

DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL

TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2023 AT 5.00 PM
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CROWDALE CENTRE, 218 EVERSOLT STREET, LONDON,
NW1 1BD

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MEMBERS

**Councillor Lorraine Revah (Carers Champion and Older People's
Champion) (Chair) (L)**

**Councillor Kemi Atolagbe (Learning Disability and Hidden Disability
Champion) (Vice-Chair) (L)**

Councillor Anna Burrage, Physical Disability Champion (L)

Councillor Lorna Greenwood, Mental Health Champion (L)

Councillor Sylvia McNamara, Blind & Visually Impaired Champion (L)

Councillor Jenny Mulholland, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Champion (L)

L = Labour

Issued on: 3 January 2023

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DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL

10 JANUARY 2023

AGENDA

Wards

1. APOLOGIES

To consider any apologies for absence

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

All Wards

To note the terms of reference as outlined below:

Terms of Reference and Role of the Disability Oversight Panel

The purpose of the Panel which will meet up to three times a year to:

- Discuss key issues for different groups of disabled residents that the Equality Champions have identified through their individual roles following engagement and networking across Camden during the preceding year.
- Hear directly from service users as to their experiences and any recommendations
- Hear from appropriate experts including but not limited to the Centre for Independent Living
- To support councillor Champions to be effective in their role
- Identify issues and areas of exploration to pass to the Joint Chairs of Scrutiny meeting so that key issues for those groups can be considered for regular inclusion on the agendas of the Council's formal scrutiny committees and consideration of such issues forming the basis for relevant panel work by the committees.
- Consider further individual liaison with the Chairs of the relevant Scrutiny Committee to ensure that disabled residents are

involved in the scrutiny of relevant issues on the agendas to the Council's scrutiny committees.

- Consider whether other recommendations should be made to other parts of the Council, in particular concerning decision making which impacts disabled residents
- Review progress and work undertaken during the year

Note that the Panel will seek to ensure that it provides oversight on all disabilities and not just those listed under the responsibility of the champions identified above.

6. MINUTES

To consider the minutes of the meetings held on 2 November 2021 and 8 March 2022.

(Pages 7 - 14)

7. REDUCING STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES FOR DISABLED AND AUTISTIC PEOPLE THROUGH INCREASED PARTICIPATION - REPORT OF SEPTEMBER CABINET 2022

All Wards

(Pages 15 - 26)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care.

This report was previously considered and agreed by the Cabinet of Camden Council in September 2022. It is being brought to the Disability Oversight Panel in their first meeting of the 2022/23 civic year to reflect its relevance to the Panel's terms of reference.

This report sets out plans for a whole Council approach to tackle structural inequalities for Disabled adults through partnership grant funding to two 'user-led' organisations, Camden Disability Action and The Autism Hub. The grants will provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to empower Disabled residents to reduce societal barriers and co-produce services to deliver better Adult Social Care outcomes.

8. OUR COMMISSIONED AND DIRECTLY DELIVERED SERVICES IN CAMDEN

All Wards

(Pages 27 - 36)

Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy.

This report provides an overarching view of Council services (both directly delivered and commissioned) that are relevant to the work of Councillor Champions and the Disability Oversight Panel to support their discussion and work programming. This report provides an overview of services so that the members of the Disability Oversight Panel may understand at a high level the work of the Council in various areas and request updates and further information as needed.

**9. DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL - WORK PROGRAMME FOR All Wards
2022/23**

(Pages 37 -
38)

Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy.

This paper aims support the Disability Oversight Panel in deciding its priorities and focus for the remaining meetings in 2022/23.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

AGENDA ENDS

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THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of **DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL** held on **TUESDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER, 2021** at 5.00 pm in The Council Chamber, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL PRESENT

Councillors Roger Robinson (Chair), Lorraine Revah (Vice-Chair) and Simon Pearson

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ABSENT

Councillor Nazma Rahman

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Patricia Callaghan

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of Disability Oversight Panel and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Nazma Rahman.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND ANY OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations were made.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcements:

- Since the last meeting of the Disability Oversight Panel Councillor Flick Rea had resigned as a Councillor including her role as Visually Impaired Champion.
- Camden staff member Asif Iqbal had been named on the Disability Power 100 list 2021 for his work, including being President of the Harrow and Brent United Deaf Club

- It was Disability History Month from 18th November to 20th December, the Council was organising several events for staff and residents.

4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no such business.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

6. COMMISSIONERS UPDATES

Consideration was given to the report of Camden Commissioning teams.

The report was introduced by the Head of Corporate Strategy before the Panel heard updates from community and health partners from Disability Action Camden, Camden Carers and NHS Camden Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Colin Brummage, Camden Disability Action was concerned that a campaign Camden had run that focused on role models and stories from people with disabilities, masked social injustice. The Head of Corporate Strategy said they would connect Colin with Camden Disability Network, the staff network as it was not clear if the campaign was led by them or the Council. Colin Brummage then gave Members an update of working at the Greenwood Centre.

Allegra Lynch, Camden Carers, said they had been involved in the development of Camden's Wellbeing Passport. Camden Carers supported any person who lived, worked or studied in the Borough at the time. Within Camden Carers, the Black Carers Collective, whose purpose was to support Black Asian and Other Ethnicity carers, had celebrated its first year of the group.

Members asked that Camden Disability Action and Camden Carers be involved in future meetings of the Disability Oversight Panel to help guide on issues the community were facing.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

7. FORWARD PLAN /ACTION TRACKER

Consideration was given to the report of Strategy and Change. The report was introduced by the Head of Corporate Strategy.

In their discussion of the work programme, the Panel asked that the theme of the next Disability Oversight Panel be the COVID-19 and the impact on people with disabilities. Members suggested that the meeting could take place at the Greenwood Centre.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 6.00 pm.

Contact Officer: Ben Lynn
Telephone No: 020 7974 5653
E-Mail: ben.lynn@camden.gov.uk

MINUTES END

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THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of **DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL** held on **TUESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2022** at 5.00 pm in The Greenwood Centre, 37 Greenwood Place, NW5 1LB

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL PRESENT

Councillors Roger Robinson (Chair), Lorraine Revah (Vice-Chair) and Simon Pearson

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ABSENT

Councillor Nazma Rahman

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors Pat Callaghan and Anna Wright

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of Disability Oversight Panel and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Nazma Rahman.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanking the Chair

The Vice Chair thanked the Chair for his work with the Disability Oversight Panel, he would be stepping down as a Councillor in May's election and so this would likely be his final meeting as Chair.

3. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND ANY OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations were made.

4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no such business.

5. MINUTES

The Chair proposed that the agreeing of the minutes be deferred until the next meeting. This was agreed by the Panel.

RESOLVED –

THAT agreement of the minutes be deferred to the next meeting of the Panel.

6. UPDATE ON THE TOWN HALL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Director Corporate Services.

In his introduction of the report, the Project Director, Town Hall said the project had tried to address the issues raised by the panel about the accessibility of the building and the services that would be based there.

In response to a question from the Panel, the Project Director commented that the building would have a Changing Places toilet.

The Panel commented that the experience of those with learning difficulties in other Camden buildings was that the reception area was difficult to use, they asked for reassurance that the reception area and building would be friendly to those with learning difficulties. The Project Director explained fewer services would be working out of the Town Hall than other building and so it would be quieter. Camden were also introducing more active meeting and greeting of visitors to the building. The lifts in the building would have a straightforward operation, of pushing the floor number desired. The buttons would be visual impairment friendly by having raised numbering.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted

7. UPDATE ON SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED CITIZENS IN CAMDEN

Consideration was given to the Head of Sport and Physical Activity.

The report was introduced by the Active Living Manager.

In their discussion of the report, Members made the following comments:

- Members discussed sports and activities that were available for wheelchair users.
- They thanked officers for producing information on sport and activity in easy read.
- Members highlighted the need for non-digital communication options for people who could not access or use the internet. The Senior Sports Development Officer spoke Members through the other avenues that the service used to communicate with service users, such as in person, information stalls.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

8. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Equalities and Disproportionality.

In their discussion of the report, Members commented on the importance understanding the experience of people with disabilities and how COVID-19 had affected them. They also commented that it was important that decision makers and policy creators were made aware of the experiences of people with disabilities in order to inform their decisions.

The Director agreed to come back to the Panel in the new municipal year with an update of this work.

Members also raised an issue with the functionality of Microsoft Teams and in what way it is not very accessible to those who use sign language interpreters. The issue being that in a group call the signer and not the person speaking would be visible.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

9. COMMISSIONERS' UPDATES AND ACTION TRACKER

RESOLVED –

THAT the updates be noted.

10. DISABILITY OVERSIGHT PANEL FORWARD PLAN FOR 2022/23

Members agreed to have an informal forward meeting ahead of the next Disability Oversight Panel meeting. They asked that a list of upcoming projects be brought to the meeting to inform the topics the Panel would look at for the next municipal year.

Action by: Head of Strategy

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

THAT the dates of future meetings be noted.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 6.00 pm.

CHAIR

Contact Officer: Ben Lynn
Telephone No: 020 7974 5653
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MINUTES END

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE Reducing structural inequalities for disabled and autistic people through increased participation – Report of September Cabinet 2022	
REPORT OF Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	
FOR SUBMISSION TO Disability Oversight Panel	DATE 10 January 2023
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT</p> <p>This report was previously considered and agreed by the Cabinet of Camden Council in September 2022. It is being brought to the Disability Oversight Panel in their first meeting of the 2022/23 civic year to reflect its relevance to the Panel's terms of reference.</p> <p>This report sets out plans for a whole Council approach to tackle structural inequalities for Disabled adults through partnership grant funding to two 'user-led' organisations, Camden Disability Action and The Autism Hub. The grants will provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to empower Disabled residents to reduce societal barriers and co-produce services to deliver better Adult Social Care outcomes.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information No documents that require listing were used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Tim Rising – Strategic Commissioner 5 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG 020 7974 2224 Tim.rising@camden.gov.uk</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>The Disability Oversight Panel is asked to discuss and note the report.</p>	



Signed:

Jess McGregor, Director of Adult Social Care

Date: 03.01.2022

1. CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Social Model of Disability, developed by Disabled people, states that people have impairments but that the oppression, exclusion and discrimination people with impairments face, is not an inevitable consequence of having an impairment, but is caused instead by the way society is run and organised. Such impairments will include physical, learning and sensory differences as well as 'hidden' differences, such as autism. Autism is a lifelong developmental disability which affects how people communicate and interact with the world. Autism is a spectrum condition and affects people in different ways.
- 1.2. People with impairments are 'disabled' by the barriers operating in society that exclude and discriminate against them. Such barriers include:
 - **Attitudinal barriers** – such as assumptions that people with certain impairments can't work, can't be independent, can't have sex, shouldn't have children and need protecting.
 - **Physical barriers** – a huge range of barriers that prevent equal access, such as stairs, inaccessible toilets, poor lighting, noise and poorly managed public spaces.
 - **Information and communication barriers** – such as the lack of interpreters for d/Deaf people, lack of information in different accessible formats such as Easy Read and a complete lack of understanding of people's communication needs.
- 1.3. Language is an important part of the Social Model of Disability as this reflects people's identity and the assumptions and thinking of society around them. In this report, the term 'Disabled person' will be used to describe anyone with a difference or impairment who is discriminated against in society as a result of this. How people describe themselves is a personal choice and this report acknowledges that not all people who are linked with the organisations in this report will describe themselves as Disabled. Some autistic people identify as being Disabled but not all autistic people will. There isn't a single term which is preferred by everyone.
- 1.4. The Covid-19 pandemic exposed structural and systemic inequalities that disproportionately impacted residents with a range of protected characteristics, including disabilities. The Office for National Statistics reported that Disabled people in the UK have been more likely to die as a result of Covid-19 and that outcomes for Disabled people remain significantly below those of non-disabled people, for example:
 - Disabled people had 16% lower life satisfaction than non-disabled people and felt less happy by almost 20% compared to non-disabled people.
 - Anxiety levels were 50% higher than non-disabled people.
 - The proportion of Disabled people in England who reported feeling lonely "often or always" was over four times that of non-disabled people.
 - Around 50% of Disabled people aged 16 to 64 years in the UK were in employment compared with around 80% of non-disabled people.
 - 13% of Disabled people had no qualifications compared with only 5% of non-disabled people.

