, but it should be recognised that this number is spread across the whole of Derbyshire and that these existing opportunities are unlikely to all be appropriate for the very specific and complex needs of the individuals currently attending the Day Centres. Irrespective of this the PVI sector would simply not be able to accommodate a 50% step increase in numbers, particularly since this cohort would have the most severe and complex needs requiring specialist provision.

By way of a personal example, the Cabinet paper emphasises the role of the Shared Lives service. My daughter was referred to Shared Lives well over two years ago; the only communication that we have received with respect to this is that, given her difficulties, no suitable match has been found.

Much is made of the success of the Community Connectors, but no recognition is taken in this of the fact that this success has been achieved for clients assessed as having less severe disabilities. The read across of this success for those with very complex needs is therefore doubtful. In addition, while this approach has been very successful for many, there are a number of examples where the provision has proven unsuccessful after the initial 12 weeks support ends. This is likely to occur more frequently for those with more severe disabilities.

Additional opportunities can, of course be commissioned, but there will be an inevitable time lag in those commissions becoming available services. To put in the context of Section 5 of the Care Act, currently the market is not in a position that allows clients with very complex needs to have: a variety of providers to choose from, who provide a variety of services, a variety of high-quality services to choose from. In summary, the people currently attending the DCC Day Centres are those with the most complex needs and there are simply not sufficient suitable day opportunities currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate them should those Day Centres close.

There is also the issue of accessibility. Derbyshire is a large county and reaching Morewood can be very time consuming. As an example, the time to travel from the Petersham Centre to Morewood directly using the M1 (assuming no traffic) is over ½ hour, or over an hour round trip. At time of high traffic this time could easily be doubled. And of course, different starting points can give far longer travel times. This

can represent a significant part of the respite period and be prohibitively expensive for people without access to a car. Also, while Morewood is in a very picturesque location, it is not suitable for clients wishing to access the community in any way, being well beyond comfortable walking distance from shops cafes etc.

In summary, the basis for the closure of the Short Break Centres is based on a disingenuous view of their usage and the capacity of the Morewood Centre. There is considerable evidence that there is currently insufficient capacity in short break services for people with Learning Disabilities/Autism and this will be made substantially worse following closure.

The funding of services to support people with learning disabilities/autism who live at home with an unpaid carer are viewed simply as a cost. In fact, they should be seen as a Spend to Save expenditure. The carers save DCC large amounts of money and are able to do so only because of the support they receive in terms of Day Services and Short Breaks. Should only two or three carers decide not to continue in this caring role, the responsibility and costs would fall to DCC and the anticipated savings from the proposals would be wiped out. All carers of their children are acutely aware that they will have to give up their caring role at some point and when to do so is a hugely difficult decision for them. In many instances that decision is triggered by external factors, often illness or the loss of certain provision. Given the age demographic of the carers quoted (325 over the age of 70), there is an evident potential for a number of them to be prompted to give up their caring role by the proposed changes to Day Services and Short breaks. Consequently, when considered holistically, the proposals may actually represent an overall increase in expenditure for DCC. Para 1.2 of Appendix 1 of the Cabinet Paper (Ref 1) identifies that there will be 'one-off' and 'ongoing' costs associated with the proposals but does not quantify them. Irrespective of whether a reserve is available to cover these cost, surely, they should be quantified to allow Cabinet to view how they compare to the anticipated savings. The savings anticipated are presented, but the basis for them is not. Indeed, the figures quoted appear to be targets rather than realistically costed proposals. No comparison between options is presented (presumably they do not all provide the same saving). Without this information how can Cabinet judge the most effective option?

Our daughter has used Petersham centre for short breaks for 25+ years. At that time, she enjoyed the full 2 day 48 hour break arriving at the centre 10 minutes from home at 4pm and the final day pick up at 4 pm. Sometime later when Newhall opened the pickup time was altered to 2 pm, still allowing clients a lunchtime meal. Now I am informed the pickup time is 11am therefore denying family carers the full mornings break on the last day. Therefore the 2 days charged for is cut by 5 hours and does not include a midday meal on the last day. Actually, the final day from day one to two is cut to 19 hours. In view of the DCC consultation ref review of respite Services, the decision makers need to think about the impact to clients accessing the 1 or possibly 2 of the remaining centres how travel time will impact by cutting the actual hours spent in Council Care. Unless of course clients live in close proximity to them. Option 1 for clients living in the very South of Derbyshire will have a much

more lengthy journey. In our case leaving home on the final day by 9am. That's assuming carers can drive and have a vehicle. Can carers trust that the above points are given full consideration. For our family 2 hours return journey including handover time spent discussing medication on the first evening and 2 hours at pick up time, arriving for 11 am means leaving home at 9am, hardly a beneficial break for us and value for money for the client.

I'm contacting you regarding the recent news that the council is to consider consulting on the closure of 4 adult day services for adults with learning disabilities. Firstly I would like to express my concern as to how this information was communicated via the news on radio Derby - this is a completely unacceptable way for service users, relatives and carers to find out that their world is out to be turned upside down yet again. You'll be aware that last year the council made the decision to close 8 day centres despite the findings from the consultation which wholly supported their provision. Service users were re allocated to the four remaining day centres available. I'm sure you'll appreciate the stress and anxiety this caused during the consultation period and transition. For my brother who attends a day centre who needs routine and familiarity – this significant change cause mood and behavioural changes and seizures. Now he, and many of his friends have settled into their new day centre and routine and we are being told via the radio that yet again their security is under threat. This day centre is an important part of ensuring this vulnerable group of people are not socially isolated and are also safeguarded. It is more than simply a 'building based service'. This is extremely worrying and adds to an already very stressful and challenging situation given the strain we have all been put through from the last consultation and closures where a decision was made which ignored the needs of service users and their families.

I note from a post on X (previously Twitter) the council state that Parkwood had a £1.7million repair bill. Please be aware that these repairs were part of changes to a building adjoining Parkwood so that it could be utilised as an office base for a council team moving from Ripley and not part of repairs to day centre used by service users. The council also state that there is under provision in some day centres, this is because many adults who used to attend the centres are no longer allowed to if they are living in supported living or residential care. Natalie Hoy is keen for service users to access the community connectors to find them 'interest in in the area where they live' - Like many service users who access these day centres my brother's particular needs requires that he always has 1-1 support – he is unable to communicate and is reliant on us for his basic needs. I really feel that the council do not fully appreciate the specific needs of individuals and are taking a blanket approach to provision without any consideration or care on the impact this will have. I cannot express clearly enough my concerns for his future and day care provision and the announcement via the radio has only added to this. He does not have the capacity to 'learn new skills' or 'be active in the community' – these are unrealistic and unachievable goals for my brother – and leaves me extremely worried as where this will leave us in the future.

Whilst we all know about the budget constraints all councils are facing, it is those who are the most vulnerable in society who have little or no voice or advocates who are continually punished and made to suffer by these decisions. This group have already been targeted with constraints and closures it is not fair that they are being faced with this again. I'm aware that the meeting to take this to a consultation will be made on the 11th of April. I would ask that you consider my points above and the impact your personal decision will have on the lives of the service users and their families. I urge you as our councillors to have some humanity and please vote no to the consultation.

Following your very generic, standard letter in response to my concerns regarding these proposals dated in June, I am contacting you again directly with my concerns. As the 'Practice Lead Transformation & Partnership Adult Social Care' I'd like you take the time to read and reflect on my points below - this is just our experience but one that will be shared by many others in the same position.

I, like the other members of the public have followed the process with the consultation, the faceless emails and online questionnaires, attended the face-to-face sessions and listened to endless council spin from the stakeholder and engagement team. Sadly, many of us believe that are concerns will be ignored just like last time, the consultation process is just a tick box exercise for the council to hind behind. A faceless processes and decisions based on the sugar-coated results of a graph and pie chart, with fudged and skewed results that support a decision people oppose but has already been made.

I strongly oppose the council's consultation and proposals on the provision of day services to adults with learning disabilities and autism. My brother has significant learning disabilities and attends a daycentre, having already been moved after Whitemoor closed in the last round of closures - we thought that would be the end of it, but no you have decided to target the vulnerable again with your cuts. We were promised the earth when these closures happened, transport, transition to the new centres, support, the list went on from the letters sent by you..... this did not happen. No transport, no transition, no support. You failed us that time - and will probably fail us again.

These proposals are for the benefit of the council and not the needs of the service users. No indication has been given as to what services they will be able to access, - there is a significant shortage of community PA's and private day centre provision is limited. Natalie Hoy talks of accessing services in the local community. What are they- you haven't said? There is limited provision in the community and access to services is also restricted, the community connector programme has shown itself to be flawed and not effective -in short there is no alternative community provision- this is the reality. Many will be left with nothing to do and nowhere to go. Many of these service users need access to a building-based service - rather than wandering the streets with a community PA which is what access to services in community means in real life if you didn't know. The day centres enable service users to take part in activities which develop their confidence and social skills in safe space with a

continuity of care allowing them to ordinary and fulfilling lives. They also offer additional safeguarding and help to improve health and mental wellbeing for vulnerable adults. Everyone has the right to good social care and support to enable them to live ordinary lives.

Those with learning disabilities are already disadvantaged in terms of their health and wellbeing and are twice as likely to die earlier than the rest of the population - day centre provision helps to promote and protect and safeguard their health and mental wellbeing. The council has a responsibility to protect vulnerable adults - because if you fail to keep these people safe you are contributing towards the harm on their physical and mental health.

Numbers in these day centres are reduced because people are not able to attend if they go into residential or supported living - something which is inevitable as carers and parents get older - why can't they attend? Days have been reduced since covid - my brother used to go 3 days a week and reduced to 2 following covid when the centre re-opened, to allow for 'safe numbers' these days have not been increased. Another underhanded move to fudge the figures of attendance.

People with learning disabilities have the right to be treated with respect and dignity - not shunted from one day service to another without any thought for the impact this has on them. The council are mis treating and targeting this group of individuals because they are unable to defend themselves and their rights. Maybe it's because many can't vote - but their friends and family can, and we will remember these decisions when it is time.

Why should they be punished for the failings of the council to manage their budgets over the years and the financial mistakes made. It seems the council just want to wash their hands of their responsibility to provide adequate social care and really should feel ashamed of their proposals. People with learning disabilities face barriers every day in accessing basic health and social care and this is just another example of making their life more challenging and putting them at further risk allowing them to fall between the cracks and be forgotten.

The closing of the day centres will take away a continuity of care that provides a lifeline to those service users.

There is a shortage of community PA's and there is no certainty in the continuation of private or voluntary day services. This leads to a lifetime of uncertainty of what services people will be able to access, moved from one service to another.

When my brother was unable to attend the day centre due to covid - he became withdrawn and depressed, he wouldn't go out and wanted to stay in bed, his behaviour changed, and his seizures increased, and he gained weight. This will inevitably happen again as that continuity is lost - if we are unable to find a PA - or they leave and must go through the process again. Many of you perhaps haven't met anyone with learning disabilities or those that attend the day centre, you haven't experienced the challenges and the constant worry we face about their future - but this is the reality, Not the jolly picture of the future you are painting.

With these proposals the council is stripping people with learning disabilities of their basic human rights with these plans, with no thought or care of the impact this will have - you are treating them with contempt and seem to have no respect or understanding for the significant impact these changes will have on the overall health and wellbeing of this vulnerable group of people that we have a duty of care to protect.

The costs highlighted for the work to Parkwood haven't just appeared, why didn't you consider this when closing the other day services on the last round of consultations. You are selling a perfectly good day centre at Whitemoor for just £250,00 by auction - why didn't you keep that open instead? What will happen to the building at Parkwood if it closes - stand empty and the repairs not done? I don't think so. In fact there has been no transparency as to what these repairs are - how you have come to that figure and what quotes have been sought.

It seems that you just want to wash your hands of the responsibility of providing adequate social care. These actions and proposals are sickening, lack empathy and insight into the needs of the service users. You have the opportunity to do something good and positive in the lives of people who have no control over what happens to them, or you can choose not to and hide behind your excuses. Why not try and set an example of what good social care looks like and do better?

the national trend seems to be to move into a range of different options - this might work for some - but doesn't deliver the level of respite that it provided previously - both at the LD day centres and respite care centres.

I have had dealings with the AC Stakeholder Engagement Team before during consultation and I do trust that they do a professional job in recording and reporting the feedback to the Councillors - it's just a shame that this has been ignored every time it has been presented back to Cabinet on the other times you have tried to shut things down.

the way the survey paper version is set up - it's not big enough for us to put down what we think

Here in the community in New Mills there is nothing for someone with LD to do - my son really enjoys walking the snoozelem and listening to heavy metal music

Taking them from school to the day centre meant that he could adjust to his surrounding and settled in as he knew the staff who knew his needs - he really struggles with new staff and doesn't like change.

It will be a hell of a problem is Alderbrook closes for me - as a carer I am also caring for both my son with LD. and my husband who is currently very poorly in hospital in Stockport - without the respite that my son going to Alderbrook provides for me I will really struggle with visiting my husband in hospital during the day whilst knowing my son is safe in Alderbrook.

Not driving is a big problem for me.

He likes his own environment and struggles with anyone else he doesn't know.

Staffing for alternative support has been an issue at times as they just don't know him or his needs.

Transport links are non-existent if you don't drive - the bus is once every hour if you are lucky

having him at home 5 days a week just won't work

X needs Mum - he just won't be able to fit in other places

Alderbrook is nearest and he has fitted in the

If he has an epileptic fit I can get to Alderbrook - but would struggle anywhere else

he used to have respite in Robinson Road - but there were issues, so we now need Alderbrook more than ever

My daughter used to go to Alderbrook 5 days a week but now is only allowed to attend for 3 days. There is nothing else appropriate or suitable in the area. She's been there since she attended the school next door.

She doesn't want to go to one service one day then another service another day. The proposals are ridiculous as option 1 is to close Alderbrook and option 2 is to shut Alderbrook too.

We have tried Community Connectors in the past and they weren't able to find anything suitable. The options offered weren't suitable or appropriate. My daughter has the abilities of an 11-month-old child. She needs 2to1 care or at the very least 1to1. Would you transport my daughter elsewhere in the County to suitable provision?

Alderbrook only supports 9 people, that is because people weren't allowed to return to the day centre post covid. The only people that have been allowed to return to Alderbrook are those with really high care needs as there is nowhere else for them to go in the area.

These consultations have been going on for years, since 2013, why haven't services been put in place sooner so there are places for people with learning disabilities to go to.

The short break service, we used to access Hadfield Road until it shut. We have since used St Christophers Trust and Derby Road. These are working well but we would use Hadfield if it was open.

I would like to see the Hadfield Road site turned into day centre if you are going to close Alderbrook. It has the disabled facilities, and we would need a day centre to replace Alderbrook.

I suspect this is a foregone conclusion to close Alderbrook. If Alderbrook was to stay open that would be marvellous. If you close Alderbrook, then you need to open another day centre elsewhere.

My daughter is so familiar with Alderbrook. The people, the building, the staff, and facilities – particularly the snooze lounge, it so calming for her. She used to have regular hydrotherapy sessions in the pool in the school next door but now staff aren't allowed to take her to hydro sessions now.

Short breaks are so important, it is essential to carers of people with learning disabilities. We need a break from the caring as it is 24 hours a day. We couldn't provide all the care she needs if she didn't go to Alderbrook. The day centre had hydro sessions, art therapy, stories with actions to keep her engaged. We could not do that if you close Alderbrook.

We would like to look after our daughter at home as long as possible. I feel for her, she's the one missing out if Alderbrook closed.

We haven't had a review with a social worker since before covid. No one is checking to see if the respite is suitable and that we are happy with it.

The whole family, close friends and neighbours know how much Alderbrook means to her and are worried about the outcome of this consultation.

As parents we feel let down. We feel that DCC have been deceitful. We have all the paperwork and were led to believe that our daughter would have the 2 days she lost reinstated. We understood that if this didn't happen then she could use that pot of money to do something else such as an activity holiday with carers. We discover at the Alderbrook meeting that funding is no longer in a pot waiting for her to use it and it has been drawn back into the DCC budget. We are very unhappy about this.

My brother attends No Limits. I do not understand why you would shut the day centre when you have spent all that money moving the day centre from West Street.

My brother has been at no limits since it started. He is nonverbal but makes it known what he likes and dislikes. He gestures that he is happy and settled there. The staff know him and his needs. They know us too as a family and know when to call us if there is something not quite right with our brother. It takes my brother a long time to get to know new people and feel comfortable with them.

When my brother goes to no limits, it gives us as carers a break. It is difficult caring for someone 24/7.

My brother enjoys getting out and about with no limits, they take him to lots of places.

It would have a detrimental effect on our whole family if our brother wasn't able to go to no limits.

You are shutting so many places, there will be nowhere for anyone to go.

For the learning disability consultation, option 2 would be preferable.

