

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee

Review of Day Opportunities for Adults: Initial background briefing

1. Purpose of day opportunities

- 1.1. Day opportunities can be either building or community based and offer opportunities for social connections, activities which promote wellbeing, skills development and greater independence and respite / breaks for informal carers.
- 1.2. Day opportunities are accessed by individuals with a range of needs including older people, people with learning disabilities, autism, physical disabilities and mental health needs.

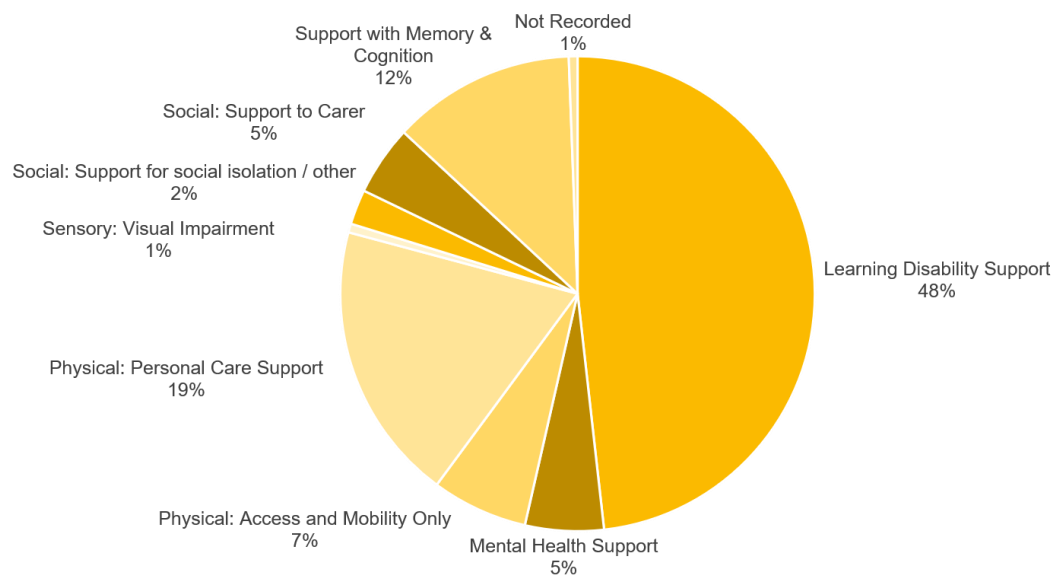


Fig 1: Primary Support Reason¹ for individuals accessing in-house and commissioned day opportunities (Data taken from Care Director, June 2021)

2. Day opportunity providers

- 2.1. Day opportunities for adults in Stockton-on-Tees are currently provided through a combination of Council run day services, Council commissioned day services from the independent or voluntary sector and support purchased directly by individuals from the independent and voluntary sector using a direct payment.

¹ The Primary Support Reason (PSR) is the standard classification used in Care Director to indicate a client's needs and allocate an appropriate professional and team. Specific conditions, such as autism, are not given as a PSR but are classed as a sub health category.

2.2. Council run services:

Name	Primary client group	Places available	Comments
Allensway	People with learning disabilities	Up to 50 places per day (pre-Covid)	Supports people with more complex health and care needs. Service is primarily building based.
Community Day Options	People with learning disabilities	75 places per day (pre-Covid)	Predominantly supports people with moderate health and care needs from 5 community bases across the Borough.
Halcyon Centre	Includes people with mental health needs, sensory impairment, physical disabilities and dementia	80 places per day (pre-Covid)	Individuals using the Halcyon Centre are predominantly over the age of 55. Service is primarily building based.
STEPs	People with a disability	Currently supporting 212 active clients and 149 clients in 'aftercare' receiving a lower level of support	Community based service supporting people to develop skills and maximise independence.