- 1.5. These inequalities cannot be ignored and addressing them is a core principle of the Adult Social Care strategy for living and ageing well in Camden, “*Supporting People, Connecting Communities*”.
- 1.6. The 2011 census found that around one in seven Camden residents (14%) had a ‘long-term health problem or disability’ that limited their day-to-day-activities in some way. Of these, over 11,000 people reported that their health was, ‘bad or very bad’.
- 1.7. There is a shortage of accurate local or national data for autistic adults (who do not have an accompanying learning disability). Not all autistic people are known to statutory services or have a diagnosis, and there is a known undercount when it comes to national autism prevalence estimates. Whilst some sources suggest prevalence estimates are 1.1%, it is widely acknowledged that this is an underestimate, with some studies suggesting the prevalence rate is 2% to 2.5%. Based on this, the autism prevalence in Camden could be up to 7,000 residents, of whom two-thirds will be without an accompanying learning disability. The likely underestimation of autism prevalence from under diagnosis is supported by Camden data which shows that there has been a 56% increase in the number of pupils diagnosed with autism in 2021 compared to 2017.
- 1.8. The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Autism (2019) notes autistic people experience inequalities that include:
 - Unacceptable health inequalities
 - Risk of falling into mental health crisis
 - Risk of social isolation and underemployment
 - Risk of dying early.
- 1.9. This group also emphasise that support for autistic adults has got worse, particularly for those who need social care, over the last 10 years. They found high levels of unmet need, with 71% of autistic adults saying that they are living without the support they need. In particular, those who need ‘preventative’ support are not getting it because the services all too often are not available.
- 1.10. When autistic adults have experienced a system that they feel is not equipped to support them, we have been told that they can feel left behind, misunderstood, unheard or abandoned. Autistic residents tell us that when there is not ‘a place’ where they and their families or carers feel they can go to get the right support at the right time (in an autism informed way), smaller problems can escalate unnecessarily, causing distress and trauma.
- 1.11. To dismantle these barriers in Camden will take a whole Council approach so that any Disabled adult has equal access to health, care, housing, employment, leisure, education, and everything in their community. In line with *We Make Camden*, this report sets out proposals to work in partnership with two user-led organisations to share power with our Disabled residents to take the actions needed to address these structural inequalities. The approach will embed the action from the Council’s *Building Equal Foundation*’s plan to

encourage residents to work with us and our partners to shape and deliver the actions in our plan.

- 1.12. The first organisation that this report recommends grant funding is Camden Disability Action (CDA). CDA is a user-led organisation which aims to promote the equality of d/Deaf and Disabled adults living or working in Camden. CDA is a pan-disability organisation, and as such it is the only disability organisation in the borough that is open to all people with any impairment, health condition or difference. This includes people with learning disabilities, mental health issues, long term health conditions, those with a physical or sensory impairment and people from the neurodiversity community (such as autistic adults).
- 1.13. In 2017, CDA was awarded Council seed funding to deliver Camden's first Centre for Independent Living (CIL) and to work towards future financial sustainability using the income from the conference and meeting rooms in Greenwood. This was a new commissioning model for the Council and CDA was the only organisation who bid to run the CIL.
- 1.14. The CIL opened in February 2019 within the newly built Greenwood Centre in Kentish Town. The original vision for the CIL, co-designed with Disabled people, was for a community resource run by Disabled people, that any Disabled person can go to for information and support so that, whatever their level of impairment, they can find out the choices open to them, decide how to live, and make it a reality. The vision aligns with the Council's "Supporting People, Connecting Communities" strategy by enabling the CIL to act as a 'connector' to the services and information needed to support independence.
- 1.15. There have been a significant number of internal and external challenges that CDA has faced since the creation of the CIL. The greatest of these challenges was the impact of Covid as this completely undermined the income generation model through room bookings, whilst hugely increasing demand for support for Disabled residents.
- 1.16. With additional short-term financial support from the Council and other funders, CDA has successfully delivered a range of projects despite these challenges. CDA has coproduced a new vision and mission statement with local residents, embedding into its governance its identity as an organisation for social change.

CDA Vision: "We believe in a radically inclusive world where people with differences are never disabled by the society in which they live."

CDA Mission: "We exist to enable the Disabled community and those most marginalised within it, to lead the way in building a Camden that works for everyone."

- 1.17. This vision and mission statement have been showcased through a number of recent CDA projects that have started to shift power to our Disabled residents as part of the journey towards a more fully inclusive Camden.
 - **Inclusive economy** – an innovative approach to codesign work for Good Work Camden's Inclusive Economy project. Disabled adults with lived

experience of systemic labour market barriers were at the heart of the work including interviewing employers and employees and designing new service models with Council officers.

- **Community journalism** - A collaboration with 'tech savvy' journalists enabled CDA to set up a new model for engagement. Local Disabled people were trained to become community reporters, and to use a digital platform to tell stories which effectively highlight disabling barriers – [Camden Disabled People's Voice](#).
- **Leadership programme** – 12 local Disabled adults have been trained and supported to lead their own change projects addressing systemic barriers in Camden. One example was a project set up by six d/Deaf residents focused on barriers for d/Deaf people communicating with the Council. Initially, Council managers received d/Deaf equality training, designed, and delivered by a group member. Secondly, there was a live experiment where the Council managers directly observed the group trying to use online Council systems such as housing repair requests or trying to contact a department using Sign Video. The Council managers were encouraged to use “empathy maps” to think deeply about what they were observing. The managers observed some of the common barriers and frustrations experienced by D/deaf residents. D/deaf residents were also invited to think about the experience of Council staff to empathise with pressures and restrictions for them. This approach was effective in increasing Council managers' understanding of the problem and motivating them to find solutions. It also changed the power relationship with D/deaf residents moving from being viewed as “complainers” and from viewing themselves as unable to have any control over change, to the Council staff and residents seeing themselves as working collaboratively to solve a mutually unsatisfactory problem. This piece of work resulted in some immediate changes in the way D/deaf residents are responded to, with an understanding that written English is not necessarily accessible for BSL users, but also deeper system change, with the group now being actively consulted as the Council decides on new IT and communication systems.

1.18. The second organisation that are recommended for funding is the Autism Hub. The Autism Hub are autistic-led, formed mostly by autistic adults who provide support to other autistic adults (who do not have an accompanying learning disability) and who live in Camden and Islington. They are a small organisation that responds to a high level of need in the borough. Over the last 2 years, the Autism Hub have received a number of small short-term grants (some relating to Covid) from the Council and North Central London (NCL) NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (now the NCL Integrated Care Board (ICB)). While these have sustained the organisation to deliver significant support to autistic residents, they have not supported the long-term planning or viability of the organisation.