We have been through- this 12 months ago. People with LD are easy pickings, these people don't have a voice.

My brother used to go 3 days a week at Whitemoor, he now gets 2 days a week at Parkwood. You say it is underused, but you don't let people come here or have extra days.

My brother enjoys going to Parkwood, but you have taken away the bus, the pottery, art equipment, the gardens. You aren't leaving much for people to enjoy.

If we knew this was going to happen so close at the closure of Whitemoor, we would have looked at other day care options then. This is so upsetting and unsettling for people with LD.

My brother is non-verbal and autistic, he like so many others need a building-based day service.

Friendship groups won't be maintained if people have a PA. What happens if the PA is off sick. There are a massive shortage of people wanting to be PS's.

If someone has access to more than 1 carer then it is more likely that any safeguarding concerns will get picked up. People with LD are twice as likely to die from a preventable illness. If people have access to a variety of workers, these issues are more likely to get picked up.

There is a great need to support people with dementia, make it a community hub, these LD day centres are in the heart of communities.

Let's hope the cabinet never need care.

I work in the community, 3 homes that support adults with disabilities have closed. These are people that have been together since they were much younger. Now they have been split up and housed separately.

I had a meeting at Outlook and a special school, Brackenfield is keen to take the site on. They want to expand. They are private organisation but could take over the running of Outlook with the support of DCC.

If we accept, we have to do one of these options, why would anyone chose the option with the most closures.

We keep coming to these meetings to share our views you have closed so many places. There is hardly anything left. There is no respite, nothing left to support carer. Where has the obligation to provide for the handicapped gone? We have cared for our son for 55 years. We get 2 days a week where we get a few hours away from caring. We never get a break or a holiday.

Lots of adults with LD are lost in the system. They have nowhere to go, nothing to do. We know half a dozen people in my area that no longer have a service and have

been left with nothing. Replicate that across the county. There must be 100's no longer getting the support they used to.

One of the reasons given for closing Petersham is that it is underused. Put we haven't been allowed to go there so there is no chance of saving the centre.

If you have any comments about the proposals in Option 1 ...

My daughter attends no limits and loves it there.

day centres give clients purpose, quality of life, friendship, company and someone to notice if they need more help, I know they have very cruelly recently been changed to centres where the client has time limited support to achieve 'goals' but this is so short sighted.

I feel closing all 4 centres would be detrimental to adult learning disability recourses.

People who use these services in most cases are quite isolated within the community and often to their own homes. They rely on day services for outside stimulation and respite from and for their carers. Relationships they have formed with their peers will not continue. They can access connector services, but these are time limited. Private day services are costly and not financially affordable for some people.

Even though DCC are telling the general public that no one wants a building base service anymore this is not true. We are in contact with lots of client/carers that previously attended the centre, and they consistently tell us that they are not happy with alternative provisions or activities that they have been offered. There will always be a need for building base services for some clients and the private sector is not always the answer. Long standing social workers have told us about their frustrations and the pressures they feel about having to push clients away from everything they know. How is it right that a care worker (from an alternative private building-based service) who has limited English language and who doesn't know a client can support adequately (this was the case recently when I saw a client who previously attended our centre in the local park). I strongly disagree about closing all 4 remaining bases.

Community Connectors do not offer a great service and did not accompany my relative to the identified opportunity expecting them to meet them there - totally unacceptable for a person with learning disabilities who would say yes to anything!

I would prefer to keep it all open but acknowledge that that is not possible. The information that I think needs consideration is whether there would be suitable premises to use if funding became available? I am assuming that you would sell the venues to release revenue.

The general public need a government/council-controlled day care centre for relief of carers especially elderly carers. There are private facilities available but the level of client's support isn't regulated as much and the staffing level of private facilities isn't

as adequate to meet the needs of some clients who need more personal and one to one care.

Disgraceful plan to displace vulnerable People with a learning disability and put them in the streets at the mercy of being bullied. Denying the aforementioned their only social interaction with their peer groups

Derbyshire County Council are liars, I knew this would happen and raised this a few years ago. Dominic Sullivan said the day centres would not close and here we are. Councillor Hoy is a mouthpiece for cost cutting agendas, she has no idea. People's lives are being affected here, the lives of the most vulnerable and DCC do not care.

Not acceptable for LD users and their carers. Likely to be too far to travel, be with strangers who don't understand the individual needs and is nothing more than a cost cutting exercise and to avoid your responsibilities.

Whilst I recognise that community connectors have been successful for some people with a learning disability, many people with a learning disability do not want the opportunities offered by community connects and have disclosed that they feel that this actually limits the choices that they have. Many people with an LD report that they miss going to Outlook and other day services - wish that they could go back or that they wish they could have more hours at Outlook or other day services - however when they have asked about this they have been told it is not an option. Many people with a learning disability report that they enjoyed going to Outlook and other council run day services as they felt it was a safe space, that they had a family away from home, that they felt well cared for and that they can make friends. As a service we have seen more referrals for people with an LD being taken advantage of by others when trying to make friends or deteriorations in Mental Health due to loneliness - many of them report that this wasn't something they had issues with when they were able to attend day services as they had friends at the centres or that if they were being taken advantage of by others it was spotted faster and actions taken faster as the staff at the day services had their best interests in mind and would be aware of what was going on in their lives. Closing the day services would be a vital loss to the community, we should be offering people with an LD a choice between day services and community-based activities or a mix of both - not losing the services completely. The services should also be open to all people with a learning disability rather than people with an LD who also have physical mobility needs.

There is such limited support for people with disabilities, it seems wrong to shut any centres - especially as we were told these would stay open when Clune House in Clowne was closed. The comments by Mrs Hoy reek of ableism.

One box does not fit all, we're you come up with all the learning disabilities adults want to be cared for in a community I do not know, as there is no community provision for many at all, so you are basically making each individual even more isolated, some community connectors work is helpful but not for all like I say not one box fits all. day centres provide stimulation, learning and meaningful friendships, part

of a family, routine and gives carers a much-required break for a couple of hours a day for a couple of days. Some clients are too profound in their learning disabilities to be going places alone without support or able to tolerate outside agencies. Breaking up routine and friendships for the sake of saving money, they are people do not pin numbers. I have two children with LD and privatising the service to fit DCC budget is disgusting. Social workers sending out information to private and not giving the option to DCC run day centres and short breaks is backhanded.

Whitemoor closed 1 year ago. Many people moved from there to Parkwood. Now you are closing Parkwood so they will have to be uprooted yet again do you think this is fair??????

Having professional health knowledge and experience of working with people with a learning disability, it is important to them to have the opportunity to attend a centre to mix with other people outside of the family unit. Many live with older carers who cannot afford time and energy to stimulate them.

Please consider why usage is so low for these centres as I'm sure it's not down to need. There are SO MANY young people and adults who could benefit from this service, perhaps you aren't making it accessible enough for them. I'm sure there are low-cost measures you could put in place to increase usage.

Social contact is so important for people with a disability and their carers. A local hub where everyone knows them is more suitable than individually arranged activities in strange surroundings.

Your putting money before vulnerable people.

Day services haven't been fit for purpose for a few years now. The community connector role is an excellent way of both enablement, integration and value for money.

Service provision for learning disability and autism support should not be degraded any further. It is clear that the decision makers have little understanding of their audience.

I think it is unfair to deny people a chance to meet with their friends and get involved in activities, somewhere they can feel safe, and be listened to

People with learning disabilities need routine & continuity of support. Parkwood Alfreton offers safe quiet surroundings with experienced & dedicated staff. This is best place for people with severe & moderate learning disabilities to find support.

People with LD's have been discouraged from using DCC Day Centres and this is the reason take-up has had a drastic fall Those allowed to attend have had their days cut DCC did not suggest alternative Private provision was available. Carers have been left to find alternative provision themselves Some LD people need and want the provision of a building-based community where they are safe, have a community of peers and carers that they enjoy spending time with and can access many activities in the community as a group. Having a PA to take you into the

community is a lonely and isolating, they love their friends and seeing them every day at a Day Centre is wonderful for them.

Social services haven't been referring clients to units, so numbers drop so they are seen as not used/needed. These are essential to clients.

All current centres have a use for people within the relevant area.

It just seems like support and services are always being taken away.

Day opportunities are a crucial and integral part of support services that should not be discontinued.

We (Parents) need regular respite. Without respite J would need to go into a home. Having a day service and respite means she can stay living at home with us. Why send her from Whitemoor to Parkwood if you were planning to close Parkwood. It has taken her a long time to get used to the change from Whitemoor to Parkwood, and now it will all change again for her.

My brother has a LD these services are vital for his mental wellbeing and social support, where is he supposed to get this support if you close these facilities.

The "growth and success of Community Connectors" has been greatly exaggerated. In my experience the clients who previously attended DCC LD day centres have just been offered expensive PVI services. Most of these are out of area. The DCC day centres essentially closed their doors to new referrals during the pandemic. The idea that "demand has fallen" is laughable.

Where will young people be able to socialise in a safe environment?

This is not redesign... it's cutbacks.

I feel that by closing/ re designing the day service and short breaks will have huge effects on carers and family's which will then have bigger effects on other services. The effects on family's and carers could be huge and it needs thinking about more and more in-depth.

I have many clients and their families who without the above services would suffer.

Community Connectors support is not appropriate for everyone. There should be a choice of a range of options.

My daughter is 42, severely mentally and physically handicapped, nonverbal non mobile ,wheelchair dependent 24/7 .Where on earth is she going to go, staying at home would be physically impossible for me her mother ,I have no carers to help I am 69 and struggle as it is .She would end up in residential at a further burden to the authorities. These people you supposedly care for are just an inconvenience, it seems you would like them all to disappear.

What other day opportunities are there - many are being cut?

Not everyone can or wants to access the community in this way, many longer-term users of day centres do not want this change. Many are now feeling isolated from their friends they have had for a long time. I know some people have really benefitted from a different, more community-based services, and that's great, but it isn't the case for everyone. The huge impact on carers too not getting the respite they need to take a regular break or even to work. They have every right to work (and need to in the current climate) and every right to a break. A family approach is very much needed, whilst I agree with outcomes for the person with LD, their carer is equally important to support. Full time workers have a minimum annual leave and working time directives, carers are not afforded the same rights it seems.

If closing the sites will mean more people accessing care from charities or private sector it's the wrong thing to do. Pushing more people to private sector where profit is the driver is wrong and will cost DCC more in the long run. Putting more pressure on charities to deliver services is passing the problem somewhere else.

My concerns! people that use this service are not supported in a person-centred way. One service will not support all people in the community. We hear every day of children being murdered in the street, outside schools, our police force unable to protect the community from serious attack. NHS shut down support for mental health needs and now a trusted council is looking at doing a similar thing to LD. Who will understand their needs, their vulnerability. You may have asked the question "what do you want" but did you ask everyone?

Not all people with disabilities can access day opportunities within the community.

So if these 4 day centre close, you tell me where they supposed to go, it's always cut backs on people with learning disabilities and special needs, how about cutting back on the schools

Alderbrook Day Opportunities has been a part of the life of Mark for 40 years, and he still loves and uses the facility. He attended school there, lived in the hostel and went on to attend the adult centre. Alderbrook was a warm, friendly place where he felt safe and could meet his friends and be with staff who have known him since childhood and could trust. He was secure and happy - every day asking to "go on the bus" Through no fault of his own that life is almost lost to him and he cannot understand why. The sense of loss he feels is unimaginable. Familiar faces have disappeared. Once treasured events no longer happen. The structure of his life is crumbling, and he cannot understand why. We do our best to compensate for this loss but cannot replace those familiar people he has known most of his life. Adjusting to change takes a long time for folk like Mark. He doesn't understand about balancing books and government legislation. He just wants a warm, happy environment with people he knows and cares about. Please listen to him. The loss of all the other clients and staff was not voluntary. We are not alone in missing all that Alderbrook offered and many families are now struggling, knowing a similar facility will not be on offer, so once again the most vulnerable pay the price.

I believe one thing does not suit all, having only one option for people to go to would limit them and their families which I believe would result in more breakdowns of family's units,

The information we have does not suggest that those using centres are unhappy with the arrangements or can easily access alternative care for their dependents.

It's hard for people with disability to be accepted in the community and friendship groups are rare. It can be very isolating. I find people of a similar age are doing other stuff, raising families, working, socialising. A day centre enables friendships to form, they know they will be welcomed, and they are safe.

Parkwood is well past its sell by date. Should've closed in the last round.

Where will the service users who access Alderbrook day centre be able to go, where they are safe and have their needs met.

No one would deny the care and support provided in these centres is good, but society has changed and people want to live different lives and have different opportunities - the same opportunities open to everyone else. I also understand that many of the buildings are in poor condition and are no longer fit for purpose. I would hope if this option were chosen that people who have been long-standing attendees at the day centres would be supported to find new help and remain in contact with their friends.

Proposal made by elected members without any consideration about drastically altering the lives of people with a learning disability, due to bad financial management over at least the past 5 years.

we need more day centres not less.....more people are diagnosed year after year

The community connection service does not work effectively right now.

You have purposely changed the day centres making them not fit for purpose. You have lied and manipulated the figures to your advantage. You did not allow people to go back after covid in order to close these centres. It has always been your intention to close all the council day centres from the beginning. The reason you are doing this is to save money and it is only for financial gain and NOT to improve the service. You have isolated people with Learning Disabilities and taken away any social life they had. SHAME ON YOU

There are scant services anyway and as a parent with children and grandchildren who are ASD we get no help or support so closing any seems ridiculous.

As a professional, I regularly communicate with service users who no longer can attend DCC day service - they talk about lost friendships, fractured relationships and the lack of shared experiences that the day services provided. Would DCC dare to dismantle other groups - for instance the deaf community?

The day centres are an integral part of these families lives and it allows: 1. both the carers and persons to have a break away from their home 2. reduces carer stresses

3. interaction with peers which may not otherwise be possible It allows the staff to 'check' that there are no issues at home, or abuse, that may not be otherwise noted or seen. The days help with the mental wellbeing of its attendees and carers at home. Without these day centres, what is the alternative? The service they provide cannot be replicated by one or two staff taking the persons out during the day so the argument is that it would be more expensive to get anywhere near this service.

Community connectors does not simply replace day centres. A lot of service users would not be able to access community connectors as it is so difficult to take them into the community. Day centres give them a safe space to be around others and try new things.

As part of my role, I visit these sites and have done for many years and this would leave many service users at risk and the knock on effect to their families would be massive. A huge step backwards if DCC did this.

There are limited opportunities for people with a learning disability in the high peak. Even in the PVI sector. Some of these adults have severe learning disabilities and would be unable to attend roles within the community but families need respite.

I don't think any should close due to the council squandering money.

The day services were/are a massive support to people with LD and their families and carers. They were stimulating and safe, reliable and proactive. It is very difficult to replicate in the private sector.

You have already shut centres in the last year, community care does not get like-minded people together, it stops the service users meeting up and socialising together.

proposals made purely for financial reasons without any regard for the impact on people using current services and their carers.

-No proven statistics for the success of connecting, not sustainable and provides no safety net for clients with LD. -Day services DCC have been by-passed by social workers and CCW, so they appear under used, extremely dishonest information has been reported to the general public. -After Covid, clients had their requests for Day Services in DCC establishments denied. -Without Council run Day services the private sector would hold the Council and carers to ransom and increase prices and compromise the quality of the service. -12 centres have been targeted and only 4 remain currently, the numbers have been kept low to mislead. -Closing Day services have made clients lives smaller and increased social isolation. -The misguided and cruel actions of DCC have felt very much like the "Care in the community for Mental health " and will sadly be a disaster for the vulnerable in the community.

Council run services are of a much higher standard than private services, with better staff retention and training for staff, also having some public services will help suppress costs of private services which could get out of hand. We need somewhere we can trust to care for the most vulnerable in society.

I think you are disregarding people with severe learning disabilities where they like to go, you are cutting them off from their friends.

There are no other day centres for PMLD to go to, they are all full already.

Availability of day & short break facilities for people with learning disabilities &/or autism should increase - not be reduced

Appalling

Whilst the proposal states that community connectors can help, I think that people with learning disabilities and autism will be severely affected by the change in their usual routines if these centres close.

This seems to be assuming two things - There is community support/activities/spaces/groups etc for the current cohort using the day centres and that there is also capacity/skills/know how/resource etc in the said community sector. Also, the barriers of community transport (or lack of) and funding for the third sector to take on supporting more residents.

There is an unevidenced assertion concerning Community Connectors. The service definition on their web page makes it clear that they offer a much lower level of service than those proposed for closure.

I find it appalling that such a valued service for so many families and their relatives on the spectrum, is to be taken away because yet again funding is an issue. Many of the people using these services can't afford private care or have nobody available to care for them at home. I am disgusted at the proposal.