2.3. Council commissioned services:

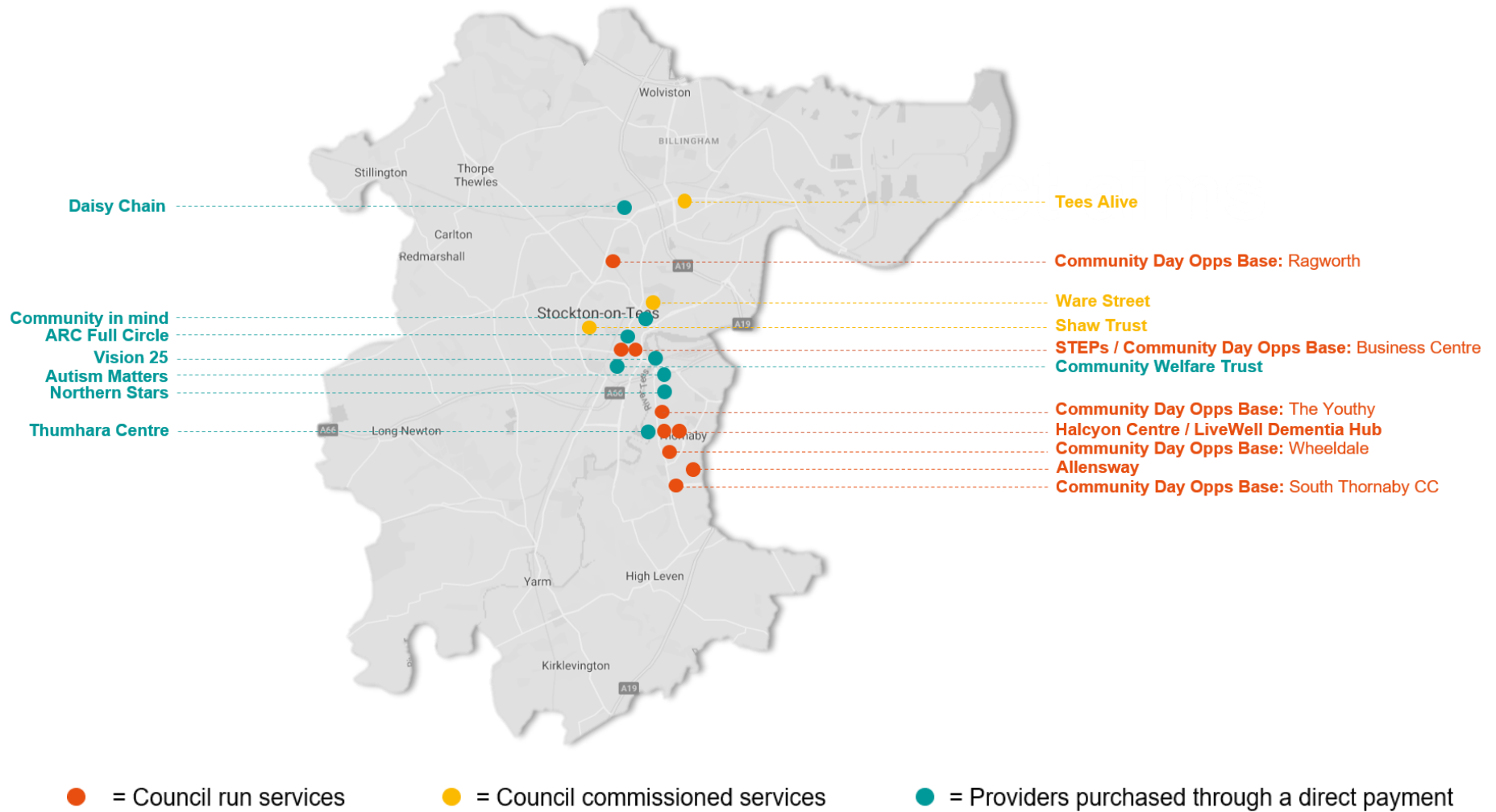
Name	Primary client group	Places available	Comments
Teesside Ability Support Centre (TASC)	People with disabilities	40 sessions per week available for SBC residents	Located in Middlesbrough. Activities are carried out both in house and externally at local colleges
Shaw Trust	People with learning disabilities	25 places per day (at 1:1 support levels)	Work focused activities hosted within in a garden centre, plant nursery and café
Tees alive	People with learning disabilities	40 places per day (pre-covid)	Delivered by Community Integrated Care. Based in the Forum (pre-Covid) with some community activities.
Ware Street	People with autism	13 places per day	Delivered by Education and Services for People with Autism (ESPA). Building based with some community activities.

