



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**DAY SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH  
CLLR G CAPLE, CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

**Author: Neil Elliott, Director of Social Services**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to make recommendations with regards to the future delivery of the Council's day services for older people.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Consider the information provided in this report, the Equality Impact Assessment (including Socio-Economic Duty) and Welsh Language Impact Assessment.
- 2.2 Subject to 2.1 above, approves that Trecynon Day Centre and Cwmni Dda Day Centre are combined by March 2024, and future provision is provided from Cwmni Dda as set out in paragraph 5.2 of this report.
- 2.3 Subject to 2.1 above, approves that the day service provision provided from Tonyrefail Day Centre is transferred on a phased basis to Cwrt yr Orsaf Extra Care in Pontypridd by March 2024 as set out in paragraph 5.6 of this report.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Reviewing and redesigning the Council's day service offer for older people will ensure services continue to be delivered in a way that promote individual wellbeing and independence while supporting more efficient service delivery and making best use of Council resources.

- 3.2 The proposals ensure that there will be no loss of service provision for current and future older people assessed as needing day service support. Care staff will also be relocated with day service attendees to promote a seamless transition and to provide continuity of care.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

##### **Context**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Cabinet, following a period of formal consultation, agreed a new day service model for older people that would change the current emphasis away from building based services, where the person is required to fit in with the services available, towards a more personalised service that better responds to individual needs and outcomes.
- 4.2 Implementing the new service model would enable the transformation of the service to provide enhanced day service opportunities and contribute to the development of a day service better able to meet the changing needs and aspirations of the people of Rhondda Cynon Taf. Older people with high level needs would, as now, be able to access Council run day centres to meet their assessed needs and achieve their agreed outcomes. For others, Adult Services would work with them on an individual basis to identify alternative choices that would make for a stimulating and enjoyable day. Helping older people to remain independent and become involved in social activities in their own communities are key factors in improving a person's wellbeing and avoiding social isolation.
- 4.3 As Members will be aware, from previous reports to Cabinet, the Council's Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing would provide more opportunity to provide new provision suitable for the delivery of day services for older people than currently is the case in traditional day centres. Opportunities to reduce the need for traditional segregated day centres are being created as part of the extra care development programme.
- 4.4 As part of this strategic approach, Cwrt yr Orsaf Extra Care in Pontypridd and the new extra care development at Danymynydd in Porth, include integrated day care provision that has been designed to seamlessly integrate into shared communal spaces so that the extra care residents and day service attendees are part of one community and support network and will take part in activities and have meals together at the extra care restaurant.
- 4.5 Implementation of the new day service model for older people has not progressed as expected due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, there is now a need to review day service provision for older people.

## **Current offer for older people**

- 4.6 The Council's day service offer for older people is predominantly building based and follows a traditional separated day centre model. In Adult Services, we currently operate three day centres for older people assessed as eligible for the service across Rhondda Cynon Taf; all of which provide a mid-day meal, social activities and transport to and from the centre. These day centres are:
- Tonyrefail Day Centre (Tonyrefail) provides a 5 day per week service for up to 25 older people per day. There are 64 older people currently registered at the Centre - average daily attendance is 17 people or 68% of daily capacity.
  - Trecynon Day Centre (Trecynon) provides a 5 day per week service for up to 25 older people per day. There are 34 older people currently registered at the Centre - average daily attendance is 9 people or 36% of daily capacity.
  - Cwmni Dda Day Centre (Trecynon) provides a 5 day per week service, currently limited to a maximum of 12 older people living with dementia per day. There are 21 older people currently registered at the Centre - average daily attendance is 6 people or 50% of current daily capacity. Note that the Centre has capacity to support up to 25 older people, if needed.
- 4.7 Tonyrefail Day Centre is a standalone day centre. Trecynon Day Centre and Cwmni Dda Day Centre operate from dedicated spaces at Cynon Principal Office and Tegfan Care Home respectively at the same site on Llewellyn Street in Aberdare.
- 4.8 In addition, as already mentioned above, we also have day centre provision at Cwrt yr Orsaf Extra Care in Pontypridd, which has yet to open.
- 4.9 While the Council's day centres remain popular among the people that use them and provide respite for carers, attendance at them has shown a decline over recent years, reflecting people's choice to have their wellbeing and care needs met by alternative means available within their own communities.
- 4.10 In October 2016, 215 older people were registered at the Council's day centres and average daily attendance was 56 people. In October 2023, just 119 older people are now registered, and average daily attendance as reduced to 32 people, a reduction of 43%. All day centre sites continue to be underutilised.

- 4.11 Over a prolonged period, demand for day centre provision for older people in this sort of traditional setting has been declining across Rhondda Cynon Taf. Increasingly, people are choosing other models of care to meet their individual needs, including outreach support work. This way of working is far less dependent on building based routines and is supportive of people accessing universal services reconnecting people to their community.

## **5. REVISED SERVICE PROPOSAL**

- 5.1 Based on the information in Section 4 above, there is a need for Adult Services to redesign its day services provision for older people, ensuring it continues to meet assessed and changing need, in more cost effective and efficient ways, in line the overall requirements of the Council's day service model for older people.