Why punish disabled people by closing their facilities, these are a vital lifeline for them who attend them, parents, and carers Parkwood Day Centre. The council should find the required monies to keep these places open for these disabled people because it is not their fault for wanting to close these services. I strongly disagree with closing.

As a parent of an Autistic adult, I know from experience that offering funding to find and access day opportunities is not affective in our case. Having something in place like a day centre where the structure is already there just to turn up works. However, if the funding was given and the opportunities where searched and secured by DCC this could also work. I just think leaving people to their own 'search and secure a place' decisions does not work for everyone, lots more input would have to be given by social workers/carers.

We definitely need day centres to be retained. Being out in the community is not an option for everyone. Many special needs people, especially those with autism need stability and routine. Some have already moved in the last 14 months from Whitemore Day Centre and now have the prospect of more upheaval to their fragile lives. It would be appalling and wicked to close all day centres, getting rid of highly trained and skilled staff.

Daily centres provide a crucial support and socialising opportunities for people with learning disabilities and/or autism. Quite often this visit is the only opportunity for socialisation and sharing lived experiences with others. Closing down these centres would be detrimental for service users.

Outlook was a real hub for the learning disability community and offered great support and chances for development, it is purpose built and is a great place with great staff. Many clients have been going for years and a big change will be detrimental to them, Outlook should remain open, and we should be able to support people there so it can have the life that it previously did. DCC services should be the busiest and best being a source in the community.

These day services support people with complex needs who might not otherwise get the support they need.

This is just a roundabout way of offloading the council responsibilities to private or charity run businesses. Which use these people as cheap labour. The council should not be offloading our disabled and old people onto someone else.

The people who attend day centres enjoy this and it would be incredibly upsetting for them to have to move.

Closing all centres leaves the current users with nowhere to meet up with people with similar care needs. Although there is a claim that connectors are successful in finding alternative activities it is yet to be proved that this works for every person. The centres on the Day opportunities'framework are almost full to capacity. There will be school leavers with special needs that have either got a place after leaving school or will require to be assessed. Not all private centres can accommodate people with complex needs.

no limits have only just moved to new faculties. the centre supports my brother and the whole family when needed. he has been at no limits since it opened. He enjoys going and he smiles and laughs. the staff know him and his needs well.

people from the other areas shouldn't have to travel , it is unfair.

Day services are a much needed few hours breaks away for parents/carers to catch up on things they unable Todo so due to caring for their dependent. The clients who use the day service often are not suitable for your community connectors which may I add are only in place a few months then nothing! The clients who use the service have a purpose again, have an extended family and much wanted friendships, closing these or going private will stop all connections & progress made, will make the clients and cares even More isolated! Tendering it out private they will have no competition and their prices will shoot up to whatever they wish to charge as they know you have to provide a service!! Not only that they will pick and choose who they take in meaning half will be left and again more isolated. Wellbeing and mental health are still paramount with adults with learning disabilities, taking away there day service and short break extended family will take a toll on their mental wellbeing.

The transformation team are operating in a paternalistic manner, yet again telling people with learning disabilities how to live their lives. The view from DCC senior management is that day services are bad without properly unpicking and consulting with service users, their carers and others as to what they want. None of these options are empowering or dynamic.

As always, it seems that people with learning disabilities are an easy target. I question the success of the connector service - DCC have done little to stimulate the PVI sector, so the options are limited.

Connectors often identify expensive resources for service users that are outside their community, with the additional problem of how they're going to travel their, which is often problematic. The connector service is time limited, lacks creativity and often doesn't understand the fundamentals of care act assessments, budgets and care planning. The other issue I'm seeing is people with learning disabilities walking the streets and spending considerable amounts of time in cafes - I'm not sure how empowering that is!! Another point - The consultation document is disingenuous and says that no young person has chosen to go to the day services. This is because referrals have not been allowed. The cabinet paper should be amended to reflect this. Let's be honest - there's been a policy since covid to run down day services. Many of the decisions taken have been ludicrous - staff now wearing uniform (very decisive in terms of them and us); group activities not permitted; limited access to the community ... It just feels that senior management really do not understand the people being supported.

The people currently attending the DCC Day Centres are those with the most complex needs and there are simply not sufficient suitable day opportunities currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate them should those Day Centres close. The people affected by the closures of DCC Day Centres are those assessed during the 'My Life – My Way' reviews as those with the most severe and complex needs and were identified as "building based". Day opportunities for this group of people are extremely limited and it is certain that there is not sufficient appropriate local provision currently available in the PVI sector to accommodate an additional 55 people with highly complex additional needs. The Cabinet paper identified that 38 private providers currently offer 110 different support opportunities, but it should be recognised that this number is spread across the whole of Derbyshire and that these existing opportunities are unlikely to all be appropriate for the very specific and complex needs of the individuals currently attending the Day Centres. Irrespective of this the PVI sector would simply not be able to accommodate a 50% step increase in numbers, particularly since this cohort would have the most severe and complex needs requiring specialist provision. By way of a personal example, the Cabinet paper emphasises the role of the Shared Lives service. My daughter was referred to Shared Lives well over two years ago; the only communication that we have received with respect to this is that, given her difficulties, no suitable match has been found. Much is made of the success of the Community Connectors, but no recognition is taken in this of the fact that this success has been achieved for clients assessed as having less severe disabilities.

The read across of this success for those with very complex needs is therefore doubtful. In addition, while this approach has been very successful for many, there are a number of examples where the provision has proven unsuccessful after the initial 12 weeks support ends. This is likely to occur more frequently for those with more severe disabilities. In addition, the savings anticipated are presented, but the basis for them is not. Indeed, the figures quoted appear to be targets rather than realistically costed proposals. No comparison between options is presented (presumably they do not all provide the same saving). Without this information how can the most effective option be judged? The overall savings estimated, particularly for Day Care, appear extremely optimistic. To save 50% of the annual budget over three years, while still providing appropriate services appears unrealistic. The results of the Local Government Association Adult Social Care Efficiency (ASCE) Programme indicated that “reducing the amount of day care available and offering personal budgets to enable people with moderate needs to access local community-based services may have improved outcomes but it did not always result in efficiency savings.” It is likely that for those with more complex needs, efficiency savings may be even more difficult to achieve.

This is disgusting leaving vulnerable people and their carers, without much needed services.

Until we know what 'alternative day centre provision' would be provided, it is not possible to approve the closure of Alderbrook. The centre is a lifeline for the Beard family. Abigail enjoys going there, she happily gets into the transport to be taken there. She appears to enjoy and benefit from the attention and company of the different care staff who work there. The few hours that she is away gives my sister the opportunity to do other things like, housework, shopping, attend her own medical appointments etc.

You should not be altering anything.

This option would displace the remaining users of DCC who were previously assessed as requiring a building-based service again disrupting the lives of users and family carers.

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Need more services.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

Community connectors are no use. We have tried to access but no success.

It will be morally and ethically wrong to close all four Day Centres. The infrastructure is not yet in place to support LD individuals, with a clear lack of PAs to support. Community Connectors will only engage with an individual when a PA is in place, if required. This could potentially mean individuals have nothing to do for

weeks/months. There is also a waiting list for individuals to access private Day Centres, so clearly there is a shortage. Having no Day Centres where individuals meet up with their friends could result in isolation. There is a danger that private providers may see this as an opportunity to increase their fees, resulting in additional costs for DCC.

It is not fair on choosing to close the day centre where people meant to go especially ones with complex needs there is nowhere in this area where I live, and my son would be unable to travel anywhere further than Chinley as is prime to having epileptic fits and they could happen anywhere and anytime.

My comments are in relation to The Outlook Centre, Petersham, Long Eaton. I work for Insight Community Project CIC, and we deliver youth and community work in Long Eaton and the surrounding areas. We are currently looking for a more permanent premises to base ourselves and are looking for potential partners to work with to secure a community building. We feel that this building is a vital asset within the Long Eaton community and would be very interested in exploring ways that we may be able to work alongside the current occupants or with other community organisations to ensure the building continues to be used in the best interests of our community. We would like to explore whether there could be potential for use in an evening for us to run our youth sessions and potentially some daytime sessions that could support young people who do not access full time mainstream education. The suggestions above would provide income from community groups to lease the building and allow it to continue to be used to benefit the Long Eaton community.

I think it is very shortsighted to close all provisions as these are a lifeline for families and individuals and reduce loneliness and increase quality of life and connection.

Day centres an absolute necessity for this group of citizens. Many excluded from other activities in the community.

Outlook is ideal for my son who needs almost constant supervision. It is also close to Petersham and only a short walk to access respite.

A family who lives close to me would be affected as their son attends Alderbrook regularly. His mother is older, and his father is seriously ill so any change would cause great distress.

Stating use community connectors had a worker since March from cc , still no contact!!!

Need more services not less We were never told about these!

Since Covid none of these have been used to their potential. The whole service needs overhauling and make it a service fit for purpose.

While opportunities may be found for some service users, I feel a lot of clients will not be able to access the community and need a safe familiar place to thrive, with staff who understand them! Many of these have gone straight from school. I feel

many would remain at home as they may not be able to make the adjustments and therefore no one's responsibility, becoming invisible!

Adults with learning disabilities need these kinds of services, it enables them to learn vital skills so they can live alongside people in the community. It also helps them learn invaluable skills so they can live independently as possible so they can make the vital steps needed throughout their lives. It also helps with their families to help them with having their time to recharge as learning disabilities and the physical disabilities can be very demanding on their families. Not having these services would put an enormous amount of pressure on these families.

Total disregard by the council for the most vulnerable people in our society. Severing their friendship groups at the day centres with no opportunities to socialise.

If the day centre is closed another needs to be provided with the same facilities. This is a very valuable facility for adults with strong learning and physical disabilities.

These are great buildings but currently underused. It would be great if better use of these centres was found which would be better value for money in a time of tightening budgets.

Not all people with disabilities can/want to spend time in the community and need the option of a day centre.

You are supposed to provide facilities for these people !!!!!!!

I go to a private day centre but like to go back to a council run one like I used to before I got stopped from going, so I think they should all stay open so people everywhere can go back if they are allowed to

People with learning disabilities or who are autistic deserve better than this, you are chipping away at all their services bit by bit.

There should not be a choice between a day centre and the community connectors it should be both so that young people and adults have a chance to sit with their friends and talk instead of going out all the time as some may not feel comfortable and ready to do so.

Please leave the day centres alone. You already shut 8 less than 2 years ago and said you were keeping these open. It's really traumatic for the service users who have had to get used to a new place to be told another is shutting and also for the staff who don't know what's happening with their jobs again and for the families of the service users having things changed yet again

not fair

people need more choices not less.

So you tell us where are they all supposed to go . Do you expect them to travel miles to another day centre, What if there's not enough room for everyone where to they go

Routine and familiar surroundings are needed.

they're putting their own poor management of such opportunities above the public's requirement. This does not give a fair option and is a fixed survey.

My daughter attends and loves it there.

Nothing else available in the high peak area, Alderbrook would be greatly missed.

For the exactly the same reasons as option 1

Perhaps these support opportunities should be more widely offered to families in needs as most dcc staff do not know what is available.

I trust you will be selling the empty properties.

I agree with option 1.

Unnecessary decisions but lesser of the 2 evils. If these centres do remain open it would be made available to more users.

As above, lies, hurting the most vulnerable and in society.

Poor that you are proposing either closures or closures. So basically, it is how much closure you can get away with. Hidden agenda as always

This is a better option than option one as it would still provide opportunities to access day services. However, the remaining day centres should also be offered as an opportunity to others in the local community regardless of level of need - the centres should be open to all people with a learning disability who wishes to attend a day service. I also believe that any remaining day centres should see staff trained in dementia in people with LD as we know based on literature that people with learning disabilities are more likely to experience dementia and at a younger age however the services will not provide care for people with an LD once they have been diagnosed even if they are still very eager to attend and only at the start of their diagnosis. It would also ensure that staff are able to refer people they suspect of having dementia as they would have greater understanding of signs and symptoms and help bridge the gap of inequality for people with LD and dementia.

It's the better of the two options and will allow continuity for some of those attending these much-needed facilities.

It essential that at a minimum these services remain open , as they provide an essential service which benefits both my family member accessing the centre , which allows them one of their few opportunities to socialise with others and also it benefits my family of carers as it gives us a period of time to experience aspects of most people's regular lives which we aren't able to do when looking after the person we are caring for .

Option 2 would be more apparent. Families like me need to have options of day centres if needed. Not enough provision for private day centres either, so we're you get there is, untrue and want proper facts not lies, stopping people accessing the

service and only offering odd private is unlawful. Full information and opportunities needed so the clients who don't fit in one place may fit well in another. You have a duty of care and sending it private companies to see who it can do the cheapest does not mean the best care.

Parkwood does not require £1.7m. Spending on it ...see your clarification. People are already travelling long distances since you closed the previous 8 centres. My son travels 14 miles. This is not a good enough reason to close Alderbrook!!!

A lesser evil than closing all the Day centres. Will transition clients be referred for day services to keep up the numbers. No limits seem to be an ideal establishment for those with profound disabilities and Outlook purpose built with exceptional facilities.

However, closing half of the centres will force many people to travel some distance to get the support and may not be possible for all.

Prefer option 1.

The maintenance costs are due to continual poor management and maintenance of building causing higher costs. Due to services already have been cut along with transport it is difficult to access without transport. Local services should remain.

Not good for people with learning disabilities

Whatever work is requiring Parkwood Alfreton may be required anyway to enable it to continue in use for whatever the council have plans for, whether these be to work with learning disabilities or if whatever use is planned. Therefore, the repair work question should not be used in any argument to close Parkwood.

DCC should allow Private Sector providers to tender to run the Day Centres

Having heard good reports of Morewood centre it would be a great loss of support to the clients who rely on this facility.

What if the community connect does work for a specific person. What choices are they give to access different services?

Alderbrook is the only local provider for severe issues. Clients who would normally be referred to them/ use to attend but told it was closing have been palmed off to private providers which are not always suitable and do not provide the level of care needed.

Absolutely essential to retain at least the 2-day centres. No limits cater for the profound and multiple disabilities and clients would be left without a suitable service. Outlook is comparatively new building purpose built for people with varying disabilities with areas provided for different activities. It has outside space, necessary to escape the confines of a building.

I understand the rationale behind Alderbrook. It feels like services are getting more and more geographically spread and inaccessible: why isn't there an option for more centres being opened?!

As parents, we want Parkwood to remain open.

what alternatives? both these day centres are too far for my brother to attend and many other adults with an LD. LD has had cut after cut made to their resources, taking these day centres away is wrong.

taking this away will affect their quality of life.

People need local services.

to keep 2-day services open is better than the closures in option 1 But also feel this isn't a good enough answer and that it needs looking into more

whilst I firmly believe Parkwood also offers something very different to the other services and fully support them, if this is the only way of retaining some provision this seems the only option from the 2 given.

My daughter has been at No Limits for many many years ,she loves that she has her own friends in an environment that is safe and she is well cared for ,her carers are a credit to the council and they should be rewarded and commended for their work ,not Sat wondering if they will have a job at the end of this and lose the people they have cared for all these years

Sounds better in that we should be closing the minimum amount of centres possible.

As before, however if the building is not sustainable i can understand that. Alternative similar options (either private or LA ran) must be offered to those who prefer that model.

Ensuring services are delivered by public sector organisations is key to ensure the long-term standards of care aren't sacrificed at the altar of private sector profits.

A good service should be retained, people should be given choice, and the evidence of their choice should be documented in clear language no Jargon. community connectors should work alongside with the day services to promote each other's work. Each individual should have a meeting with both services and decide on the way forward. I find it hard to believe that this is a positive move. Have we learnt nothing by shutting services down, adult protection is required for the most vulnerable people, and we should not dump any person into a community within a 12-week period.

There are not enough day opportunities already without reducing them further.

So, you tell us parent and cares where they are supposed to go when you shut these places.

The council should repair these buildings as & when they need completing. Having a 1.7 million repair bill shows that the council has neglected these centres over years.

Hold your heads in shame for letting the estate get into this mess in the first place, sort it out by using money from the sale of over properties in the county.

Our information suggests that users would have to travel further than currently and would receive little benefit. Alternatively, most cares would not be able to provide adequate quality of life for those dependents forced to stay at home.

People with learning disabilities are becoming more isolated without these services. They need them. They have friendship groups. They are lost without these services in.

Retain No Limits, Outlook and relocate Parkwood. Close Alderbrook.

Much the same as above. My nephew lives in a flat with some PA hrs, he eats alone every day and at weekends because the community isn't really interested. He also has physical disabilities and community groups find it hard to cater for his needs.

This is by far the better option given the state of Parkwood the clients are few and get nothing out of it.

I think the day centres have had their day and people wanting to use day centres could go to the private sector.

Although disagreeing on closing all day centres I suggest option 2 is a sweetener although unlikely to be chosen by cabinet. Outlook is a fairly new purpose-built facility with secure outside spaces. No Limits is also necessary to provide day opportunities for the more severely disabled. hopefully if by some miracle option 2 is the final decision then the 2 centres should accommodate more clients.

