

Day Services for older people

Summary of consultation feedback

General

Everyone who feedback their views were against the proposed changes to older people's day services.

Particular issues and questions raised

Impact on existing service users and carers

- What would happen to existing users if the proposals go ahead?
- Any changes will unsettle and distress people!
- Will existing service users get the same level of service and number of days if the proposals go ahead?
- What will happen to weekend day care?
- Will the ratio of carers to service users stay the same in any new centre?
- What about the impact of any changes on carers/relatives?
- Many older people will not want to lose their existing carers/support workers!
- Will the quality of care under any new arrangements be affected by the increased workload on staff?
- How will everyone fit into a new centre comfortably?
- The new environment will be less personal and more institutional with more people being accommodated!
- Some people will have further to travel if either Newent or Hobkirk closes!
- How will people with high care and support needs cope with the increased travel time to any new centre?

Impact on future/new older people and carers

- The number of older people is increasing therefore there needs to be more service provision not less!
- Where would people who are not eligible for the new centre go for their day care support?
- What other centres and resources for older people will be closed in the future to save money?
- How will the voluntary sector provide services for people with lower care and support needs without extra resources?

Impact on staff

- What will happen to existing staff – will they be made redundant?

The consultation process

- The three-month consultation period is not enough and should have started earlier!
- Is the consultation genuine or has a decision already been made?

Use of resources

- If savings have to be made then money should not have been spent on the Town Centre fountain, the “Livin’ Kingston” magazine, the Rose Theatre, and salary increases for senior managers and councillors!
- Savings could be made by reducing the layers of management!
- Cuts to services for vulnerable old people are unfair and harmful!

Other

- If either Newent or Hobkirk closes, what would happen to the building?
- Why are only Hobkirk and Newent centres involved in the proposals - why not Murray House and Devon way?