### **Proposal 1: Trecynon and Cwmni Dda Day Centres**

- 5.2 Both these centres are located on the same site on Llewellyn Street, Trecynon and continue to be underutilised. It is therefore proposed that both centres are combined by March 2024, and future provision is provided from Cwmni Dda Day Centre, thereby increasing opportunities for socialisation and activities between individuals accessing services while achieving more efficient service delivery. Trecynon Day Centre will be decommissioned from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.
- 5.3 Cwmni Dda Day Centre is favoured over Trecynon Day Centre as it has a large unused room that is not currently utilised and therefore has capacity for more day centre attendees, up to 25 older people. At Cwmni Dda Day Centre, individuals will also have access to sensory gardens, horticultural opportunities, more accessible spaces, and enhanced use of outdoor space.
- 5.4 If Proposal 1 is agreed:
- it will involve no change to an individual's level of care and support they receive. Care staff will also be relocated with them to promote a seamless transition and to provide continuity of care.
  - it could cause some disruption to the day time support of the current attendees at both day centres during transfer. Any such move would require careful management by staff from both centres.
  - officers will contact all current people registered at both day centres and their families to discuss the proposal with those directly affected and provide additional support and, if necessary, a reassessment to ensure their needs will be appropriately met.

- staff structures will need to be reviewed and any potential employment implications for staff will need to be consulted upon prior to any change in service.

## **Proposal 2: Tonyrefail and Cwrt yr Orsaf Day Centres**

- 5.5 Cwrt yr Orsaf Extra Care in Pontypridd includes a new integrated day care provision, with daily capacity for up to 25 older people – the same as Tonyrefail Day Centre. This new provision, not yet opened, offers state of the art facilities, as part of the wider extra care facility, to support people with a range of care and support needs and provide them with a more suitable and social environment to increase opportunities for socialisation through joint activities with residents, accessing the cinema room, hair and beauty services, gardening opportunities. Cwrt yr Orsaf provides a much better location to access the community outreach opportunities, providing a more flexible base to further opportunities to increase individual outreach work in line the Council's new day service model approved by Cabinet in September 2019.
- 5.6 It is therefore proposed that the day service provision currently provided from Tonyrefail is transferred on a phased basis to Cwrt yr Orsaf in Pontypridd by March 2024, enabling people to experience an enhanced range of day care support opportunities based in a modern fit for purpose building that will enhance their wellbeing and independence, and promote an outcome focused based service. Tonyrefail Day Centre will be decommissioned from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.
- 5.7 If Proposal 2 is agreed:
- all people registered at Tonyrefail Day Centre will be offered to transfer to Cwrt yr Orsaf or be supported to utilise different methods of achieving what matters to them, including access to outreach provision and/or direct payments to provide outreach home based support, where safe to do so in line with assessed needs.
  - each individual and their family will be offered the support of a social care worker or advocate to provide support and facilitate the move. Care staff will also be relocated with day centre to promote a seamless transition and to provide continuity of care.
  - the transfer of services from Tonyrefail Day Centre to Cwrt yr Orsaf and the decommissioning of the Centre may cause anxiety for individuals who currently access the service and their families. Officers will contact all current people registered at Tonyrefail Day Centre, and their families to discuss the proposal with those directly affected and provide additional support, if necessary.

- staff structures will need to be reviewed and any potential employment implications for staff will need to be consulted upon prior to any change in service.

5.8 Transport to and from a day centre is an important component of the day services offer and will continue to be provided to all assessed individuals registered at Tonyrefail Day Centre. As part of the move, transport journeys will be reviewed to ensure travel times are kept to a minimum.

## **6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed (attached at Appendix 1) reviewing the impact of the proposed future delivery of the Council's day service provision for older people, as recommended in Section 2 above.

6.2 The recommended proposals have some disproportionate impacts on people who are older, have disabilities, are carers, and are staff. Adult Services will take account of the challenges which affected individuals, their families and staff may face, both in terms of participation in engagement activity and in ensuring that the impact of any changes are mitigated as detailed in the impact assessment, if they are to be implemented.

## **7. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 A Welsh Language Impact Assessment has been prepared (attached at Appendix 2) and confirms there are no negative or adverse Welsh Language implications associated with implementing the recommendations set out in Section 2 above.

## **8. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

8.1 Subject to the agreement of the recommendation in Section 2 above, Officers will contact all people registered at the Council's three day centres and their families to discuss the proposals with those directed affected and provide support and arrange, where necessary, a re-assessment to ensure their needs will be appropriately met.

8.2 In addition, appropriate consultation will also be undertaken with all staff (and their trade union representatives) potentially impacted by the proposal.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

9.1 Subject to the agreement of the recommendations in Section 2 above, this proposal could generate an estimated revenue saving in a full year

of around £140,000 and this would be ring-fenced and reinvested back into the Adult Services budget enabling the Council to maintain these essential care and support services.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

10.1 The Council's day service for older people is provided as part of the Council's service offer to meet assessed needs under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, but it is not a specific statutory provision.

10.2 Subject to the agreement of the recommendations in Section 2 above, all individuals affected by the proposal will continue to be offered support on an individual basis ensuring their assessed needs continue to be met in line with our statutory obligations.

## **11. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELLBING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

11.1 This report supports two of the Council's corporate priorities, namely:

- People - promoting independence and positive lives for everyone.
- Living within our means - where services are delivered efficiently to achieve value for money for the taxpayer.

11.2 In addition, the report considers the following Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 wellbeing goals of: A Healthier Wales and more equal Wales.

## **12. ELECTORAL WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 This applies to all electoral wards.

## **13. CONCLUSION**

13.1 It is important that the Council reviews its adult social care provision to ensure its current care and support offer continues to meet assessed need while addressing ongoing challenges resulting from changing demand and budget pressures. Through the implementation of recommended proposal in Section 2 above, Adult Services will continue to meet assessed need through alternative care and support arrangements, whilst providing more efficient and effective service and contributing to the Council's budget strategy.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

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**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Background Papers**

Cabinet – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Community Services Scrutiny Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023

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