1.19. The Autism Hub play a crucial role in supporting autistic adults (who do not have a learning disability) living in Camden including coproduction and promoting resident led change. They provide peer support, case work, advocacy, information and advice, and autism specific counselling. Many statutory and voluntary services refer to them and reach out to the Autism Hub for support and consultation. The Autism Hub require urgent support to build

infrastructure and develop a sustainable model that has the potential to grow over time. Currently the Autism Hub's funding is fragile. The impact is that some staff are on a rolling 3-month agreement. The risk is that staff will need to seek alternative employment if more sustainable funding is not in place.

- 1.20. There are long waiting lists across services and the pandemic has, for some, exacerbated need. Often autistic adults turn to the Autism Hub as a place they can trust when poor experiences of services may have led to feelings of distrust. Autistic residents tell us that they are falling through gaps in the system and that they are entering crisis that they feel is avoidable.
- 1.21. The work that the Autism Hub has achieved locally is rooted in the principles set out in the Autism Act, National Autism Strategy and NHS Long Term plan. This work has supported individuals when barriers have presented as well as supporting the wider systemic transformational change to improve care and support for autistic people. Achievements have included:
 - An autistic-led training and reflective workshops for Camden staff. The training programme includes basic autism awareness for employees across all services and specifically supporting Adult Social Care practitioners. This is part of the Autism Hub's work to support the wider system to ensure that identity is at the heart of practice with a focus on autism and intersectionality.
 - Co-production by autistic people of statutory advocacy services to ensure these are autism informed.
 - A high level of intensive support to autistic residents with positive impacts. This has involved the Autism Hub spending hundreds of hours supporting individuals to navigate community and inpatient mental health services, to access health care, housing and other support to avoid crisis. The Autism Hub are championing autism informed practice, influencing a better understanding of autism amongst services and promoting better outcomes for residents.
 - Tailored information webinars to give autistic residents crucial information from health and care professionals, for example Covid vaccinations.
 - Examples where support to autistic residents and practitioners have ensured that autism informed care needs assessments were completed with expert support from the Autism Hub. For some people this has transformed their experience of care and support through rebuilding trust in services and experiencing placements that have been carefully matched in an autism informed way with individuals' strengths, needs, interests and personality.

2. PROPOSAL AND REASONS

- 2.1. Coproduction and the development of equal partnerships with Disabled adults is at the core of the ambition to achieve the transformational, systemic change that the Council is working towards. The Camden Health and Care Citizens' Assembly set a clear expectation that, "We expect citizens to be involved in the design of local services" and that there should be funding for groups who support people with protected characteristics. Coproduction has been the driving force in achieving all the developments set out above and it is therefore proposed to grant fund Camden Disability Action (CDA) and the Autism Hub over the next three years to embed the effective long-term partnerships needed to co-produce solutions to structural inequalities for

Disabled residents. There is still a long transformational, system wide journey ahead and a partnership approach with residents is needed to achieve the essential developments.

- 2.2. The proposed grants for both organisations will cover core costs as well as the delivery of a range of innovative projects and initiatives. For CDA the core costs will include rent and service charge paid to the Council (c. £100,000 per year). Both grants will provide funding from 1st October 2022 and will be awarded at the following levels:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Autism Hub	£141,000	£231,000	£231,000
Camden Disability Action	£150,000	£265,000	£130,000

- 2.3. The nature and reasons for the funding for each organisation is set out below. For each area of funding, the grant agreements will include clear deliverables, targets and measures.

CDA funding

- 2.4. As set out above, the financial sustainability of CDA and the Centre for Independent Living was hugely impacted by Covid and the drastic reduction in income from Greenwood meeting room hire. With the gradual return to pre-pandemic activity, the hire of conference and meeting rooms will become a significant source of income for CDA again and CDA have undertaken work over the last year to have the marketing skills, tools and systems in place to maximise the opportunity. CDA have developed an income generation plan to reduce reliance on Council funding within 4-years with income coming from three sources:
- Rental income from room bookings within Greenwood.
 - Delivering training e.g. Disability awareness, to the public and private sector
 - External grant funding.
- 2.5. As the income generated from the above strategies increases, the dependency on Council grant funding will reduce, potentially to zero if economic conditions allow. The combined self-generated and Council income will allow CDA to take forward the following key objectives:

Objective	Summary
1. Significantly increase the activity in Greenwood and income generation	To turn the CDA mission and vision into business products, unleashing the Greenwood Centre for Independent Living's vast potential to deliver activities for Disabled residents and to generate income
2. Develop CDA's Engagement and Coproduction	Provide leadership to the Council, building on CDAs current engagement and coproduction work to embed coproduction throughout the Council's services
3. Develop CDA's signposting/information	To recruit and train local Disabled people to become Disability Advice and Benefit Volunteers

Autism Hub funding

- 2.6. The three-year grant funding will allow the Autism Hub to maintain their core offer of autism specific counselling, peer support, case work and information webinars and events for autistic residents. The funding will also allow the Autism Hub to build capacity to expand and develop an autistic-led peer support offer at a rate that is manageable and led by the peer support facilitators and mentors' needs. In addition, the Autism Hub will be able to further support coproduction work with Camden autistic adults to influence autism informed service delivery.
- 2.7. Finally, funding for clinical supervision will embed autism informed clinical supervision in both individual and group settings for Autism Hub paid staff and voluntary staff. This will ensure safe and reflective spaces to think about the emotional components of the work to reduce stress and anxiety for staff and to improve the quality of service delivery to residents. From 2023/24, building on the core offer outlined above, the Autism Hub will build infrastructure through developing core roles that have a wider reach in connecting with Camden autistic residents and support the Autism Hub's involvement in transformational, across system developments to integrate with the wider work taking place.

