

Recap of Proposals

1. Children and Families Resource Centres

Working with the Children and Families Service, a specification for the County Wide re-provision of Children and Families Resource Centres was developed. These were to be provided in the North, West and South of the county and were to replace accommodation that was extremely poor and expensive to maintain but also to support a new operating model. The service led the specification and the detailed design for the new facilities which provide a functional yet homely setting in which children and young families, in times of great stress, can build relationships with each other with the support of education and care specialists.

2. Learning Disability Community based facilities

In support of the 'Better Days' programme a network of core facilities, supplemented by community based provision, for use by vulnerable adults was proposed. Whilst the majority of these will be provided by the campus programme, there was an urgent need to establish some centres ahead of this. Proposals were brought forward for Chippenham and Salisbury which have also released valuable sites for disposal.

3. Children's Homes – Complex Needs

It was identified that the lack of an 'in house' facility was creating a pressure to accommodate some children in Out of County placements which, in the longer term, can undermine the locally based social, educational and family networks that are essential to their general wellbeing. The proposal in December 09 was to develop two small (three to four bed, one in the north, one in the south) residential units to reduce this pressure.

However, the DCE working group have subsequently set a new strategy for creating local placements with young people and they have achieved success in reducing the numbers of young people requiring residential placements in the county. It was therefore identified that, in the South of the county, there is no longer a need for separate residential provision.

The working group also continued looking at the specification for the service and have developed an enhanced model that will provide a dedicated support centre rather than a residential facility – the "Aspire Centre". The centre will support children who are estranged from their families and for whom without specific intervention, reunification will not be an option. The centre will target the most vulnerable young people, provide a safe haven, a nurturing supportive environment. A property acquired in Melksham for the 'north' residential home can be adapted for this purpose and plans are currently being developed for this. The Aspire Centre will cost more than the indicative cost of a residential home but will be met from within existing provision for the review of the operational estate.

4. Children and families – 16 plus accommodation

The refurbishment of the pre-existing but unused Towpath Road residential unit for use by several young adults releasing their current accommodation to help reduce the overall

number of out of county placements, reducing long term costs and better preparing the individuals for leaving care.

5. Youth Services

The sale of the Bridge Centre in Chippenham has been agreed subject to contract. Based on a well defined Youth strategy for the town, the arts and media functions for young people have been co-located with the new Learning Disability day service at the Olympiad. Other facilities will be provided as part of the next phase of the Chippenham campus development.

For some years the Town Council and young people in Wilton had searched for suitable accommodation for a Youth Centre. An opportunity arose to retain a small area of land on the site of the former Middle School. A modular building has been constructed on the site to fulfil this need.

In other areas, including Salisbury, the Youth Service is working closely with the Shadow Community Operations Boards to ensure the facilities they require are included in the campus programme and the 11-19 Commissioning Strategy supports this approach.

6. Schemes not now proceeding

The provision of two residential units for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is now not proceeding as a result of service redesign meaning that the flexibility of the already provided facilities can support service requirements.

The adult care service has reconsidered its approach to providing facilities for people with dementia and their carers. Proposals in lieu of the planned Dementia Cafes may come forward at a later date but are not required at this time.

7. Other priority schemes

During the course of the programme a number of opportunities have arisen and been taken that directly support the delivery of the transformation strategy:

- a. Warminster Town Council's planned redevelopment of the Assembly Rooms provided a unique opportunity to provide hot desk space and a range of other facilities for Wiltshire staff and partners to work alongside Town Council colleagues. WC contributed funding and some technical support to the Town Council to develop this successful hub facility in the centre of town.
- b. Responding to the wishes of local people, the Council purchased the Melksham House site in the centre of the town as its site for the new Melksham Campus.
- c. In line with Cabinet policy, wherever space allows, publicly accessible Personal Care Rooms are being provided which are over and above the specification for 'regular' disabled toilets. These facilities are being registered on the Changing Places website and will create a network of accessible environments for children and adults with complex disabilities across the county.
- d. The Council successfully 'broke' the PFI arrangement for Monkton Park, taking it fully into public ownership.

Conclusion

8. The progress made on the projects described above represent a significant step forward in improving and rationalising the operational estate. It also provides a foundation for the further development of campuses based on close working relationships with services,

partner organisations and local communities. It is believed that the areas delivered thus far represent the most significant property rationalisation programme anywhere in the public sector.