Why did you close Whitemoor last year.? You said Parkwood was a more suitable building...obviously not true.

Be honest with people from the start - there will be no council day centres or respite! You are taking opportunities away from those who have no voice! These consultations have already been decided. Just like last time. Everyone agreed that we didn't want the centres to close, and you still went ahead and closed them. You manipulate and lie about the numbers, people were happy with the service before covid, it was a good service, but you would like to make cuts and we are the easiest group to take from!

Same as for option one, however there would be less people affected and I would hope that by keeping two open, allows for some of the people who use the other two, to use those facilities, if at all possible, taking into account the distance.

It would be a shame to close 2-day centres, these are vital and needed by so many.

Again, same as my comments for option 1

Transport to other day centres would realistically mean travelling further and would likely cost more in transport. If this was day within the private sector that will also be a greater increased cost.

as said before these services are urgently needed.

Parkwood used to be a vibrant day service offering opportunities out in the community, used as a base per personal care needs but invited the community in and also used the community as part of its offer to people with LD. It provided gardening, pottery, dance, drama, arts, and crafts etc and was sought after to attend. The staff are excellent - dedicated, passionate, and kind and well trained. It's a massive loss.

All the centres should stay open. It says Parkwood would need money spent on it, are you sure that the money will not be spent from council budget anyway? Half of the centre has already been taken as office space. Will it close or is it a way to put it to other use?

Although against closing any of the current services, something is better than nothing., Looking at the framework list there are no suitable other services for people with more profound disabilities within the Erewash area.

-Again, the connectors success is just fantasy. -DCC day services need investment and with 2 left out of 12 a saving has already been made. -Senior management have proven too be incompetent and vulnerable individuals have been made to suffer. - Council owned and run Day services looks after all, this is a race to the bottom not running a service for the vulnerable.

Where are these day opportunities? My son struggles to access the community because of his challenging behaviour.

This is a better option although Parkwood should also stay open. The money is still going to be spent on this building anyway, but it is being repurposed for offices.

Same reason as before. Only facilities for them in the east and south of the county

It would be stupid to close no limits. After the council spent money moving them to a new building a couple of months ago. Also, my brother has been attending No limits since it was created. He is nonverbal and has a good relationship with staff.

this option still reduces the offer to service users now - and places severe limitations on services for people with learning disabilities and/or autism in the future. There should be more provision not less!

Better than the alternative but still deeply disappointing

I believe that by closing ANY homes, there will be an over reliance on the private sector - such as charities to provide day services. Charities are also being affected by budget cuts and the current economic climate, so they are not a reliable alternative source. I think the end result is that people will not get the support they need and deserve. We are letting our most vulnerable residents down!

Please refer to my previous comments. Also worth noting that repair work is so high because DCC's assets have not been looked after sufficiently - which needs to be reflected upon across all DCC's estate. Lots of buildings are in disrepair and

therefore renovation costs are extremely high due to a lack of good old fashioned "looking after what we have" principles.

I am concerned that a motivation here may be to prioritise rising revenue by sale of the Alfreton site.

To reiterate my point in the first comment, appalling. Think of the additional costs that will be incurred not just by the poor individuals you are turfing out but also yourselves when these people need funding for transport and more expensive care in Luther counties because we as a county cannot provide the care for them that they need. Disgraceful and totally unjust.

It states that help would be given to source local opportunities, i am sceptical that this would actually happen blaming the shortfall in help on budget, staffing etc. It would have to be a cast iron support package in place to work efficiently.

I think all the people in current day centres should be given the option of attending the remaining day centres in option two. Community Connectors are not for everyone!

Although this option would allow to preserve at least two-day centres, which is a positive, the closure of Alderbrook centre is a negative and not agreeable outcome. Although the rationale behind its closure is understandable, given the average distance its users are travelling shows lack of crucial similar support centres nearer their residence. The provisions should be taken to ensure the current 9 users of the day centres still have the opportunity to be supported.

I think this is a better option than option 1 for reasons stated above, Outlook is too good to close.

Unfair provision for people who do not live in the areas where day services will remain open. Additionally, although service users may travel long distances to attend Alderbrook, this may be due to where they live being more remote than e.g. Chesterfield. Again, these are specialist services who support people with complex needs and provide respite to families as well as routine and support to people who need this. Closing them down may also mean losing the knowledge of staff members.

Again, this is not good enough only nine people use Alderbrook. But these nine people do matter. And as for Parkwood. Why have the repairs not been kept up. Surely in this day and age a building could be found in the local vicinity. All this is picking on the disabled.

Although totally disagreeing with option 1, this option is the lesser of the 2 evils. The cost of running the 2 centres would massively outweigh the cost of provision in private centres plus transport costs. Both centres currently provide a service for the most disabled people in Derbyshire. Concerning though that DCC do not intend to allow more users into the 2 centres. Hint of more to come!

no limits support the whole family, we would like to keep it.

these two should be kept as central.

Two options aren't enough! What about not closing any. Yes, agree if a building isn't up to standards to re look at it. As for the numbers your providing are somewhat untrue, as social workers been told not to offer DCC establishments, underhanded.

What about the money you've been hoarding that was for those with learning disabilities

See answers to previous question. It would be helpful (particularly for Cabinet) to see the relative financial implications of the two options. How else can their merits be judged?

This is a better option but would still leave some areas without much needed services for the most vulnerable in our society, who have no understanding of why this is happening to them.

If No Limits closes, Helen will not be going to any other day centre, as it takes a long time to know Helen and get know her needs. She doesn't like change.

For the X family this is no different to Option 1, as it specifies the closure of Alderbrook, with no concrete proposal of what would be provided instead. X, and her parents, need her to spend some time with different people for several hours a day. During this time, she should be provided with stimulus as well as care, activities such as music therapy, hydrotherapy, crucially these activities need to be outside the family home; when visiting Alderbrook has not been possible e.g. during Covid, X suffered from being with her elderly parents 24/7 and became much more difficult to manage.

This is better than option 1 but still cuts!

N/a

It is a necessity to retain some DCC building based services. There are very few private days service providers that could give venues with wheelchair accessibility and different parts of a building to accommodate different disabilities. Hopefully if Outlook retained more clients with a learning disability would be allowed to attend.

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Need more services.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

There isn't enough support as it is. We live in Bolsover and there is supposed to be a duty of care from the authorities, but it is non existent

I strongly disagree with the proposed closure of the remaining four Day Centres. Individuals are already travelling a lot further since the previous closure of the eight Day Centres. Any changes are potentially major in the lives of individuals with LD

and could result in damaging their mental health and wellbeing. Why are the Day Centres not opening up to more clients? Prior to Covid, the Day Centres were well attended. It will not be possible for some individuals to engage with Community Connectors/PA's and will only be safe within a specialised Day Centre.

You say that if you close Alderbrook that you would support them to go to other places or in the community. my son needs to be looked after at the best place, nearest to home and not miles away because if there was a problem and was needed, I need it nearest to home.

It is really important that someday opportunities are maintained throughout Derbyshire.

Lesser of the two options. If retained other clients from the community who are eligible should be allowed to access the centres. Outlook purposely built to cater for up to 75 people and outside space too few currently allowed to attend.

My son attends outlook 2 days a week. He has attended outlook for many years and the people there know how to deal with him. It would be difficult to fit him into a community scheme.

It is difficult to comment on this proposal due to unknown outcomes of assessments but my comment for option 1 still seems to apply as our neighbour attends Alderbrook.

Keep all.

Need more services not less!

They all need closing and service provision go elsewhere. They are all institutional.

DCC have turned their back on Adults with Learning disabilities. All day centres have fewer attendees as you wouldn't let people attend again after covid very kindly fell in your lap and gave you the perfect opportunity to shut them down. Which has been your plan for years. Just stop lying to the general public and admit it's all about the money.

Community connectors are not working for people with LD. An hour at an art project a week in not success

Leaving just 2 centres open makes no sense as clients will need to travel further and if they have no access to transport then they may stay at home or go less often!

Although strongly disagree with option one. Something is better than nothing.

The 2 centres are purpose built for a wide range of disabilities with appropriate equipment on site. Nowhere in our neighbourhood can facilitate people with needs to be hoisted. Hopefully if some centres are retained more people with a learning disability can be accommodated.

If the day centre is closed another needs to be provided with the same facilities. This is a very valuable facility for adults with strong learning and physical disabilities.

This is better than option 1

This absolutely disgraceful !!!!!

This is the better of 2 choices but as I said before I think they should all be able to stay open, and people who were sent to private like me because I know I am not the only one all my friends have said they would want to go back too, but because some of them don't get this form to fill in they don't get to say so

Local. local. Local!!!!

All should remain open.

There are no day centres locally for some people like me in Darley dale who have to go to chesterfield for a lot of activities and it is not fair on the people who are going to lose their safe place when they are going to be closed

Please leave all remaining day centres alone. You have already shut 8.

nice

more choice not less

Those day centre will be too far to go to, if you live in Derbyshire.

Both are too far away and who's saying they have enough places for them all, and they all must be suit for each person.

People need these places open, where will you put the people who are displaced and what about the transportation to get to other places and what are the people going to do on a rainy day and cold in the so-called community.

Alderbrook is a lifeline.

they're putting their own poor management of such opportunities above the public's requirement. This does not give a fair option and is a fixed survey.

If applicable, what are the most important aspects of daycare for you.

She gets out in the community, mixes with people in the centre similar problems. somewhere different to go than home

company, companionship, the dignity of having a daily purpose.

Access for people to maintain relationships and activities without these being time limited.

Respite from caring and interesting opportunities for the person attending.

Social opportunities for the person going there. The opportunity to develop independence skills. Respite for the family - possibly enabling them to go out to work at least part time.

One to one personal care by qualified staff

Community inclusion

Respite for family carers for them to work or enjoy a social life.

Giving people with learning disabilities the chance of a full, independent life with care and support.

Local and staff know cared for person and their needs.

It is important that Day Opportunities are open to all people with an LD. Recently when searching for day services for people with an LD we've consistently been told that council run services are not an option unless someone has physical mobility needs and this means that they end up with no support for months despite the council run services having spaces and staff for people to attend.

Familiarity, care and being able to get out and socialise.

Please see above.

Routine, friendship, able to enjoy and fulfilling life's, break for carers.

Adults with learning disabilities or autism are all different...some do need a building-based centre, apparently 380 are currently using one, in the private sector, out of county, as well as your council run ones.

The disabled person has the social and necessary environment to enjoy a more fulfilling life than being stuck within 4 walls at home. Not every family has the facilities and space at home to allow outside activities.

The limited facilities for vulnerable people.

Integration and enablement.

Locality.

Respite opportunities- even a few hours In The day - Independent opportunities and socialising with peer group for service users.

A safe quiet environment with supportive staff

An interesting and varied timetable A safe and secure environment A group of friends and workers to relate to Carers are confident their loved ones are safeguarded and understood by fully trained staff.

Continued support

Offering a service another option

Chance to have some sort of normal life.

Local safe environment, close to client's home to enable swift access by family in case of emergency. mixed abilities within client group enabling our family member to interact with others from the local area. Long serving support staff who can observe any changes to a person's ability to engage in tasks.

On public transport links Opening hours to enable true drop-in

Socialising with friends. Going and doing something fun. A safe space with trained carers. Somewhere to go each day, so that she can stay living at home. We are getting old and can't help her all day long.

They give my brother social and mental support, they actively enable him to lead a more fulfilling life, without these I know he will deteriorate.

Respite Gaining independent living skills Making friends Meeting care needs.

for them to socialise, meet and spend time with their peers, gain new experiences.

Fun, social, and meaningful activities in a building so it's accessible even in bad weather.

Providing breaks for family carers and opportunities away from the home for people with care and support needs.

My daughter has her own space in a secure well led environment.

We don't utilise as nothing appears to be available in where we live. Would value input in South Derbyshire.

N/A to myself, however for others i have spoken to; choice and control over where they want to go and where and who with, why does everything have to be about goals and learning for people with LD, when lots of adults do things just for fun. Day services/opportunities whilst they are important for the person themselves, it is equally important for the carer for respite and/or work for an income. If a carer cannot cope or keep a roof over their head, it is just not sustainable.

Safety first, a slower progression in terms of working and promoting independence, living a full life. This cannot be achieved by shutting services. How can you monitor a service that works from the individual's home, safeguarding would be a massive concern for any family member, Please remember concerns cannot be monitored from a person's home, Language barriers Lack of trust it takes time to build a relationship with LD. I think some people can excel in this area but as I've said one will not meet the needs of everyone.

Social interaction, to be with peers, activities, fulfilment, for meaningful purpose.

They need to be in a routine.

Spending valuable quality time with friends and staff I have known for many years.

Respite for families, opportunities for people to gain in independence skills and confidence.

So, the carer can work and live a normal life.

In future if my son needs these facilities they will no longer exist, he has no chance of recovery from autism, there is no cure and after his education has finished what

services will be left to help him in the future. Nothing because the council is hell bent on ignoring the needs of its residents.

Stimulation for dependents. Respite for carers.

Socialising in what the client requires.

Meeting people and staff who have been part of my life for many years. Used to dealing with my declining health.

Stimulation.....fun ...socialising with friends in a suitable environment ...in all weathers.

We want a centre that will work with our loved ones, somewhere for them to be safe and give them a full enjoyable life. Private day services would rather not take difficult individuals, when there are few places to go around why would they? Those requiring more support will be offered supported living so they can be locked inside a house with a carer - the cheapest option!! Derbyshire will not have any council provision - disgraceful.

That there is more so better access for those that need

Access to a safe space where autism is understood and peer interaction. And a break from caring.

It is so important that day services offer a community and change of scenery for the family, Day centres do this.

Respite break for carer.

activities a place for them to socialise respite for carers.

A chance to be outside of the home and taking part in the limited activities the centres are allowed to provide. Also, it is important for carers to get some time to pursue work and other activities with non-disabled friends.

Fixed place with experienced staff

Day opportunities at council run services, offer the security of staff that stick around and get to know your whole family and what is important to you all, they are better trained than private services. The buildings are wheelchair friendly and made for purpose. A safe place to get together with peers, our communities are not safe for vulnerable people, we need to trust the staff. As carers, we can go to work or have some much-needed time to rest so that we can continue to be carers and do this well, if we know those, we care for are safe, and that they are happy with their friends doing worthwhile activities.

respite for the families knowing the users are safe and cared for.

It is to keep up with friends and do things at the centre.

For my brother to interact with different people and time out it takes him a while to get used to new people. He is well looked after during the day from personal care

down to his own special need. Give me time out to get things done whilst he's at no limits.

Respite from caring for a severely disabled daughter.

positive experiences for service users, now and in the future, skills development, respect for people no matter who they are and enabling parents and carers to be the best they can.

The fact that they are council run means that policy and procedures are there to ensure safeguarding, correct care, and outcomes. Reliance on the private sector may not work so robustly, as profit is what motivates their service provision.

That they have enough staff, a safe environment, and can work with all levels of disability, including no those with more complex needs who may need 2-1 care.

The most important part would be companionship and inclusion. My son is lonely, he has a social worker and carers in place but has little association with the outside world, more emphasis is needed on befriending opportunities.

The most important aspect of the day centre for my daughter is that she gets to meet up with her friends. It is the social interaction which she enjoys along with seeing the same members of staff who know her and are able to work with her.

transport, accessibility, activities.

My family have had use of these types of help as I have 3 autistic grandchildren. And they help a lot and make them feel normal. And useful.

The most important aspect is having a specially designed building with outside space to cater for all health and social needs. close to home. Fully trained staff to care appropriately. The staff know the wider families. Continuity of care for clients that are used to the trained staff working with them. Family has some time to work and/or socialise knowing their cared for person is safe. Also, ability to attend the centre in emergency.

he enjoys it, he is well looked after, they know his needs. we don't need to worry about him, but they know him and us well enough to know when we do need to be contacted. I wouldn't send him anywhere he didn't like. it takes him a long time to get to know new people. they support with meals and medicines which isn't an easy task.

Clients feel they are a part of an extended family, giving purpose and giving carers a break.

Safe, reliable, providing a variety of stimulating activities that support her physical, mental, and emotional health.

Consistency for the users of the service and a feeling of safety for the families

It gets my sister out for the day and seeing other people, it also gives the family 8 hours rest.

Abigail is not capable of learning life-skills leading towards her living independently so the Morewood Centre would not appear to be useful for her. She needs to be fed, kept clean and safe, but she also needs stimulus from changes in her environment and the people around her. Her parents need to know she is being kept safe but also not just abandoned in a chair for the day. The time that Abigail is out attending the daycentre gives her parents, who are both in their seventies, a tiny bit of relief from the constant responsibilities they have uncomplainingly shouldered for over 40 years.