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 3.1 Do nothing** – do not award grant funding to either CDA or the Autism Hub. This will risk the financial viability of both organisations and would significantly impact the Council's ability to reduce the structural inequalities faced by Disabled residents.
- 3.2 Award a reduced level of grant funding** – funding could be awarded over a shorter period of time, or for a reduced level. While both organisations have benefited from lower levels of funding over recent years and still delivered a number of achievements, neither has been able to develop and implement a longer-term sustainable strategy that can address the current inequality gaps at the pace needed.
- 3.3 Award the recommended grants** – this is the recommended option as set out above. CDA and the Autism Hub are uniquely placed to take on the role to deliver citizen-led change for Disabled residents. CDA are Camden's only pan-disability user-led organisation and deliver the Centre for Independent Living. The Autism Hub are the only autism-led organisation in Camden and have championed the current work to highlight the many significant gaps in services for autistic adults.

4 WHAT ARE THE KEY IMPACTS / RISKS? HOW WILL THEY BE ADDRESSED?

- 4.1 There are two main risks associated with the proposal set out in this report. Firstly, the funding level awarded to either organisation may be insufficient to meet future demand, or guarantee sustainability, if the need for services increases, or if income projections are not achieved (e.g., due to changes in the wider economy). While it is not possible to fully mitigate this risk, officers will work closely with both organisations in an 'open-book accounting' approach to get early warning of any potential issues. Part of the funding to be awarded to both organisations will be used for them to seek additional income

from external funders, or to consider other social investment opportunities. Ultimately, if funding is insufficient and extra income cannot be raised, then the ambition for change, and services delivered, may need to be reduced.

- 4.2 The second risk is that due to the current systemic inequalities for Disabled residents, there is a huge desire for quick action and impact and this may not match the pace of change that is possible. While both CDA and the Autism Hub have ambitious resident-led plans for change, these will undoubtedly take time to bring about observable change for residents.

5 CONSULTATION/ENGAGEMENT

- 5.1 No formal consultation is required in relation to the proposals in this report. As user-led organisations, both CDA and the Autism Hub are made up of and governed by a majority of D/deaf and Disabled people. As such, the plans for future developments of both organisations are embedded in the views and needs of Camden residents and all future projects and activity will continue to be co-produced with these residents.
- 5.2 The importance of this engagement and lead from Disabled residents was highlighted in a recent report from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, "Equal access: Getting it right for people with disabilities". This made clear the necessity of involving residents to ensure we can meet our duties under the Equalities Act, "*The most important learning point we highlight in this report is the duty for local services to anticipate the needs of people with disabilities in their area. This means putting the needs of people with disabilities at the heart of everything the service does, designing services with them in mind, so that their needs can be met before they even come through the door, pick up the phone or write a letter.*"
- 5.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed, which shows that the proposals will have a positive impact on our duty to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity for Disabled residents of Camden.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Decision makers must take into account in coming to any decision the Council's equality duties and have due regard to them. In summary these legal obligations require the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to the need to:
- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act (the protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership is also relevant);
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who don't; and
 - c) foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who don't (which involves tackling prejudice and promoting understanding).
- 6.2 Under the Duty the relevant protected characteristics are: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion, Sex, Sexual orientation. In this case the EIA concludes that there is no potential for

discrimination and all appropriate opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations have been taken.

- 6.3 Contract Standing Orders (which form part of the Council's Constitution) specifically refer to award of grants being outside their scope. This reflects the fact that grant awards are not subject to the procurement regime as set out in Public Contracts Regulations (PCR) 2015 and supporting legislation. Nevertheless, any decision to award a grant must be taken having regard to relevant public law considerations including (i) is value for money being achieved (ii) is the award the most effective means of achieving the Council's objectives and (iii) are measures in place to monitor performance and delivery of objectives.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Autism Hub is seeking funding to enable it to continue its work within the community. This is an annual grant award with the amounts as specified in section 2.2 above. It is expected that this project will be funded via the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2022/23. As the BCF is subject to annual agreement, this funding is contingent on the continuation of the BCF being agreed annually. Should BCF not continue, the Council is not expected to continue the grant funding arrangement. It is not expected that the Autism Hub will be self-sustaining when the 3-year period covered in this report has come to an end. There will likely be an ongoing form of financial support required from the Council if this initiative is to continue.
- 7.2 The grant will be managed by Asperger London Area Group (ALAG) (the umbrella charity) who have the capacity and ability to manage the funding on behalf of the Autism Hub. The Council while providing this grant will not be the only source of funding available for the Autism Hub. It is expected that the Autism Hub will continue to seek other funding source from other external partners such as the NCL ICB, Camden Giving and Camden and Islington NHS Mental Trust. It will also seek to enhance its fund-raising capacity. This funding will enable the Autism Hub to have sustainability while it continues planning for impending growth as demand on the service is expected to continue to rise.
- 7.3 To enable adequate governance, the grant will be monitored quarterly. This will include a review of finance and activity data alongside the use of KPI's to determine its effectiveness.
- 7.4 Camden Disability Action is seeking funding for development and continued operation of the Centre for Independent Living. This is intended to be an annual grant award as specified in section 2.2 above. Funding for 22-23 is on top of the seed funding of £81,499 already approved. It is expected that three different strands of funding are used to fund this additional allocation. £78,727 underutilised budget transferred from Commissioning Development Fund across all three years, additional Transformation Funding allocated for year 1 & 2 of £43,773 and year 3 £51,273. As well as drawing down from the Community Investment Fund reserve £27,500 in year 1 and £142,500 in year 2, this funding is already set aside for the Centre for Independent living and utilises these funds.

- 7.5 Whilst the CDA plan aims to reduce reliance on Council funding and become more self-sustaining it should be noted that around 30% of room booking income is projected from public sector and the majority of which is expected to be Camden. As such overall sustainability could be over reliant on Camden.
- 7.6 These plans have been challenged and adjusted; however, it should also be noted that whilst robust and prudent, with further operational decisions that could be taken around cost, should income not materialise that there is still risk that this level of additional investment could prove insufficient for sustainability. There is also potential should performance be better than projected that CDA require less grant funding, this has been evidence in previous years where CDA have requested lower levels of funding than Camden has set aside.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

9 TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 9.1 Following approval of the recommended grant funding, formal agreements will be finalised and signed by CDA and the Autism Hub prior to the commencement of funding from 1st October 2022. The agreements will include the Council's standard conditions of grant and co-produced outputs, outcomes and targets that each organisation will deliver in partnership with the Council. The agreements will also set out the 'open-book' accounting approach that will ensure financial transparency to manage the risks for both the Council and the organisations themselves. A monitoring framework will be finalised with CDA and the Autism Hub to capture and monitor the work undertaken over the period of the grants and the expenditure incurred. Quarterly monitoring meetings will take place and will include quantitative and qualitative data (including case studies).