OPERATIONAL ESTATE – DECEMBER 09 TO JULY 12 – Indicative budget £10.4m

	SCHEME NAME	WHAT WAS PROVIDED	TOTAL INVESTED £000	OUTCOMES DELIVERED
Children's Resource Centres	Salisbury Resource Centre	Former Hayburn Wyke Guest House purchased and refurbished to provide an Independent Family suite (intensive support for families and Crisis Intervention facilities), 4 contact rooms offering functional, family settings for families to receive support, office accommodation including a hot desking room for visiting staff. It opened in February 2012.	925	The home like facilities at each Resource Centre have helped families feel safe to express their emotions and share their views about their situation. Many case studies that cite the use of the art spaces, the kitchens and the contact rooms as having a direct positive impact on the outcomes of intervention are being recorded. Ultimately the facilities and the services provided from them have helped families find the right support and living solutions, as well as providing for crisis intervention.
	Devizes Resources Centre	Melbourne House purchased and refurbished to provide 4 contact rooms, two self contained crisis intervention units and office space. A sensory garden has just been completed. Centre opened in September 2011	1,119	
	Trowbridge Resource Centre	Existing centre at Rutland Crescent was completely refurbished to provide 5 contact rooms, two self contained crisis intervention units and office space. It opened in March 2011	224	
Learning Disabilities	Chippenham Olympiad LD & Youth	New day centre opened in early 2011 in the converted studio hall in the Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park. Facilities include music and media rooms, multi purpose activity rooms, training kitchen, ICT and meeting space, large multi purpose hall. All the facilities are being shared with the Youth Service which will shortly vacate the Bridge Centre.	762	The new shared community spaces support new style of service delivery providing choice and flexibility. Services can now offer a wide range of structured and informal sessions aimed to maintain or increase people's independence, skills and quality of life as well as offering more informal choices to those who have lower support needs. The locations support work with individuals to look at how they would like to spend their time on meaningful community focussed activities or in one of the bases.
	Wyndham Road LD	The former planning office has been converted to provide temporary office space, multi purpose activity rooms and a training kitchen ahead of the Salisbury Campus proposal in order to vacate Sarum Day Centre which has been sold.	98	

Residential	Melksham Spa Road	House on Spa Road purchased and refurbishment plans and programme to create an 'Aspire Centre' are being finalised for a possible completion in March 2013	750	Plans being developed are key to the redesigning of service delivery.
	Towpath Rd	Refurbishment of existing residential facility has been completed and a lease to a provider to run the facility was signed in 2011.	49	A unique facility that helps previously looked after young people acquire skills in preparation for living independently, experiment safely with their increasing freedom and develop responsibilities associated with adulthood.
Youth	Wilton Youth & Public Protection store	Two new modular buildings on the site of the former school: Youth Services building includes meeting rooms, office, toilet facilities and storage. Public Protection building provides secure storage facilities for goods and measuring equipment, office, toilet and wash areas.	513	The Town Council and Wiltshire Council worked together to provide a new and much needed local facility for young people. Secure bespoke storage for the Public Protection teams allows them to work flexibly in the south of the county.
Other	Warminster Assembly Rooms	Funding contribution to major refurbishment scheme providing shared access to office space, meeting rooms and personal care room. The facility officially opened in February 2012.	153	The equipment and facilities support the 'work anywhere' and 'work with partners' strategies of the council and support working with communities to improve outcomes.
	Purchase of Melksham House	Purchase of site to enable development of the town centre campus plus ongoing feasibility and enabling work.	397	Successful joint working between local partners and business. Foundation for delivering the aspirations of the community.
	Purchase of Tisbury Nadder Sch	Purchase of site to enable development of the Tisbury campus	650	Total cost will be reflected in the Tisbury campus proposal
	Melksham School of Gymnastics	Grant contribution to Wiltshire School of Gymnastics, based on Bowerhill Industrial Estate, to extend its floor space by more than 30 per cent. The space will allow for an alternative gymnastics sprung floor and increase the number of areas for beams, bars, vaulting and trampolining.	400	Delivering on the council's commitment to improve leisure facilities throughout the county and, in this Olympic year, support for a locally led project which will give even more people the opportunity to enjoy exercise
	Other enabling works in advance of campus programme		226	
TOTAL INVESTED			6,266	