Safe place to go and not worry about my son escaping/ Hurting himself. He's Vulnerable and staff that are reliable and qualified in autism are looking after him.

Close to home with limited time on transport. Location within a person's locality so accessing the local amenities.

All aspects, it's critical.

For there to be more in our area and more care and support

The importance of remaining with familiar staff and friends. Some of the older individuals have grown up attending their Day Centre and removing this has resulted in isolation in some cases. If it wasn't for the voluntary organisations/charities, individuals would have lost contact completely with their friends.

Alder rook is nearest day centre to our home my son is keen to go and enjoys all activities that they provide for his needs. When he is there, I know he is being well looked after so I don't worry about him and I can meet my friends for a coffee, which I won't be able to do if they close.

Chance for clients to socialise with friends usually their only opportunities. Respite for carers to allow them to work and socialise.

The day centre gives me some much-needed respite for 2 days a week.

Self-esteem for son, respite for family carer

They provide a safe base for people where there is highly trained staff to meet everyone's needs and the support to move on if needed or wanted.

Safe environment in easy reach with qualified and understanding staff who deal with all aspects of care, for example my daughter needs personal care for going to the toilet and changing her continence pads which she needs to wear all the time, she cannot prepare her own food or drinks, she has no road safety or any other everyday dangers plus communication is another difficulty

The most applicable aspects are having the vulnerable person cared for in a suitable building with trained staff, giving carers time to work, socialise and attend appointments. At the same time being assured the cared for person is in a safe environment.

Providing a place for and adult with learning disabilities that is safe and caring away from their home, and providing support for those families who provide 24hr care.

That they should be made available for families!!!!

Council Day services are better, the staff are better, and they stay around not leaving and new every 5 minutes, they know us well as they have been here for years, they do it because they care not a business like the private ones.

Choice... A local centre to meet up with friends and do meaningful activities, regardless of the weather conditions.....not being forced miles away, out of county, to find the right support that used to be available before you closed the previous 8 day centres...a lot of people do need a building based service....not careers as a councillor suggested.

Will lose contact with others that are friends if closed.

It is important that I feel safe in a local service where it is easy to get to every time I would go there.

Consistency! Familiarity and support!

interaction with friends, doing fun activities with trained staff in a safe environment.

They need some where to go, they all need routines, they don't like it when things change, who to say that the day centres you leave open, are they going to except them all.

To be closer, not for them to be traveling miles each day, to make sure it suitably for each and every person.

Actual respite and social opportunities that are not available in the home. This is an essential requirement; they're putting their own poor management of such opportunities above the public's requirement. This does not give a fair option and is a fixed survey.

My self and husband work, my daughter loves it there and I feel safe and happy when she goes. we have had a lot did support from there and the service fits good for us all.

Lack of suitable, accessible venues for wheelchair users and People who require 1 to 1 care and also have health issues. Lack of accessible venues most private are fully subscribed. Journey times too long presenting a risk.

Already have been, I used to work for DCC but left over how they are dealing with these issues. Shameful.

Potential further travel and placing cared for person with strangers. Main carers will not accept this so will basically lose their free time. This is definitely not taking carers needs into account.

My relative won't have any local services which would deprive them of socialising with others, as well as this my family of carers would be deprived from enjoying aspects of our lives that non-carers have the luxury of enjoying.

Carers need time and space knowing their loved one is in a secure environment. It is sometimes necessary to have a work/life balance to assist with their own mental health.

We are living in Alferton area if close the centre we need to travel another centre.

We have been badly affected by all the changes since 2020 The worry affected everyone's health and wellbeing It has had a very detrimental effect on our family as a whole Our loved one was devastated when they could no longer attend, they lost contact with a whole raft of people they were fond of Carers were very worried and disappointed by the attitudes shown by DCC Management

Yes, if Outlook is closed there is inadequate provision in the area that gives a person outside space, rather than spending the whole day inside during decent weather.

If Parkwood closes where would J go? Or Morewood is only open 36 hours a week. What would happen if we went into hospital (which has happened) and we need emergency respite, but Morewood was on a week where it was closed?

The changes will affect my brother, he will have no daycentre to attend, no social interaction and support and this will affect his mental wellbeing.

As a frontline worker I will be asked to implement a policy that I do not agree with.

If we lose the service, we will lose everything that has kept us going all these years. Older clients mean older carers, we are already stressed as it is and at the point of breaking.

A respite service that will be closing will affect the service we provide; it's not about saving jobs it's about losing the service that people use. Family needs to have support to stop crisis happening.

I can't go to work.

Loss of friends, structure, and familiarity to the week.

Varying degrees of association

There is a need to leave the family home for several hours a day to ensure continuing mental health. also applies to enable respite for my family carers, giving them an opportunity to work/socialise.

Outlook is at risk of closing my daughter has been there 18 years.

We have already been affected, we are in a substandard service, not allowed to mix and doing very little. This is not going to make my loved one have a "Better life" It has affected my life too with all the stress and anxiety associated with the changes. You should not be allowed to manipulate the situation to your own financial gain. If

we are able to find a service that can accommodate our needs, we will need to travel many more miles each day. You have no idea how this has and will change my loved one's life - and you don't care.

Yeas i.e. even less opportunity to access.

isolation due to lack of opportunities available

As stated previously. Looking at the framework there is NO provision for learning disabled people in the local area.

If we wanted our son to return home, then he would need these facilities to be able to leave the house.

I would like the person I care for to attend Council Day services, as currently they have to travel some distance to a private day centre at a cost to themselves of @£4000.00 per year, this is money which could be spent on other activities and holidays, and clear some of their debt, which has accrued due to paying this transport cost.

my son attends Parkwood day centre twice a week he has been there for 16 years, he has already had his days cut from 5 to 2. I don't know what he would do without it, he treats it like his second home.

They will be with their families 24 hrs a day and night week in and out.

If they close No Limits, there will be a lot more travelling. I do not drive, and no limits is ideal because if I'm needed, I can be there in around 20mins.

We would have no respite from caring,

Son just being assessed for adult care.

I'll be out of a job after 30yrs loyal service to DCC.

She used to go to Newhall day centre on a Friday but couldn't go during pandemic and consequently never went back then it closed. I found it difficult to get an alternative position who deal with personal care. Even with the help of community connectors.

This will limit the daily life of adults with learning difficulties they need these centres they give them a purpose.

A person with multiple health and mobility issues would be left without constant stimulation.

If they shut, I will never be able to go back to my old centre

Another upheaval for us all. My daughter in having to move yet again, her parents having to deal with the fallout of her not knowing where she is and not seeing the people she has done for many many years. It feels like a bereavement and something my daughter cannot understand due to her disability.

If Disabled people have these places, they look forward to going. They learn things and have friends which can be hard for some.

Option 1 definitely. Extra pressure on carers,
yes, if option 1

I have two children with LD come to when adults were is there to go?! Don't come back with private as they don't have the standards or training or enough placements.

My daughter attends Outlook Day Centre

Helen would be isolated to home, only getting out when i take her myself and would after extra 8 hours.

I fear that my sister, X's mother, is already 'running on empty'. If the Council withdraws the small amount of support that X currently receives, Mrs X's own health could suffer such that she becomes unable to care for X at all, and that could lead to the Council needing to find continuous residential care for X, which would be much more expensive, but would also be so cruel to X who would be taken from the only home she knows and she would surely deteriorate quickly. The X family have been extremely good at caring for X with her very unique set of needs eg. she is utterly dependent, but she is not unruly or requiring intense medical interventions such as a catheter, supported breathing, dialysis, lifting equipment. Because of their success she has been kept almost invisible from public emergency services, but she could surely slide into a much more extreme neediness with terrifying events such as falls, injuries etc. from having fits.

my adult son accesses day/night care at ability respite and feel any/all changes will affect us as it is our only means of support and help.

Being relocated to less accessible buildings with limited outside space. Workers may not be trained to support the moe4 disabled people and the staff training would not be closely monitored stored by Adult Care. The latter a necessity as DCC will be paying exorbitant daily fees.

Our son just diagnosed with autism, and we were planning to use these services.

I have said yes because my husband is in a home ten miles away and I won't be able to visit him as I don't drive and have to use public transport which my son can't.

It depends which option is chosen.

We will be affected in that we can see the distress it is causing to our neighbours.

Massive implications for people who use or rely on the services.

I worry for staff including myself that will lose their jobs and that there are no jobs to be re-deployed into. I worry that by closing all bases and respite and also older people's homes then it is only a matter of time before things implode and sadly it is people that will suffer.

Short sighted and cruel to exclude users from familiar services with staff fully trained to provide appropriate care.

Shane on you all.

Whilst I recognise that community connectors have been successful for some people with a learning disability, many people with a learning disability do not want the opportunities offered by community connects and have disclosed that they feel that this actually limits the choices that they have. Many people with an LD report that they miss going to Outlook and other day services - wish that they could go back or that they wish they could have more hours at Outlook or other day services - however when they have asked about this, they have been told it is not an option. Many people with a learning disability report that they enjoyed going to Outlook and other council run day services as they felt it was a safe space, that they had a family away from home, that they felt well cared for and that they can make friends. As a service we have seen more referrals for people with an LD being taken advantage of by others when trying to make friends or deteriorations in Mental Health due to loneliness - many of them report that this wasn't something they had issues with when they were able to attend day services as they had friends at the centres or that if they were being taken advantage of by others it was spotted faster and actions taken faster as the staff at the day services had their best interests in mind and would be aware of what was going on in their lives. Closing the day services would be a vital loss to the community, we should be offering people with an LD a choice between day services and community-based activities or a mix of both - not losing the services completely. The services should also be open to all people with a learning disability rather than people with an LD who also have physical mobility needs. The council also need to consider their criteria for allowing people to use the day services, some of the people who already attend council run day services were told they couldn't increase their hours and were told to find private day services to fill their other days which costs the council twice as much as letting them increase their hours at the council run service. This is not a good use of council budgets, surely it would make more sense to give the person the choice and if they wanted to increase the hours at the council run service then allow that instead of stating they need to use a private service which is costing up to £150 a day which the council pays for anyway? Also, the council should be looking at the training of their staff, considering things like the LeDer reviews and providing staff training in areas that help reduce inequalities for people with an LD. As I wrote previously in this questionnaire, PWLD are at increased risk of having dementia, if staff were trained in signs and symptoms, they could spot this sooner than a GP as the staff see them every day. It would also allow PWLD who have dementia to attend day centres and keep their routine as similar as possible and promote their independence for as long as possible as at present the policy is when they have a diagnosis they can no longer attend.

Please do not make ableist decisions!

Less opportunities for breaks for carers will lead to more crisis points for families and putting more strain on services.

You have already made the decision to close them.

Lack of foresight and compassion by DCC elected members to decimate social care when extra provision of funding has been given to them for adult care. To spend £1.7 million to update Parkwood (actually £700k) when planning to cut the services there for PWLD. The documents state that DCC will only be saving £2.2million over 3 years! Providing services for PWLD

Council should spend more on services and less on creating new leadership roles.

Think about what you're doing to the existing support networks for people needing help with learning disabilities & do not try to use the existing premises for other uses I.e. Office space etc. Don't sell people with learning disabilities short for underhand purposes.

Historically, DCC has had a wonderful attitude to the care and provision of those most vulnerable in our society. However, over the last decade this attitude has hardened It is the vulnerable and their carers who have paid an awful personal cost for this.

closures and limited access to DCC centres have already impacted on the mental health of clients barred from attending day centres. also impacting on the ability for carers to continue to work. also causing carers mental and other issues

The accumulation of negative life events over the life course results in higher levels of stress, which can increase risk of developing mental health problems. This can result in changes in behaviour such as distress, irritability and agitation. The lack of social interaction can lead to Loneliness Depression Poor sleep quality Impaired immunity Accelerated cognitive decline Poor cardiovascular function Impaired executive function Increased risk of premature death. The Social isolation is a major concern for everyone effected by these proposals, but it is especially prevalent among people with disabilities and older adults. To say there is not a requirement for these daycentres is ludicrous.

Clients with challenging behaviour, significant personal care needs etc cannot be supported by Community Connectors.

You will do what you want anyway.

Just think how you are stressing carers that are struggling day to day care as it is with all services stretched the outlook is black.

This feels like a kick in the teeth for many carers, especially working carers and elderly carers who have their own needs. At a time when resources are scarce, waiting lists are huge and cost of living is a crisis. Co-funding changes, and the recent changes to AT have already had a huge effect, this adds yet more worry for disabled people and their families.

Would the service shut if DCC wasn't overdrawn with money? And how did the money get so out hand? we have plenty of managers to oversee they units stay on budget. Was the only way to close services everywhere? schools, respite care for children older adults' services? close a service that has only recently been built at a cost of 13 million? I think your money situation needed to be revamped before you change an ad hock service. I was very proud to work for DCC but now I'm just one of the many workers who thought we needed to care for everyone.

Would only be interested in the alternatives if the same people were involved and opportunities were local.

My concern is that this development is financially led. I have a close friend who has 2 adults at home with learning disabilities and it's getting harder to cate fir them as she ages and the impact of their disability is changing. How have you built in care for the carers?

Devastating impact on all LD residents that previously enjoyed socialising with their friends. The people proposing the closures obviously have no experience of caring.

You planned this years ago and will do what you want anyway...waste of time and money.

We had a good service which you took away it was a community for people with a LD, you have now isolated these people taking them away from their friends and community. You are placing them in unsafe situations where they spend a lot of time alone or with single carers - but that's okay because it's saving you money!!!!

Just stop cutting vital services for our vulnerable people

Although the public opinion is the decision has already been made, the cabinet need to look further than decimating LD services. Let people with a learning disability have some quality of life.

Families are heartbroken that their relatives are risk of losing much needed services.

We will have to get him up a lot earlier in a morning If he takes to the new centre (he has to be spoon fed and if he doesn't like someone he won't eat, same applied to his meds)

It is not respite carers coming into the home.

Deeply concerned that the most vulnerable people in our society are being made to pay the price for the failure of those in decision making positions

We also need to think about the current residents affected and those of the future - short term thinking is both bad for the local authority and bad for communities.

I think the proposal to remove any care facilities for those with mental disabilities is cruel and inhumane. These people, of all people in society, need that care. Their families need that time. As individuals and as families they are shunned and kept out

of society because there aren't enough opportunities available to them and there isn't enough education for people to understand their needs and how to help.

Already covered. The impact to families who don't have day centres is huge.

Think how you'd feel if you had a family member who relied on these services. Then you would realise how much of an impact there would be.

The impact on DCC day service users will be serious. Clients moved from their existing service to another are suffering mental health problems impacting on their families.

I put no as you only give out the information you wish to do so.

One of the basis for these proposals is that Day Centres are underutilised. This has to a large extent resulted from a deliberate policy to reduce and prohibit access to these services for existing users and to direct potential new users away from them. To suggest that people do not want to use the Services is wrong.

Please keep all day centres open

It is crucial that X receives care and support outside of the family home, for decent periods of time. Your description of her as having 'learning disabilities and/or autism' does not properly capture her situation. She is beyond 'learning' anything new, she is 40 years old, and she does not have autism. She is an adult who cannot talk, understand, can barely walk, or feed herself, she cannot dress herself, she is doubly incontinent, needs constant supervision, but she does have a loving relationship with her parents, and responds well to their unconditional love and physical support of her needs. The Council needs to support the whole family in this terrible situation.

Members of national pensioners convention, have family members in facilities outside the county, and are against DCC creating a national president.

My son accesses respite at ability. I'm not sure if this comes under day care but if all daycare facilities close, it will become very busy and harder to get support there. It is our only means of help and support.

The council need to review their previous decisions when many vulnerable people were wrongly assessed during covid lockdown. Assess7 were made by mobile phone and leading. questions asked.

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

My son has been going to Alderbrook since being 19 years old, he transferred from the school next door as it was the best place for him. If he cannot go, there anymore it will have a big impact on my life as I am just about coping with my husband being in a home and now I have this to worry about on top of everything else.

The bigger private day centres get the worse the service. Quantity over quality.
Profit over people.

Just the fact that Alderbrook has only 9 clients who travel more than 16.5 miles is all due to the closure of more local purpose-built facilities leaving little option than either travel or not bother or perhaps use a less suitable option more locally.

I want the centres to stay as they are and continue to offer families the support they need.

Please don't close Alderbrook.

If day services are removed there is more pressure on informal carers to support.
Which is unfair?

This is an absolute disgrace!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We feel like no-one cares about us or listens, it was better in the good old days when I could see all of my friends at the centre and the staff looked after us and made sure we were safe and had lots of things to do together, that we could choose.

You already closed Whitemoor. A dozen people from there moved to Parkwood. Now you're closing Parkwood after only 1 year.... cruel and disgusting. You treat people like dogs being re-housed. No compassion.

These could get money in by being used by the community.