10 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Equalities Impact Assessment

REPORT ENDS

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Agenda Item 8

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE Our Commissioned and Directly Delivered Services in Camden	
REPORT OF: Head of Corporate Strategy	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Disability Oversight Panel	DATE: 10 January 2023
SUMMARY OF REPORT This report provides an overarching view of Council services (both directly delivered and commissioned) that are relevant to the work of Councillor Champions and the Disability Oversight Panel to support their discussion and work programming. This report provides an overview of services so that the members of the Disability Oversight Panel may understand at a high level the work of the Council in various areas and request updates and further information as needed. Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report. Contact Officer: Osian Jones Head of Corporate Strategy 5 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG London Borough of Camden osian.jones@camden.gov.uk	
RECOMMENDATIONS That the Disability Oversight Panel comment on and note this report.	
Signed – Osian Jones, Head of Corporate Strategy Date – 3 January 2023	

1. Commissioning in Camden

- 1.1. Camden delivers a wide range of services that relate, directly and indirectly, to the work and remit of the Disability Oversight Panel (DOP). These include both services delivered directly by the Council, and services commissioned with partners. Commissioning is the process by which the Council identifies the needs of residents and seeks to ensure that services are provided that meet those needs. That can be through providing services directly ourselves, or commissioning services from partners and community organisations.
- 1.1. This report provides a headline overview of the Council's work across a range of areas to provide services, with and for disabled people and their carers, that meet their needs and help people to live and age well in our borough. Disabled people make use of all Council services in different ways, and there are many services such as leisure provision, advice services and other services that will engage with disabled people in the borough but are not covered by this report. There are also services covered in this report that may support residents with disabilities but have a wider remit. This report is provided to the members of the Panel as an outline of more specialist services that they may wish to be aware of or request further information on as part of their role as Champions.
- 1.2. An important element to note in relation to many of the services outlined in the report is that in 2022 significant change has occurred in the health and care system – in July 2022 the Camden Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) was formally replaced by the North Central London Integrated Care System (NCL ICS) – a five borough partnership including Camden, Islington, Haringey, Barnet and Enfield. The Council is working with the NCL ICS to support the alignment and appropriate pooling of budgets to provide high quality services at a local level, and ensuring services reflect our local priorities as outlined in We Make Camden and our Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (agreed in March 2022 by the Camden Health and Wellbeing Board).
- 1.3. Also for the Panel to note as a specific update since the last meeting, in November 2022 Camden Council's Cabinet approved a new plan to improve services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families in Camden. This is a strategy for the whole of Camden that sits across the Council and our statutory partners (schools, health and others). It is overseen by a Partnership Board. The aims of the strategy are to ensure that "Children and young people with SEND lead happy, fulfilled and rewarding lives" with the three key priorities being to:
1. Make life easier for families of children and young people with SEND;
 2. Support children and young people with SEND to thrive in learning, health and wellbeing;
 3. Enable young adults with SEND to build a good life locally.
- 1.4. The DOP has requested and will receive an update on the work to begin implementation of the SEND Strategy at a future meeting later in 2023.

1.5. This report is structured into a number of key “areas” that cover elements of the Champion and Panel’s role and the services within these for the Panel to review and note.

2. Learning Disabilities (LD)

2.1. Camden strongly believes that all people with a learning disability have the right to the same opportunities as anyone else. Through integrated commissioning activity Council and health partners are seeking to improve local services so that they empower and support more people with a learning disability of all ages to live fuller and more rewarding lives, to be valued for their strengths and contributions as citizens, and to live as independently and healthily as possible in their community.

2.2. This will mean that people with a learning disability will have the ‘chance to succeed and no-one gets left behind’, helping to realise our We Make Camden vision for a Borough where communities support good health, wellbeing and connection for everyone so that they can start well, live well and age well.

2.3. Services for people with a learning disability include:

- The MOSAIC Children’s Integrated Health Team and the Children and Young People’s Disability Service (CYPDS);
- The Children and Young People with Disabilities Service (CYPDS) is a 0-25 Social Work and social care service for children and young people with disabilities;
- Camden Learning Disabilities Service (CLDS), providing specialist social work, social care and NHS care for adults with a learning disability, including:
 - Learning disability nursing;
 - Psychiatry;
 - Clinical psychology;
 - Speech and language therapy;
 - Occupational therapy
 - Physiotherapy;
 - Specialist support workers.
 - Easier information Team
- Acute mental health provision via St Pancras Hospital and the Crisis House (NHS Services);
- Specialist Foster care local to Camden where possible;
- Shared lives placements;
- Short Breaks commissioned provision for children and young people with disabilities that include after school clubs, weekend clubs, buddying and mentoring, Positive Behaviour Support in the family home, home care and outreach support,
- Residential and nursing care, mostly out of borough;
- Supported Living in Camden and in neighbouring boroughs for adults with a learning disability;

- Day time opportunities for adults with a learning disability and with complex needs both at the Greenwood Centre (in house service) and Unity Works, including the Café at the Greenwood Centre;
- Breakaway short breaks service to provide support to carers and for short term stays to avoid placing people out of borough in an emergency (in house service). This is a service for young people and adults with a learning disability.
- Floating Support services;
- The community inclusion project hosted by Camden Disability Action;
- Statutory and non-statutory advocacy;
- User involvement, such as the Synergy Experts by Experience project hosted by The Advocacy Project Employment support, including:
 - development work with local employers;
 - supported internships with the Council;
 - the partnership with the Camden Society to deliver the Unity Works training café at the Greenwood Centre.
- Spot purchase of a range of interventions, including via Continuing Health Care funding.