2.4. Services purchased through a direct payment

As of July 2021 101 adults in Stockton-on-Tees were using direct payments to purchase day opportunities. These opportunities were purchased from 20 providers, several of these providers are out of the Borough. Outlined below are the providers used by more than 5 adults through a direct payment.

Name	Primary client group	Number using a direct payment to attend	Comments
Aapna	Older people	20	Based in Middlesbrough. Primarily supporting individuals from an ethnic minority background.
Autism Matters	People with autism	7	Providing social groups and individual support in the community.
Community Welfare Trust	Adults over 50 years and those over 18 years with a health need or disability	9	Day centre prioritising culturally inclusive opportunities.
Daisy Chain	People with autism	5	Provides group activities for young adults aged 18-30. Includes group outings.
Northern Stars	People with learning disabilities	6	Performing arts company working with adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
Thumhara Centre	Older people	15	Centre providing support for predominantly older people from an Asian background.
Vision 25	People with learning disabilities	14	Provides a programme of social and learning based activities.

Fig 2: In-Borough providers of day opportunities



- 2.5. Alongside the provision outlined above, local voluntary sector organisations also deliver social activities and initiatives that support individuals to develop the skills and confidence that can enable them to access mainstream community opportunities.

3. People using day opportunities

- 3.1. It is estimated that pre-March 2020 around 900 people were supported by the Council to access day opportunities. This includes people accessing in-house and commissioned services as well as those accessing opportunities using a direct payment. This is based on:
- 3.1.1. Data from before the pandemic shows that between 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020, 442 individuals had day care provisions authorised on Care Director.²
 - 3.1.2. In July 2021, the Council's STEPs team were supporting around 361 people (these numbers are in-line with the numbers pre-pandemic).
 - 3.1.3. Approximately 100 people were accessing day opportunities using a direct payment in July 2021.
- 3.2. Further work is required to understand the needs of younger people who are expected to transition into Adult Social Care. This includes understanding expected needs, how day opportunities can deliver the outcomes valued by younger people and the support required to help younger people successfully transition into Adult Social Care.
- 3.3. During 2020-21 work was undertaken to ensure that individuals living in residential settings would be supported to access opportunities as part of their residential provision. This work is ongoing and each person will be individually assessed to ensure their support meets their needs. As a result of these measures, the number of people accessing day services after the pandemic is likely to be reduced.

4. Costs and income

- 4.1. The table below outlines the Council's spending on day opportunities through its in-house and commissioned services in 2019-20.

Item	Cost
Gross spend	£4,855,000
CCG Funding	£841,000 cr
Meal income (Halcyon Centre)	£39,000 cr
Public Health funding (for STEPs)	£25,000 cr
Net spend	£3,950,000

- 4.2. All social care clients will be financially assessed and depending on their financial circumstances, individuals may be asked to pay for or contribute towards the cost of their care, including day services. As these contributions are not service specific it is not possible to accurately identify the proportion of client's contributions that relate to day opportunities.

² Due to COVID-19 related restrictions the number of people with an open day care provision on Care Director is significantly lower than pre-pandemic numbers. As a result, data from 2019-2020 has been used to indicate the levels of demand pre-pandemic.

- 4.3. Further work is needed to identify the amount spent on accessing day opportunities through Direct Payments.

5. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

- 5.1. In-line with government guidance, access to day centres has been limited during the pandemic with some buildings closed for periods of time and attendance only offered to those individuals who have no alternative arrangements and who would be at risk if the provision was withdrawn. Weekly contact was maintained with individuals unable to attend day services due the Covid-19 related restrictions.
- 5.2. Throughout the pandemic the Council's adult day services developed new approaches to support the wellbeing of individuals who would, under other circumstances, be accessing their venues. This included offering online groups, wellbeing calls and other initiatives designed to help people stay connected and supported.