Stop closing the opportunity that many people need that makes them feel like they can be themselves and have a social life like many people their ages.

These changes will have a negative impact.

It's disgusting in what you're doing why not close some schools, as its always these with learning disabilities that get pushed to one side, it's all wrong in what you're doing.

It's such a shame it's come to this, such poor management at DDDC in my opinion. they're putting their own poor management of such opportunities above the public's requirement. This does not give a fair option and is a fixed survey.

again, these services have been cruelly mismanaged. There are rooms available, yet social workers are told they cannot place clients in - even clients in real crisis. if the private sector was going to take crisis or clients in need of assessment, they would have by now.

Who and when was it decided that these establishments were just for short breaks? These places have been used for people in crisis who cannot stay in their own homes or have nowhere to go?

I assume you will be disposing of the other properties.

Short breaks are a crucial backbone support for families.

Cost cutting regardless of impact.

Whilst this sounds good in theory there is an extreme shortage of respite services in Derby and Derbyshire at present and many families are searching for private short break services as they have been told that council run ones are not an option. Demand is likely far higher than recorded as so many people have been told that the council run ones are not an option.

We have already stated in the past we need short breaks services, as parents we need that break from our caring role, we need the short breaks so we can catch up on work that's mounted up, to clean the house or re decorate to go shopping to have a break away to help our own wellbeing. Stopping our transport meaning we have to take our family member to the placement is bad enough but to close the short breaks units is disgusting, they know the staff they make friendships with others.

Utter rubbish.

Ill thought out without any consideration for carers and the wider family.

Perhaps consider retaining two of these rather than one. Again, are service users fully aware that this is option available to them?

I'm not sure how Morewood can stay open, given its awful attitude of staff. The consistent historic bad practice and general disgrace to the service

Poorly thought out

Families are in desperate need of this service I feel it would push some families towards crisis point.

Didn't even know Council offered short breaks for respite. Maybe this is the reason for lack of use. As usual never informed of service by social workers which will now get worse due to not assigned workers for each client.

treating people with a learning disability as a problem is not a compassionate course of action. Carers need to be assured that their family member is in a safe place with continuity of care staff and small groups. When DCC closed services entirely and later reduced accessibility for clients and carers to have a break from 24/7 caring for 3 years it has impacted massively on the health of family.

As long as transportation was provided to enable people from across the county to get to Morewood.

Short break services are critical to the support required by families who support individuals with additional needs.

There is a shortage of LD respite, so why close more. Lots of carers for people with learning disabilities are getting older and need breaks to stay at home. Without respite, including emergency respite, J would already be in a home.

as stated in other proposal

These are vital services for the families of our LD residents. Cutting the services will result in more admissions to long-term care.

the council are always cutting back and closing services once they are gone their gone!!

What about future demand?

Why do you think taking away the one thing that gives carers a reason to carry on and the clients the freedom of being in a different building, different people, different ways of having a bit of fun

My view is the impact for the users of current facilities. Transition arrangements and support for change is vital.

Need to make sure there is adequate staff coverage and shift patterns for staff to cope with what must be a demanding role.

I believe there are far more carers needing a full break from their caring role as a regular thing or as an emergency than these figures suggest. I almost daily have conversations with carers of people with ASD/LD who are exhausted, putting off health appointments and in some case operations due to not being able to access STC. It is not always appropriate for respite at home. Older carers are getting older too which is a ticking time bomb if we don't have the resources to fill this gap.

closing so many centres will have a detrimental effect on the communities they serve and drive more money to the private sector where profit determines the level of service.

Not enough provision being kept? mental health services cut to many services and now it's in chaos LD will end the same. Social worker workload in chaos where children are not checked then being left, they end up dead what on earth does this council stand for it should be care.

No one would be prepared to look after my son in our own home due to challenging behaviours. No family member will stay with him. He needs a safe secure environment with a team of carers.

Morewood, respite you have to pay for them to stay.

No longer use these options.

I believe one thing does not suit all, having only one option for people to go to would limit them and their families which I believe would result in more breakdowns of family's units,

This would leave all support only in the North of the County

There are clearly not enough respite services that can accommodate the range of disabilities & individual needs. Fact, this is from families/carers/parents/ & social workers struggling to find the right care in the right area.

You need to consider the needs of carers who require a break from caring.

Petersham and Victoria Street although disrepair of buildings has more forward looking and respectful management

There is no point running services with over capacity - the idea to reduce to Morewood in Alfreton makes sense - it's fairly central in Derbyshire and has good transport links. If you retain other sites they will cost too much as they won't be fully utilised.

To keep only one respite centre open in the middle of the large County is made without due consideration of people long distances to access the facility. possible journey time 1 hour plus, taking the hours out of the 24-hour day charge. In addition, take into account the return journey home for carers. Also take into account weather conditions during travelling time.

Petersham works...and is local.

Your decision is already made all council services will eventually close - you are no longer offering council respite to new people!!

Not everyone can move to independent living and short breaks access is vital. That said we are not able to access and never had support since rudeness help.

The short break service could offer a real opportunity to work with people with a learning disability in a dynamic and empowering way, but yet again, as with day services, DCC are employing a slash and burn policy. It is ludicrous to believe that the PVI sector will take up the slack of respite - it is not financially viable, and the services / placements are not out there. The cabinet report is disingenuous when it talks about the number of vacancies in residential homes- these are not respite.

Closing 4 will significantly affect many people, especially Hadfield which has very little else around that could be used for short breaks. I believe there should be more available in the High Peak area, not less. Brimington centre may not technically be short breaks, but the people that go there for a period are in desperate need for some consistent support & 'rehab' to enable them to find appropriate homes and reduce their care needs. I believe this is very much needed for the future.

Although Morewood is lovely it doesn't help from a geographical point of view for families. and doesn't allow for growth which is inevitable.

it impacts on the service users, there is no crisis admissions the centres are open now before consultation and yet we are not allowed to accept but constantly getting requests which shows there is a need.

Until such time that positive efforts have been made and there are companies on the short breaks respite list, this option should not even be considered by cabinet.

-Not been intellectually thought through, the numbers don't work. Carers need provision and specialised short breaks provision by the Council.

Our son does not sleep through.

I think only having one unit across the county is naive at best. Residential services on several occasions have had to shut their doors due to D&V outbreaks, and luckily for those who have had concrete plans, there has always been somewhere else to go. Also looking at the numbers, there doesn't appear to be room given for the fact that most people want their short breaks at the weekends, or during the summer, and Morewood alone would severely limit the access to these key times.

Miles away

My Brother uses Rockley core at Shirebrook plus I don't like the idea of a stranger being in my house alone with him without a family member being there.

Any reduction in services should be avoided.

Basically, abandoning the families and other often unpaid carers putting them and their loved ones at the mercy of the private sector

We cannot even offer care workers reliably, as recruitment and retention are so poor. Changing with a view to offering more community-based support is fine in theory, but I have no confidence that it will happen in practice. It also ignores the social aspect of residential care for service users and is transparently just a way of reducing services for vulnerable citizens of Derbyshire.

Closing 4 buildings isn't good for anyone surely - unless they are empty & not being used; you can sell the property/land or you do something else more beneficial with them. You can do as suggested without closing any - being creative and innovative should be a matter of course. Selling council assets is a government squeeze on hard working people - just like council houses being sold and then not building any new ones. It's short-sighted action to a longer-term problem.

Again, disgraceful. How do you expect people to travel from places like the Peak District to Alfreton if they haven't got families to assist. And even then, the additional cost of transport. The stress of travel. The stress of new environments.

No local private resources for people with complex care and support needs

The short breaks are so important to our family. They need to be maintained.

I don't feel like the numbers are accurate as it has become harder and harder for us to support people with short breaks.

For many residents in Derbyshire, Morewood would be a long way to travel and expensive if using public transport.

insensitive ridiculous idea without thought for carers without transport to Morewood. hopefully a wheelchair accessible taxi would be supplied by DCC with an escort for the 2 x return journeys of 2 hours. The respite service hours of care are inadequate, a client paying for 2 nights actually has 2 hours less due to travel time to arrive after

4pm and the final day has to leave by 11 am meaning transport has to pick them up at 9 am.

It wouldn't affect us, but families need a break. caring is a 24-hour job.

Morewood isn't fit for purpose under this current management structure. There are far better resources than Morewood and social workers are loath to refer to Morewood given its culture of historic bad practice.

You are well aware of the need for a short break service for family's and carers. You are fully aware of issues in other county councils that all had gone private that there are not enough short break placements for respite BBC Even did a section on this. I work short breaks so I know firsthand how important to families and carers and the clients that they are able to have a short break service, have regular planned stays, know they can accommodate if there's an emergency to a place their loved.

The proposal states that Morewood would have the capacity to support 100 people and their carers. This is wilfully misleading and patently untrue. A genuine estimate of how many carers it would be able to support should be provided. I have more to say but this text box is too small. I shall continue my comments in subsequent boxes irrespective of the questions asked.

I doubt any savings would be used in the way described - just go into the general council funds.

Not enough flexibility or future proofing. This does not consider that sometimes will be more popular than other is weekends and summertime.

X's never had any respite or short breaks in 10 years caring for her

X cannot be 'encouraged ' into becoming more self-sufficient.

Life skills can't be suddenly taught to an adult with autism. They are usually unaware of danger and social awareness, this vulnerability can't be altered and expected of them and i worry dangerous situations are going to occur if the money is taken from caring for them into focusing on independent living skills i.e. expecting them to do it.

Families need to know their disabled family member is in a near location familiar to them. Also, all should provide crisis care in an environment k Disabled people should receive crisis care in a familiar environment with staff known to them so they feel safe and cared for

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Need more services.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

There aren't enough options as it is and we receive no information about any of these, we never have done.

Having only one DCC short break option is very limiting. It could potentially cause issues on the geographical location, particularly in a crisis situation. Older parents/carers are not always able to travel. It states in the report that there are 325 individuals who are cared for by people over 70. This figure will potentially rise in the future. Private providers with vacancies may not always have the expertise on handling LD individuals.

That is fine and would work well if DCC had its own pool of carers to support in an emergency - but otherwise very difficult to offer a timely response in an emergency due to difficulties in finding PA's.

Petersham is the best option for my son as the bus takes him to outlook in the morning and then goes o Petersham in the afternoon. At the end of the respite, he comes home from outlook on the bus.

Again, s3lfverteem sob, respite family carer

Morewood is not fit for purpose and even with management changes both senior and unit. It's made no difference as the manager is a puppet for the unprofessional staff. The place needs closing

My daughter used Newhall bungalow on a regular basis, once a month from 2017 as I a lone parent carer since her dad died suddenly in November 2016. This went on until the pandemic when it wasn't available as it became a COVID care centre she hasn't returned as I was told after several enquiries that it was ran more on an emergency basis but hopefully that will change giving us respite while I know she is in a safe place where staff know her well!

These services are vital to all families and carers in the county, they have been around for many years and are a vital place for adults with learning disabilities. They can come and have a holiday; they love seeing others they know when they come into the service. Employees empowering a person who comes into the service is very rewarding not only for a person with LD but also the employees that help enable this. This is known to be a very successful service that DDC provides.

Carers need access for the cared for to be in easy timescale to attend the person promptly in emergency. Not travel 30 miles from home, also person would be seen by medical professionals unfamiliar with their unique conditions.

Please open the Hadfield Road as a day centre and could provide a space for respite.

It is hard enough to get respite as it is now, option 1 would make it worse.

This is an absolute disgrace what you are proposing!!!!!!

It is not good to have only one, this gives me no choice. if it is full I wouldn't be able to go and my carers need to go on holiday without me sometimes, and if the unit gets sickness and diarrhoea they have to shut and not let anyone in

Choice....

I am sure they are all needed.

we need more local respite.

Because Morewood you have to pay for breaks

We use the bungalow, and my son loves it the staff are great it's not too far to go and it's well run.

People with autism and learning disabilities need routine and the same faces.

Distance too far from home. Time consuming to take family members 25 to 30 miles from home. Too far for family carers to get to person in respite. In emergency.

Person would be taken to a different hospital without family support. Time wasted getting appropriate medical intervention. Risk of loss of life in some circumstances.

Better than option 1 but hardly an option anyone would choose. Cuts or lots of cuts is not a consultation.

This is better than option one as would provide more beds as previously stated demand is likely higher than recorded as people have been told that the council run short breaks services are not an option. I would also propose that families in crisis are offered short breaks to ensure that they can rest, and the person can return home as at present many families end up feeling that they can no longer have the person at home as they have no short breaks and this results in placement breakdowns.

There is substantial funding for short breaks. This should be utilised by DCC, and the council should ensure that all residents, especially those entitled to short breaks, receive the ongoing and regular care they deserve.

Don't agree with closing any, but future provision for short breaks is needed! Mum of two children I need to know there is an option of short breaks when I need it! Not when they can fit my family member in. Not private as there are not enough short breaks places this is country wide! Traveling ridiculous miles to short break is not "environmentally friendly" that DCC push on us but having to travel to just one short break unit is not acceptable. I want a secure short break placement. I want to be.

Again, I'll thought out the 2 centres are miles apart and will be an obstacle for families to get their family members there in a safe and reasonable time. The time spent on return journeys for carers would be taken out of their respite time. In an emergency a carer needs to have prompt access to their family member to ensure their appropriate treatment. Respite is currently 4pm entry pick up 2, pm on the day of leaving therefore a two-day break is not even 48 hours. Add on travel time.

This is a slightly better option.

Keep Petersham and Newhall open. Morewood doesn't deserve to be open.

Poorly thought out with no true alternatives demonstrating poor leadership with little knowledge of the subject area

People want, need and use these services.

Again, we have spent the best part of 3 years trying to reinstate my Sister's respite care at Petersham centre. She used to have 28 days a year when my Dad was her carer. We've had none since I took over. We are not the only ones. You have been preventing people from going to say the demand isn't there like you did with day centres. If you carry on at this rate there will be nothing left. I wouldn't recommend anyone taking on care of a relative now as you are left on your own.

I work in 1 of those centres, I help care for the clients that stay with us. Why can't we be working to full capacity. Are we not trained in the right areas. Do we not have enough clients to fill the centres and improve the services?

I personally believe that Newhall should remain open, they have a good reputation and would always use them as opposed to other units.

The areas that they cover are such a distance that by the time the client has been dropped off it would be time to collect. So, 24 hrs turn into 18-20hrs tops respite.

Lesser impact than option 1 on some families. Disagree entirely on closing Petersham centre, which was built for the provision of short breaks, longer stays and an independent living skills programme to enable some clients to move on. Also, bungalow provision for a more independent life outside the main building but close to trained staff support. Having tried the journeys to the 2 chosen facilities in option 2 it entails a 2-hour return journey including a 30 min handover each way. both test run.

I have no strong feelings between Option 1 and Option 2

Both properties that are mentioned to be retained are both fit for use and are of near equal standard with ten beds however the bungalow offer's this all on one level with a safe place outside with the added advantage of a secure perimeter and gates which reassured parents and carers when in short break but promotes independence for clients giving them personal freedom to explore outside space safely which Moore wood does not have and in the past this has proved problematic

We need Morewood to be open 52 weeks a year, for planned respite and emergencies.

as stated in other proposal

at least this is slightly better than option 1

Local services are important.

This option appears to have more flexibility to support people, as not always appropriate in own homes.

Can the surplus beds be used for young people who are transitioning from children's services to adult care and free up the beds at Peak Lodge, Spire Lodge and the Getaway? In which case, this would excellent as there appears to be a

gap/blockage in provision for those 16- and 17-year-olds transitioning over to adult care.

Are you trying to convince us of over supply - if others close or will demand grow?

This would be the better option clearly. I like the idea of expanding Shared Live's also if there are enough people to deliver it of course.

The best option out of the 2 proposals but not necessarily the best option.

should be retained your proposal is not strong when meeting needs.

There needs to be provision in the south of the county as well as the north. Some users will never be independent. They will never be able to access provision in the community. For the safety and wellbeing of all concerned it is essential that Newhall Bungalow remains open to provide respite and emergency provision for these individuals and their families

See above. Short term breaks were never a priority for us except in emergency situations.

I have only work for DDC for a short time, however within this time the people I have met has only had praise about how the bungalow works for their family members.

This would keep capacity higher and give a spread of support across the county. It has taken many months/years for adults to get used to these facilities and become familiar with surroundings. Traveling long distances is difficult if they become distressed. Would require funding of specialist travel options to transport i.e. minibuses. which should be taken into account if only one establishment. If maintenance was required and only one building as in option 1 all provision would be lost/.

It's good that the council recognises there is still a need for short term breaks, but will it be enough for all users in future. There is growing demand for SEN services meaning that in the future there will probably be a larger requirement for services in the county as these people become older.