2.4. Some of the key service priorities include:

- Keeping all children and young people in Camden when care or intervention is required, including when specialist care is required;
- Strengthening the voice of children and young people with disabilities and their families, and strengthening the pathways to adulthood from Year 9 with a focus on developing independent living skills, opportunities for employment, community inclusion and further education for disabled children moving into adult life;
- Remodelling and building new supported living accommodation that will provide homes that are fit for the future, cost effective and promote independence and wellbeing;
- Implementation of the new recommissioned Short Breaks provision for children and young people with disabilities;
- The development of the Living a Good Life project that aims to change our ways of working to improve and expand day opportunities in Camden. This builds on the learning from the Community Inclusion Project which supports people to use mainstream services and develop their independence. The Living a Good Life project is underpinned by the Synergy Manifesto which was produced by people with LD and sets out their goals and aspirations with strong themes of friendship and community connectedness;
- Further develop and promote the in-house shared lives service following mobilisation in April 2020. Camden currently has 7 approved Shared Lives carers, with 4 placements;
- Improving take up of Annual Health Checks (AHC) with GPs for those with learning disability on GP registers;
- Working with the Council's Economic Development Team to continue to review and develop specialist employment support for people with learning disabilities.

3. Children And Young People (CYP)

- 3.1. Camden and health partners have an integrated commissioning team for children and young people, working across health and social care to commission joined up support that aims to enable children, young people and their families to live fulfilling lives and stay well in their local community.
- 3.2. Alongside our focused strategy for children and young people as part of our SEND strategy the following services are commissioned and directly delivered to support all children and young people who might need support for a range of reasons including disability.

These include:

3.3. Mental Health services:

- Minding the Gap services for 16 to 25 year olds with mental health needs;
- Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS);
- Parental mental health, creative therapies, equine therapy and psychotherapy;
- Camden Kaleidoscope – supported living as step down support;
- Mental Health in Schools, community peer mentoring and education;
- Community mental health services and crisis services.

3.4. Universal and Targeted Health and Wellbeing services for all children and young people, including disabled children:

- School nursing and health visiting;
- Play services and services for young carers; and
- Sexual health network and substance misuse services.

3.5. Specialist services for children and young people with developmental concerns and/or disability include:

- Camden's Integrated Children's Service (CICS) includes child development services for disabled children, Occupational Therapy (OT) Speech and Language Therapy (SLT), physiotherapy, community paediatrics, community and special school nursing, dietetics and other support needs;
- Children's community audiology (school nurses provide vision and hearing screening and early intervention service at schools);
- A specialist sensory team which includes two Teachers of the Deaf as well as a Visually Impaired specialist is commissioned to provide enhanced support at local specialist schools;
- Ready Steady Sign. This is a course that supports families of deaf pre-schoolers to develop early communication skills through:
 - BSL signs linked to family life to support early language development;
 - Tips for communication, language acquisition, learning and play with deaf children;
 - Information on deaf awareness, audiology and educational settings.
 - The course will be run by a deaf instructor, advisory teachers and specialist speech and language therapists from Camden and Islington. There will also be a range of other professionals, parents, deaf adults and young people contributing to the course.

- Short breaks provision with a focus on respite for families, developing independent living skills for children and young people and preparation into adulthood
- Spot purchasing of 'complex needs' placements for children and young people needing specialist and/or residential education placements

3.6. Commissioned services that support children with ill health and long term health conditions include:

- Continuing care palliative and bereavement specialist nursing for those children with the highest level of health needs.

4. Special Educational and Inclusive Intervention Service (SEIIS)

4.1. This service comprises the SEN team which oversees the statutory assessment process and monitoring of all children and young people with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs), the Educational Psychology service, the sensory team which includes the teachers and deaf and Visual Impairment specialists. This team offers specialist teaching support for children with visual impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory needs. The inclusive interventions team offer advice and support for nursery settings for children with complex SEND.

4.2. Educational Psychology support includes:

- Bright Minds, bright moods (a Cognitive Behaviour Therapy group based intervention);
- Training to schools for supporting children with emotional and behavioural needs, including those with attachment needs;
- Video Interaction Guidance (using video to reflect attuning in a given relationship (e.g. parent /child or teacher/ child);
- Allocated support to schools, Virtual school and youth justice as well as critical incident response from the Educational Psychology team (SEIIS)
- Parent/Carer counselling service;
- TIPiC – Trauma Informed Practice in Camden involving multi agency input and common framework of shared language. This takes a preventative and public health approach and involves partners working together across education, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), police and youth work. Educational psychologists work with CAMHS professionals to deliver training to whole school staff groups (including safer schools police, youth workers, health therapists working in that school) and also to provide regular consultation support to the school over a period of a year to embed the approach at an organisational level; and
- Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) training to meet the needs of children and young people who have difficulty in attending school due to emotional needs.
- Specialist support with regard the strengths and needs of Refugee and Asylum seeker pupils.

4.3. SEIIS are also responsible for funding and placing children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) across early years,

school, post 16 and post 19, ensuring they are being provided with the special educational provision identified to meet their needs.

4.4. The Head of Service works closely with the Head of Education Commissioning and School Organisation who is responsible for ensuring sufficiency of school places as well as the commissioning specialist places for children and young people with the most complex needs within and outside of the borough and including those in residential placements.

5. Alternative Provisions and Pupil Referral Units

5.1. The Council has a statutory duty to provide an appropriate full-time education for pupils who have been permanently excluded from school or who cannot attend school through illness, exclusion or otherwise

5.2. The Council meets these duties through high quality Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) provision across both the primary and secondary sector.

5.3. Robson House (primary).

- 20 commissioned places at Robson House, a specialist therapeutic and educational placement for children who cannot attend mainstream school because of social, emotional and mental health needs, or who have been permanently excluded from school.

5.4. Camden Centre for Learning (CCfL)

- The Council also commissions 25 key stage 3 and 40 key stage 4 PRU places at Camden Centre for Learning (CCfL). The schools are based on two different sites and are able to offer pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH), personalised teaching and learning across a range of vocational areas that support these learners in readiness for their post 16 phase of education;
- We have also developed a pilot 6th form at CCfL to support young people who were unable to maintain their placements in Further Education. The pilot will be able to increase our understanding of the support needed for these learners to ensure onward placement and progression through to further education or into employment has greater success rates.

5.5. We continue to work with Partners within and external to the Council in relation to increasing pathways to employment for young people with SEND. This has included the development of Supported Internships and more recently two dedicated posts to support young people with SEND into employment.

6. Mental health commissioning update for Disability Oversight Panel

6.1. Camden Council and health partners have an integrated commissioning team for mental health and learning disabilities, working across health and social care to commission joined up support that better enables people to live fulfilling lives and stay well in their local community.