Although I don't totally agree at least this option leaves a service in the south part which is very much in demand. Older parents, parents who have ill health cannot travel. Some LD require the security the bungalow provides which gives peace of mind their loved one is safe. It is also a smaller environment which many find easier to cope with. Staff have proved undoubtedly; they cope well under pressure & are adaptable not only with the COVID years but with clients that were refused by other providers.

Morewood is a totally dysfunctional centre. Staff are very disrespectful. They outed the best staff, and the staff are very rude and not person centred. The management are totally disingenuous. If these plans go ahead then this place needs to close.

Only if by having two services this does not mean there is too much capacity as that is a waste of taxpayers money

The proposal again is a sweetener. The reference to Morewood having short stay, long stay, crisis and independent living skills training also applies to Petersham which has all plus bungalows on the land. Both the option 2 will not be acceptable to me. Newhall accessed by unlit rural roads and Morewood accessed via Alfreton area which has notorious traffic jams on the A38. Again, taking time out of respite provision for carers.

We need more respite centres locally.

Morewood is too far away, I am an elderly carer and the Bungalow at Newhall have always supported myself and my son. I feel both buildings are so important and don't think that Morewood on its own would be able to support both short term and longer-term clients along with emergency admissions on its own. It will leave no scope for future demand. Both buildings would enable this.

Services not available already and as above.

The analysis provided of bed availability is crude - there's no real thought as to the quality and content of the service and how it could be developed to be empowering and dynamic. I'm also concerned that the most complex service users would not be accepted into a redefined service - people may need more space or increased staff input. Would this realistically be available? Both options seem fairly simplistic in how they've been presented. No real depth or understanding of the LD community.

Closing 3 is better than closing 4, although I retain my position that Hadfield requires more services around the area and Brimington care is a vital part to enable people to get desperate help they require.

Same as comments for option 1

the council is not looking after people with learning difficulties and falsely states there isn't a need when in fact, we are turning people away because the council won't let us take them. they have more or less closed us before the consultation has gone ahead, they don't care about residents or staff.

The option should be amended to include Petersham respite centre to remain open. A 60 mile round trip to drop off plus handover and a further 60 mile round trip plus handover shortens the break considerably. the pick time on the last day needs to be extended to allow carers to enjoy a longer part of the day. Crisis care 30 miles away, if necessary, would leave the disabled person cut off from family members without transport.

-Again, the maths haven't been intellectually calculated, utter incompetence from DCC. -Clients and carers will be let down.

Our son needs dedicated facilities.

I strongly agree there should be two short break services AS A MINIMUM but having at least a third would be preferable, as I think it will be a struggle to accommodate the preferred dates for people, also with further distances to now be travelled one or

two night breaks will be less appealing as the check in after 3pm and out before 11 am means a very short break if you are also having to travel an hour or more in both directions

There would be no provision for anyone living in high peak.

Miles away

He does not use any of these His respite is at Rockley core, Shirebrook who care can't be faulted.

We have never been offered a short break in any of your centres.

any reduction in services should be avoided.

Better than nothing

"Focussing on independent living skills" really does translate to "We are going to tick a few boxes and then leave disabled people high and dry in Derbyshire".

Please see previous comments.

Again, how do you expect people to travel to Swadlincote from the peaks?? Public transport isn't an option for some people on the spectrum it is too stressful and would be too expensive. It's ridiculous. It's insulting. It's cruel.

The more options available, the better for our young people.

Only agreeing to this option to preserve more places for short breaks.

this is better than option one, but I do not think that this is a true reflection of needs, and we are reducing the learning disability community, feels oppressive

This is clearly cutting costs to the detrimental wellbeing of disabled people. The most vulnerable adults. Why is it it's always the disabled and elderly who have to do without the things they need.

Morewood and Newhall Bungalow are also a long way to travel for many residents in Derbyshire and would be expensive if the person/family do not have access to a car and must rely on public transport/taxis.

Although Newall added into the options the problem remains. some carers have no transport or are non-drivers. Families need local respite accessible within 30 minutes to allow maximum break. Still a 2-hour return journey traffic permitting plus handover time. Petersham centre should and could be added in to the option. It was purpose built. Clients needing professional healthcare should be open to the GP service that know them and the hospital that holds their full medical history.

Keep them all, people need them especially for crisis, if carers are poorly and there is nowhere to go.

at least Morewood and its staff culture would have to step up and be aware if Newhall was kept open.

.... Ones can be safe and know the staff. (Can you tell me why the comments box is so small! Unable to input all my thoughts) Seeing as again only giving two options two short break units are the better option, as we need to accommodate future adults LD & their family/carers. Stop telling social workers not to inform possible clients families about DCC services and only giving private options! We recently had client & family look around to want to stay on our word of mouth from community how good.

The basis for the closure of the four Short Break Centres appears to be that "Morewood would comfortably meet the current demand of 54 people... .. with their 10 available beds." Indeed, the Cabinet Paper (Ref 1) suggests that it would have the capacity to support 100 people. This text box is too small for my comments. I shall continue my comments in subsequent boxes irrespective of the questions asked.

This is a better option but does not allow for people to still access their local communities and transport costs for carers will soar.

I don't know enough about how the system works at present, as my sister makes all the arrangements. I know that the occasional breaks she does get are a lifeline to her.

The bungalow in Swadlincote is the only respite centre run by the council in the whole of South Derbyshire, an area growing at a rapid rate and greatly needed for breaks for people with all disabilities also as a place for emergency care for all carers.

Option 2 is better than option 1. However, it is cuts!

My 34-year-old autistic son X has recently began respite/short break at Newhall Bungalow which is in the village where we live which enabled our eldest son to visit daily to help with X's anxiety as he's never been away from home other than with family in 34 years. Newhall Bungalow staff were unbelievable and so supportive to not only X but to us as well. The facility has allowed my husband and myself to go on holiday with peace of mind for once.

Need to retain more. Too much distance to travel if either are not nearby. Confused why crisis care is not offered in either. Crisis care means disruption for the client, and they would need intensive support to understand the need to be away from home. Petersham needs to be retained, it was purpose built to give local residents short stay, long stay, crisis and independent living skills training.

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Need more services.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

I strongly disagree with the closure of any of the short breaks/respite Centres. Having only the options of Morewood and the Bungalow, this will result in nothing available in other areas of Derbyshire. In respect to the closure of Petersham Centre, will also mean relocating the individuals in the supported living bungalows that are attached. This could be very detrimental to their mental health. Have DCC considered other options, e.g. selling the properties as going concerns or renting out?

My comments are in relation to The Outlook Centre, Petersham, Long Eaton. If short breaks are discontinued at this centre, we are keen to explore ways that Insight Community Project CIC and other local community groups could use these premises to ensure they continue to support the local community. Our proposal is that this site could be used as a shared use community hub to base ourselves and other community groups that are looking for a premises.

Both too far from home to use as incurs 2-hour return journey Inc handover time which is a necessity to discuss medication

Newhall Bungalow entails too much travel for short stay breaks Morewood is the better option for us if Petersham is unavailable.

Ke4p all

Need more services not less!

Morewood should not be the county's only option. It is not fit for purpose.

While this is the better of the 2 options it takes time for my daughter to get used to going and in my opinion needs a time to adjust with gradual integration, I'm sure we aren't the only ones in this situation as this was part of the service offered. I need to start this process again to get her used to going but with all this uncertainty I don't want to start to suddenly have to stop again.

Services need to stay as they are or improved not reduced.

Wrong locations. Morewood 30 miles away, using nightmare A38 plus add on handover time for medication plus nightmare journey home negotiating A38 M1 island, due to traffic congestion. 2hrs 30 each journey. Newhall similar rural roads unlit in the dark, same time frame with the aggravation of the facilities expecting clients to be picked up before 10 am in some cases. The last day respite instead of 24 hrs would be less than 14 hours. Hardly a useful short break. Petersham needs to be retained.

Providing a place for and adult with learning disabilities that is safe and caring away from their home, and providing support for those families who provide 24hr care.

It is hard enough to get respite as it is now, both options would make it worse

You DON'T appear to grasp the current situation that families face!!!!!!!!!!!!

This better but still probably not enough

Choice...

Should remain open.

I am sure they are all needed.

parents want local respite facilities.

We will not get a short break due to stress of time-consuming journeys. Not relaxing.

This will highly limit our ability to socialise with our friends and families due to not having any access due to distance. This highly limits our ability to live independent lives.

Future when children are old enough to use adults' short breaks. I do not want people coming into my home to provide care if I go away or needed to go hospital.

We are currently looking at respite options. There will not be choices as there should be.

No short breaks! Not acceptable to be approx. 20to 30 miles away with a journey of 90 minutes. If family have no transport available a wheelchair accessible vehicle with passenger escort would be required.

It will directly affect myself as an employee for the council and in turn affects my family.

May need short breaks in the future.

We have 28 days respite at Morewood - planned. In emergencies - when we have been in hospital, we have also had to use it, unplanned.

As a frontline worker I will be asked to implement a policy that I do not agree with. put our family into crisis without the support.

We are currently looking at respite.

Loss of a good service

Devastating to mental health of carers. Huge issues for emergency provision.

could possibly be left with no job.

Unable to have respite as travelling distance and taken years for our son to become familiar with surroundings. If becoming stressed in unfamiliar places can cause seizures.

In the future when I am older, I might not be able to car for my son as I do now. Services have to be in place for future users, my son cannot be left home alone as he would not cope.

Personally, no job no income for my family.

Various associations

limited day services and no respite breaks for the family who are not in a position to travel extra miles for respite.

Petersham is our lifeline.

Always used the Bungalow, staff are fabulous, Morewood Home is too far for me to travel, my son loves it there.

All council closures will affect everyone, they will need to travel much further away from their homes, but because many of these people are non-verbal then that's easy for the council to implement.

We can't access support already this will likely make it worse

lost jobs no respite etc etc etc

after 3 years without a short break the local centres are a necessity to enjoy the breaks knowing the family member is being cared for by trained staff that have been known to them for many years.

We use this service, and need the flexibility and reliability, there are certainly not enough shared lives carers to use.

No place within miles

If you don't use Shirebrook

Again, we have been looking at options to help provide us as a family a little break as carers and give my brother opportunities to socialise with others and learn from others.

Limited capacity for specialist care and support, including hoisting and other moving and handling care.

Distance for carers to travel to find a suitable respite resource. It is likely that carer fatigue and family breakdown could be a risk factor.

Our son has recently started short breaks at The Bungalow, therefore keeping this will benefit him to progress to supported living.

No short breaks. Arriving at either of option 2 after 2-hour s minimum journey arriving at 7pm in the evening, with pick up by 11 am on the 2nd day, arriving before 11am cuts the 48 hours break down to 38 hours. Too stressful. Petersham 20 minutes return including handover of medication etc.

As for day services I have two children living with LD, I know how well trained & safe they would be in DCC short break services.

We make use of the Petersham Centre for short break provision.

If the service is withdrawn, life would become even harder for the Beard family.

My son does not cope well, being taken out of routine and would not accept another service easily.

If Newhall Bungalow closes, we will limit be able to go on holiday as our son needs to be close by to enable him to go to his day centre and go out with his PA whilst we're away. Also to have the support of his brother who lives up the road.

If i need support as a carer- hospital break etc.

Distance to o travel. Not every carer can drive or even have a vehicle. Taxis are expensive especially if the respite is a 50-mile return journey.

Less opportunities

Whilst I acknowledge that Petersham is only a short stay/respite centre, it will mean a sudden urgency to relocate my sibling. Finding a suitable long-term placement is proving difficult to find in the local area, with vacancies appearing very rarely.

If Petersham and Outlook are not an option, it will mean a lot more travelling for me + son.

Job wise

I think the need for respite is invaluable for full time carers weather in emergency or short breaks and familiar people and surrounding make this much easier on the client and therefore the carer.

Distance and lack of transport on occasions. A short 2-day break with travelling time taken out and the stupidity of the suggestion the 48 hours fees will in fact be 38 hours. carers having to leave 2 hours + before pick up.

If my carers are going on holiday and the unit is full on some of those days, where will I go for those days?

Please think again. Speak to the social workers, senior practitioners, enablement workers. Ask how many families they work with that actually need help,

Also consult with Social Workers, Senior Practitioners and wider support groups

Once these services are gone and the private sector gets too expensive or neglected in the long run the cost will come back to the council.

Massive impact. No thought by councillors on the impact the closures will have on carers and the family members.

Fund it properly and stop cutting everything. Disabled people are continually easy targets.

Please do the right thing!

Why are the boxes not allowing enough to put my views across? We need more short break units not less! Provide correct information and make finding services easier to find. To continue to work with families to ensure contingency plans in case of emergencies and on placements that the family member know.

Give people local services appropriate to their needs.

Massive impact as the proposal to keep only 2 open a good distance from home is thoughtless. To close Petersham which was built with what is suggested Morewood has. Short stay. Longer stays to prepare for new placements and a section for training to live independently. plus, a small number of bungalows for people to live independently with supervision from Petersham staff. Rethink spending the £700k on Morewood to house adult care workers.

Morewood centre should be er be still standing. Its staff are unprofessional, and I wouldn't send anyone there I cared about. The manager comes and shouts at people parking with blue badges in a disabled space, she is vile.

People with learning disabilities do not tolerate changes at all well. My sister would get upset at me organising respite for somewhere she didn't know so therefore it would be more trouble than it's worth.

More families will be putting loved ones into full time care as will be at breaking point so would cost council more in the long run. If carers are assisted with breaks/ daycare it allows families to care for longer and return to work/stay in work which is better for the economy.

Massive impact on carers. No opportunity to meet others outside the family. Carers deserve a life outside of caring and it would be no life taking 4 hours out of each respite stay travelling to and from venues. Currently respite stay locally is 4pm on day of arrival an 2pm on pick up day.

Currently my brother does not need the provision of short break services, however I can relate to families who this will have a great impact on. Families who have no break are at greater risk of mental health conditions because of lack of support to enable them to have some form of break or respite from caring for their family member. I know from experience how exhausting caring for someone with a LD can be, I was only 15 when my mother passed and without the day centres and support from DCC I would not have coped. These services are a vital support for families who are already at breaking point. Consider the long-term effects of the removal of these services on the carers and families, depression, social isolation, reduced support.

Once again, a dcc council conservative run service is shutting provision and getting rid of staff! through its own bad management of the budgets.

Waste of time me filling this in

Starvation of service, where are all the 70 to 80 beds provision in private care? who will be responsible when the first incident creates mayhem?

Without short breaks at the Bungalow, we would really struggle.

These services need to be in place for future users who are presently children and have parents who are not yet in need of help but might as time progresses.

Unless you work on the 'shop floor' directly with these people, the damage & loss cannot be appreciated. Learning disabilities have already lost valuable lifelong communities that played a vital part in their life & are becoming more isolated than ever.

Over the last few years services for people with learning disabilities have been slashed and slashed. You are targeting vulnerable people who cannot always recognise their own needs or self-advocate.

If DCC is about integrity and respect, then Morewood needs to close.

Again, proposals made without the decision makers being involved by visiting the various locations and observing the needs of clients. more than 2 years without a day service and then restricting access for most, PLUS 3 years without any respite until limited access allowed.

Waste of time and money you've already made your minds up.

Please save both Homes to meet demand of current and future needs.

This process should not be happening, !! You should have left the day centres as it were.

Cuts to the most vulnerable are appalling. I recognise government is cutting but we should be rallying against and cutting the waste i.e. expensive commissioners and convoluted council processes not services to people!

Stop cutting vital services for vulnerable people.

To state that due to hospital/ emergency you would provide respite within their own home. This is nonsense you can't recruit or retain staff to the roles within the council now.

you are all scheming lying two faced council members who have shut us before the consultation!!

cabinet should reconsider their decimating cuts to services and reconsider the cruel decisions they have made.

Only drive the need for more full-time care as families won't cope.

Making decisions in isolation is dangerous and doesn't consider the wider determinants that impact on people lives. Closing children centres, stopping awarding grants, closing day centres, reducing early help services, getting rid of youth services etc etc. This has all happened under this administration.

Again, disgusted by the proposals. The high peak in particular will suffer most from these and I am appalled, this is truly cruel.

We just need to have that guarantee that the short breaks are going to continue and that we will still be able to access as and when we need it.

Refer back to transforming care to reevaluate the proposals with people with complex needs in mind. Ensure elected members have complete copies of all consultation responses.

People i represent deserve far better than DCC s offering of Morewood. You just need to look at its background.

The impact would be huge for the clients and their carers, you will find it worse than during COVID that we found many families reached crisis points as no breaks & had relationship breakdowns and having no option to stop caring duties & pass dependant onto the county council. Safeguarding.

I found the Paper presented to Cabinet on 11th April to contain much in the way of disingenuous and mis-leading information. If they accepted it at face value, it would give Members an incorrect view of the proposals and their impact on users. The statement that "Morewood would comfortably meet the current demand of 54 people... .. with their 10 available beds" is the most striking example, but the paper also makes statements (on the availability of opportunities for example) that simply do not apply to those users, with most complex needs, who currently make use of DCC Day Centres. In addition, the financial basis for the anticipated savings is not presented, the relative savings of the options are not given, the associated costs are not explicitly included and the potential for knock on cost increases is not recognised. Cabinet should be provided with this information to allow them to make informed decision regarding the proposals.