6.2. Services the Council and health partners commission for people with mental health needs include:

- Primary care mental health services, such as Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) and a series of multidisciplinary and multiagency teams organised around Primary Care Networks;
- Secondary mental health care services from Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust (C&I) and the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, which includes community mental health teams, crisis services, acute inpatient services and a range of rehabilitation services;
- A shared Approved Mental Health Practitioner Service with Islington Council;
- A range of social care support services, such as residential care, nursing care and care in the home (including reablement, floating support and day opportunities services);
- Supported Living services;
- A diverse range of voluntary sector services working in partnership as Camden's Mental Health Resilience Network (MHRN). The MHRN is focused on working with residents, communities and other services on prevention and early intervention. MHRN offers include:
 - Employment support that follows the evidence based Individual Placement Support (IPS) model;
 - Healthy Minds – a collection of services including a community activity programme, social prescribing and a volunteer academy;
 - A Cultural Advocacy Project, which works alongside Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic community groups to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing and to develop peer support groups;
 - Peer Mentoring – trained mentors (people with lived experience of mental health challenges) paired with mentees;
 - Mental Health training;
 - Mental Health website, which has information about local mental health and wellbeing support services in Camden; and
 - An Expert by Experience service, which supports people with lived experience to become involved in shaping services and input into decision making.

7. Commissioned services for carers

Camden Carers

7.1. Camden Carers Support Service (CCS) is funded equally by Camden Council and health partners. Through commissioning activities and robust monitoring the Council have ensured that the Carers Service has delivered positive outcomes for Carers with continued outcomes that improve the lives of carers enabling reduced social isolation, improving the disproportionate risk of experiencing health inequalities and improving overall health and wellbeing for carers.

7.2. The CCS has continued to develop, working to an integrated service model that draws together social, community, primary, and specialist services; delivering services to their communities at a localised neighbourhood level. This includes:

7.3. Identification and recognition of carers as expert partners in care

- Ensure early identification of carers by developing greater partnership arrangements between all statutory and voluntary organisations, including hospitals, health centres and other primary care services;
- Work in partnership with local organisations to identify and improve access to advice, information or support for carers who do not currently receive services;
- Involve carers in decision making and planning of services for themselves and the person they care for;
- Ensure carers are involved in choosing, designing and evaluating local services; and
- Reaching more carers, including carers who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, carers from Black, Asian and other minority ethnic groups and young adult carers.

7.4. Enabling carers to realise and release potential

- Enabling those with caring responsibilities to fulfil their educational and employment potential through volunteering, study or skills training;
- Promote carer employment rights so that carers can make informed choices about employment opportunities;
- Ensuring access to information on finances; and
- Helping carers to access digital technologies.

7.5. Giving carer's choice and enabling a life outside of caring

- Ensuring that carers have a single point of access for information and advice in Camden and that carers are able to easily access information in a range of formats regardless of which organisation in Camden they initially approach;
- Providing information, advice and support in easily accessible locations and at times that are convenient for carers;
- Providing good quality information and signposting to enable carers to make choices that are more informed. This includes carers of those who are self-funding care;
- Ensuring that information is available to carers during transition periods in the caring role; and
- Ensuring access to personalised support for carers and the person, they care for enabling them to have a family life and access activities in their community.

7.6. Supporting carers to remain mentally and physically well including the promotion of breaks from caring

- Ensuring that carers are best able to provide appropriate care and support for the person they care for and have an opportunity for a life outside caring through access to their own individualised plans for breaks, training and activities;
- Encouraging carers to adopt and maintain a healthy lifestyle, and enjoy an improved quality of life and sense of well being;
- Promoting greater recognition of the impact of caring on carer physical and mental health;
- Working with Primary Care so that carers are recognised, informed and able to look after their own physical and mental health and that of the person they care for;

- Ensuring carers have access to health and wellbeing checks and counselling services; and
- Working with acute services to ensure that carers are recognised, informed and supported as either carer or patient. This includes ensuring that carers have access to information and support with the discharge of the person they care for.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The Borough Solicitor has reviewed and has no comments.

9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Finance officers have reviewed the report and have no comments.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

REPORT ENDS

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: ALL
REPORT TITLE: Disability Oversight Panel – Work Programme for 2022/23	
REPORT OF: Head of Corporate Strategy	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Disability Oversight Panel	DATE: 10 January 2022
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT</p> <p>This paper aims support the Disability Oversight Panel in deciding its priorities and focus for the remaining meetings in 2022/23.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information</p> <p>No documents that require listing were used in the preparation of this report</p> <p>Contact Officer: Osian Jones Head of Corporate Strategy 5 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG London Borough of Camden Phoebe.morris-jones@camden.gov.uk</p>	

1. Establishing the Disability Oversight Panel’s key priorities for the year

- 1.1 The Disability Oversight Panel (DOP) is able to meet formally up to three times a year alongside informal meetings convened by the Chair of Champions to discuss issues and activities that the DOP might wish to undertake.
- 1.2 The January 2023 meeting is the first formal meeting of the civic year 2022/23 for the DOP, and as a result it is requested that the Panel consider its work programme for the remaining meetings of the year, and issue it may wish to consider at future meetings.
- 1.3 The Disability Oversight Panel meets in three formats as a group:
 - The Chair convenes informal meetings of elected member Champions to discuss their work – these are organised by Members and are not part of this work programming;
 - There are formal Committee meetings (timetabled as three each civic year) at which the Chair and the Panel can request reports and updates from officers and services;

- There are public engagement Panel meetings (timetabled as three each civic year) at which the Chair and the Panel discuss a single topic or issue with residents and community members.

1.4 The Chair and the secretariat to the Panel are discussing dates for the remainder of the civic year 2022/23 but the Panel has requested to consider or review the following formal committee papers at its future meetings:

- An update on the British Sign Language (BSL) Bill
- An update on the Council's Special Educational Needs And Disabilities (SEND) Strategy and implementation

1.5 In addition to this the Panel can indicate which issues it may wish to focus on as part of public engagement sessions – some that have been suggested previously and the Panel may wish to discuss are:

- A focus on the Council's housing allocations services and policies;
- A focus on the leisure and wellbeing services and their accessibility;
- A focus on employment advice and support.

1.6 Officers would be grateful if the Panel members would discuss which issues and items it may wish to consider at future meetings.

2. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1 The Borough Solicitor has reviewed and has no comments.

3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Finance officers have reviewed the report and have no comments.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

REPORT ENDS