Please keep all of these services open so that people can use services in their own community.

Your cuts, DCC may set a national precedent.

You can imagine our whole family's disappointment when we've waited 34 years to start using your short break service to discover it may be taken away from us? My husband and myself are now retired and both 67 and think we deserve a couple of holidays where our son is looked after and safe? If Newhall Bungalow closes this stop us doing this and therefore will have a great impact on our lives and future.

I am a carer to my autistic/ disabled son, I very much want to learn more about the changes and would like to help if possible. my son is 27.

Massive impact with Adult Care taking the hit due to overspending on unsuitable investments. For several years an extra charge has been put on taxes which should have been used on care services. Disabled people and their families badly let down by their elected representatives.

None of these services should be stopped. I speak as a Health and Social Care Professional Trainer.

Need more services.

Nothing should be closed down; more places should be opening to cater for the growing numbers of people who need support.

There is potential for any private provider to increase their fees which will mean more costs for DCC in the longer term. I would suggest that DCC are very short sighted with all the proposals and could result in a crisis for the future of care and support for people with learning disabilities.

Only fully accessible buildings with staff qualified to cater for medical needs considered.

Morewood has had a very chequered existence. It's staff alone let it down. It's time to privatise that building and let it be the best.

I feel apart from the fact that a lot of their places are purpose built there is a wealth of knowledge experience and expertise that will be lost.

The impact is a short break for a lot of carers is not an option with the proposals.

This is an ABSOLUTE DISGRACE and DCC should be TOTALLY ASHAMED of their proposals!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Just starting to look at options for our son.... we want specialist staff and local

The services need and must be retained this is taking advantage of vulnerable people. In closing these centres and making changes the council is not delivering the valuing people document.

Devastating

I would like to know why you Derbyshire county council has been hoarding money for to use on the adult with learning disabilities , 17.5 million why if you had used that money we wouldn't have to do this , you lot really dint know what it's like caring for someone with special needs and learning disabilities they are humans and they have rights , it's all wrong in what your planning on doing , it's so unfair and you should be a shamed of yours by hoarding money

If you close the bungalow, he where will my son go.

No point as the council is reducing grants available to other services whilst also closing down their own and putting up council tax by 4.99%, whilst at the same time senior leadership has grown 300%. Poor management and leadership

My daughter used the Bungalow when I could not cope any longer and went into crisis. Social Services kick in – it is not always fulltime care that is needed for the Bungalow – it is also used for crisis. I had the comfort to know my daughter was well looked after – this is why it is important that the bungalow is still there for this type of care and is made available locally.

Whilst in crisis house my daughter would not answer the door if she was cared for in her own home – so this option just wouldn't work for me. My daughter couldn't have witnessed the mess I was in when I was in crisis and considering suicide.

I cannot be the only person that needs respite for my own mental health when looking after someone with autism and LD. My daughter had PDA autism – she needs additional help and understanding of her conditions. It is essential that some building based residential care that is local is available.

You get carer burnout and need these building-based respite services locally.

If you stretch the service more carers don't get adequate support and then go into crisis.

When appointing PA's language is very important.

it limits social aspect for people with learning difficulties. without them my son would become a recluse.

Shutting them would isolate the people who need them.

as mentioned before you are taking away services they need.

NONE should shut.

Stop cutting funding for vulnerable people, they need daycentres to socialise in a place they feel safe.

Some of these are not local to our needs.

Keep them all.

these services are well run and there are few places in private sector that are as good.

Again you are making cuts to a service to "save money" how about you release the money you are already saving and put it into services. People are in need of these services as it is so if you cut these services where will they go then. There are too many families having to travel out of area to receive the help they need!

I don't want private the staff aren't as well trained and most are young kids themselves.

The council have already caused severe upset and disruption to the lives of people with learning disabilities and their families, and they are being targeted again - the closure of all 4 day centres will leave these vulnerable adults and their carers with an uncertain future.

I'm aware that day centres are far from perfect, but they do provide a place for people to go who haven't got the support, resources or energy to organise other arrangements. My sister used to attend Parkwood day centre a few days a week but we felt as though it wasn't a good use of her time and that the activities and support provided there was inadequate. She now attends other community projects which are far more appropriate for her. However, it took a lot of organising and was exhausting for all of her family involved as well as being stressful for my sister who

struggles with changes in her routine. We have received no support from community connectors.

This is the final part of a 5-year plan to withdraw in house services for people with a learning disability/autism. 2020 started to decimate services for the most vulnerable people.

Without these day services my son will be isolated again and lack the social interaction that is so important to help build his confidence and for his won mental health and wellbeing, the council have already put us through hell last time these closures took place - now they have readjusted to the changes they want to turn these vulnerable adults world upside again - offering no security on what is next - there is lack of PA's in the community and no information has been given on what services they are supposed to access once these services have gone

It would be incredibly cruel and wasteful to close ALL of the day centre properties when people rely on them so heavily.

Alderbrook was a thriving community for many people, which is sadly missed by those who are no longer allowed to attend.

Need more services There is nothing available soon we won't have any services Why bother having a council as no services just admin.

Well intentioned though it might be into suggest integrated community activities in reality adults with learning disabilities require specialist support in order to lead fulfilling lives.

Community connectors is not for everyone, people will lose friendships and confidence like so when the other day centres closed.

Closing further services will have a detrimental impact upon clients and carers. For some this is the only service they access. Many have been assessed for community-based facilities, but connectors have been unsuccessful in finding suitable placements. If the connector service is such a great success, why are clients remains within our services. Evidence proves that community-based provision is selective when offering placements, often lacking support for clients with complex and challenging needs. The cost can also be significantly higher. Data should be made available on the success/ failure rate of the connectors. Clients and carers feel that the discussions held in consultation meetings have fallen on deaf ears and the decision is pre-determined. During previous closures clients were promised that they could continue to access alternative dcc services only to find that these had been cut significantly, some clients have been restricted to 1 days service and remain at home for the remains 6 days, additional days have been requested and refused, how is this a better life!

You mention suitable and alternative provision but there is no outline of what this might look like - there is a significant shortage of PA's to support these adults in the

community and is does the Private and voluntary day services available have enough capacity and are these suitable for the adults needing to find an alternative

If day centres are closing, then the council must put in significant effort to ensure that there are good quality alternatives for adults with additional needs. It's no good having community connectors if there's nothing to connect service users with.

Outlook purpose built for ,70 plus people with various needs. No limits necessary for more severely disabled in another part of the County.

The community connector programme has been shown to be a failure - there are not enough community activities to support people with significant needs. If Parkwood closes - are you not going to do the repairs - just leave the building empty? I don't think so - you knew about the repairs when you closed Whitemoor day service - why would you not have shut Parkwood and kept Whitemore open? it's shocking is management by the council and why should the vulnerable be punished for the councils mistakes, the building at Parkwood are for the use of the people of Alfreton as per the trust. Your proposals are having a significant impact on peoples mental and physical health.

This seems like the sensible option - retain the 2 properties that are in the best condition and should therefore, been seen as valuable assets as well as being a lifeline for those who use the services they offer.

We do not want Alderbrook to close. The only reason it now only supports nine people is because DCC have deliberately run down the service since 2018. Ten years ago, it was a busy happy place. Social workers do not know whether all those previous attendees are enjoying worthwhile opportunities within the community. After all, you cannot just "magic up" safe appropriate venues or the required number of personal assistants to support people to engage in suitable alternative activities. It inevitably involves increasing the caring role of parents and other family members, many of whom are elderly.

Many attendees past and present do not want Alderbrook to close. Day centres in Chesterfield and Long Eaton are simply out of the question for people in this area of the High Peak, as this would involve journeys of two hours+++ . The reason only nine attend Alderbrook was a decision already made by Derbyshire Council in order to facilitate closure as the numbers are not sustainable to keep it open. Many previous attendees simply have nowhere to go, the nine remaining will have the same problem.

I do not want Alderbrook to close.

Need more services There is nothing available. Soon we won't have any services. Why bother having a council as no services just admin.

It is better than option one.

Retain 2-day services would allow clients who meet the P M L D criteria to access day care provision. These clients have been assessed by connectors and no suitable alternatives found within the local areas. Some local community facilities are lacking in provision such as changing places and suitable transport links. Day services could provide a more specialist service and potentially a blended service with older adults due to the closure of those facilities. The staff are highly experienced and trained, P V I sector have a high turnover of staff and feedback from carers is that they are not as good as dcc but feel this was the only alternative which was better than nothing. When considering Better lives, please listen to the clients and carers not statistics and council led opinions.

my brother attends a day service at Parkwood, he has already been moved their since Whitemoor shut in the last round of closures, having settled in and found the continuity of his new day service this yet again being put under threat

Carers tied to the house with no respite from caring. Unable to work which is breach of the care act.

My son attends a day centre, he previously attended white moor before you closed that - he started to attend Parkwood, during the transition his behaviour changed, he became more anxious and lost is confidence, his behaviour became more challenging, and his seizures increased putting his health at risk. Now he has settled into to his new routine, - you want to put us through this again, without any thought as to what the mental and physical impact this will have on the service users.

Parents of the service users are both in their 70's and therefore having no support at all would have a negative impact on both their physical and mental health. Life is hardly a walk in the park on a good day and taking their only lifeline away would be nothing short of cruel for everyone involved. There are other 'private options' but we do not believe these to be suitable.

You are proposing to close Alderbrook where our daughter attends two days /week.

If Alderbrook closes our daughter will have nowhere to go for the two days she attends currently.

You propose to close Alderbrook.

I work at one of the centres, it is my livelihood.

Job losses or forced into career change.

as yet there has been no additional information provided by the council - information via letters, meetings with staff and open and transparent support and communication would be a start.

For the council to provide open and honest communication - we all objected to the closures last time and you still went ahead. We fear it likely this will be the case again and this consultation is just a tick box and you are not considering the needs of

individuals with significant needs that cannot just access opportunities in the community - you have never said what the alternatives are

We have never heard from Community Connectors and very rarely hear from our Social Worker. Perhaps start there?

Why has our Social worker not informed us of additional support?

Provide list of all alternatives and what level of care they provide and at what costs.

Following council closing eight Day Centres leaving open the remaining four, I'm sure you'll appreciate the anguish that this caused and in particular the stress and upheaval for the adults using these services. During the first consultation concerns from the parents, carers and public were ignored - now these vulnerable adults are being targeted again, in what is a cruel and heartless move by the council, once again turning Service Users worlds upside down. These proposals have continually been contested, but our concerns are ignored. Now the service users have settled into their new day centres and routine and we are being told that yet again their security is under threat. The day centre is an important part of ensuring this vulnerable group of people are not socially isolated and are also safeguarded. It is more than simply a 'building-based service'. This is extremely worrying and adds to an already very stressful and challenging situation given the strain we have all been put through from the last consultation and closures where a decision was made which ignored the needs of service users and their families. The council also states that there is under provision in some day centres, this is because many adults who used to attend the centres are no longer allowed to if they are living in supported living or residential care. Post-COVID many service users' attendance days were reduced and have not been allowed to be increased again. The council is keen for service users to access the community connectors to find them 'interest in the area where they live', however, they are unable to state what this provision looks like - Like many service users who access these day centres my brother's particular needs require that he has 1-1 support at all times – he is unable to communicate and is reliant on us for his basic needs. Her comments lack any insight. I feel as a cabinet member representing adult care, Natalie Hoy does not fully appreciate the specific needs of individuals and DCC taking a blanket approach to provision without any consideration or care for the impact this will have on the most vulnerable members of society. The situation we are left with if the centre closes is a lifetime of uncertainty - the council are encouraging people to use PA's (personal assistants) there is a huge shortage of these and could not be relied on to provide continuity of care, private day services are limited - despite the council being aware they simply do not care - they just want to wash their hands of these vulnerable people. The community connector programme has a number of flaws and has been shown not to be an effective in supporting people with learning disabilities, - this is just another example of a waste of time and money from the council when these resources could be put into a system that is already working for most people. Whilst we all know about the budget constraints all councils are facing partly thanks to the lack of the previous conservative government funding but there has also been a mismanagement of the

DCC budget for years - once again it is those who are the most vulnerable in society who have little or no voice or any advocates who are continually punished and made to suffer by these decisions. This group have already been targeted with constraints and closures it is not fair that they are being faced with this again.

Next to no day services in the community to facilitate people with medical needs.

I strongly oppose these proposals, the impact it will have on my son's health and wellbeing will be devastating, including my own as an older carer, you have no care or compassion or understanding of what it is to be a parent of someone with significant learning disabilities and the challenges and battles we have had to face all through their lives just so they can access basic social support, now as they become adults you want to continue with this uncertainty - shunted from service to another without any respect for their human rights or wellbeing.

My brother has been a service user at Outlook for over 20 years and has built up the most wonderful bonds with the staff and his peers. Equally as important when you have the severe needs that he has, is that he is happy and comfortable in his surroundings at the day centre. Outlook really is a lifeline for the whole family and is essential in the wellbeing of both my brother and our elderly parents. He can get incredibly anxious in new surroundings and with new voices (he had very limited sight) which he finds distressing. Believe me, I do understand that the council needs to make essential savings, but I don't believe that neglecting some of the most vulnerable people in society is the best way to achieve this. The home of outlook is purpose built and therefore holds everything that the service users need. Its would be wasteful to lose such an incredible resource. What concerns me greatly is that if Outlook closes, our needs are assessed, and the only suitable option is a private day centre that is already at capacity.... What happens then? Both my brother and my parents are left with absolutely no support at all. And even if it wasn't at capacity, it's a tin-can industrial building with no windows and no outdoor space – is that environment good for anyone's mental health? Would you be allowed to work in those conditions? We experienced what life was like without Outlook during the Covid pandemic and believe me, we don't want to be in that situation again! Please do what is right for those who rely on the service so desperately, I know we aren't alone in feeling this way.

Your Adult Care team have admitted that there is a shortage of suitable carers/personal assistants. This sector struggles to attract and retain staff. Without support workers adults with learning difficulties are stuck in their supported living settings or at home. It's critical for our daughter to retain mobility. At Alderbrook she's able to use her walking frame in the buildings and grounds and she will really miss this vital part of her physio.

It is of great importance that our daughter remains mobile by using her walking frame, Alderbrook provides that opportunity. A group social community is also needed.

You're thinking about your pockets. Not the interest of others. You will still get your big bonuses. Shame on you.

More families are starting to struggle due to lack of provision, closing services will add to the pressures leading to crisis for some. There are clients with no allocated social workers so therefore feel abandoned.

Wrong decision to only keep 1 respite centre for the whole of Derbyshire. Some people not suitable for shared lives never mind facilities in shared Lives carers homes. There is no mention in this consultation that all crisis care will be at private care homes mainly in the Chesterfield area. Totally out of the question if a carer does not drive.

cruel to have no resources available to those who need it. Although we don't use short breaks on a regular basis, we've had to fall back on them twice in emergency situations.

Did not know these places existed.

If coming from a house with only a few residents, then being placed in a large building with lots of new people would be very overwhelming.

Newhall needs to stay. It is the only service available in the south of Derbyshire.

Wrong choice of Newhall, out in the sticks with no community facilities nearby and journey through unlit rural roads. Petersham purpose built for short stay, long stay and crisis care, in the middle of community facilities.

There needs to be something on offer - independent living isn't an option for everyone!!

Better to keep at least the capacity of two homes. Neither particularly serves the High Peak area

Had we known about it Glossop would have been the only viable option, as for the two you suggest keeping open they are of no use to those living in High Peak.

keeping two homes open is a better option, this is a much-valued service for vulnerable adults and parents need the respite time

Need more services There is nothing available Soon we won't have any services Why bother having a council as no services just admin

Better than option one

Retaining the 2 services would allow for provision across the county, some elderly carers struggle when transporting clients to locations that are miles away. Many clients are familiar with the services already provided, pvi short break provisions are minimal and not always offer suitable care packages to those clients with complex care needs. Data of costings should be made available as a comparison for dcc and pvi settings as this continues to be taxpayers money.

Newhall needs to stay. I have spoken with Sandy Bull today and she has written my concerns down.

Keep services local.

Definitely a decision taken without thought for disabled people and their carers. Some elderly.

Should be easily available for those who need it. These are some of the most vulnerable members of our society do what is right for them.

Our life is difficult as it is, no short break would make it impossible.

The loss of some short break units will add pressure to carers, there will be less availability and clients may find changes difficult.

Those who work at The Bungalow are kind and compassionate people. They don't just help to take care of the residents, but also of the carers. Please read the notes that Sandy took down. It is imperative that The Bungalow stays.