



Your day. Your say.

Have your say on the future of day centre services and activities

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) wants people's views on their suggestions to change day centre services and activities for those who need this type of care and leisure activities in West Sussex.

WSCC needs to hear the views of people who use these existing services and those of their carers and family members. They also want to hear from community and voluntary groups who may be able to provide more personalised and individual services and activities for people. It wants to know what *they* could provide to meet the needs of existing day centre service users in their communities.

And if you are a group or community leader and would like help in making it easy for as many members of your group or organisation to participate, the LINK will be able to help. See Page 2.

What are day centre services? These are services* that are provided for individuals with recognised social care needs in one of eleven multi-purpose centres in the county - places where people go to meet others and take part in a range of community activities that reduce isolation, provide friendship, build confidence and improve or maintain physical and mental well-being.

Activities in day centres can include such things as crafts, quizzes and games, gentle armchair exercise, outings and themed days—all organised or provided in the same place.



Why change? WSCC has found that there are many spare places in the day centres and that in some areas of the county demand for this approach to day services is falling.

Society is changing and there are many more voluntary and community groups offering and providing care and supported leisure activities. The voluntary and community groups are often able to offer more personalised choices for people so they can do the things they want to do, when they want to, rather than at the fixed opportunities and times offered by day centres.

There are changes too in the way social care is delivered, with people having more choice and control about the way their social care is provided ('self directed support') and individuals deciding on how they would like to spend their personal social care budgets.

What changes are being proposed? The majority of people will be supported, through a wider range of community-based activities and opportunities provided by independent and voluntary organisations in a number of locations.

Under the proposal contained in "Your day. Your say," eight of the eleven multi-purpose day centres currently being run by WSCC will become specialist day centres for people with longer term high or complex needs.

These eight centres are: Judith Adams (Chichester), The Chestnuts (Bognor Regis), The Laurels (Rustington), The Rowans (Worthing), Glebelands (Shoreham), Glen Vue (East Grinstead), Henfield Centre (Henfield) and Maidenbower (Crawley).

The other three would be closed in 2011/12. These are: The Grange (Midhurst), Harwood House (Horsham) and The Brooks (Pulborough).

The Big Question

What activities and opportunities do you want available in your community?

This is what WSCC refers to as the **BIG** question — your chance to influence what day activities will include, where they are based and how you want to find out about them.

This consultation is open to anyone who wants to have their say, but will be of a special interest to current users of day services, their families, carers and friends, as well as voluntary sector and independent providers of community-based day activities.

How to have your say

Individuals can contribute to the consultation by completing a questionnaire (on paper or on-line) or by taking part in one of the meetings listed below.

The questionnaire is quite long (it contains 29 questions) and some people may need assistance with it or simply prefer to submit their feedback as part of a group. If you are a group or community leader and would like help with engaging members of your group/organisation in this process, the LINK can help.

We have developed a simple and adaptable way to help group and community leaders record the views of individuals in their groups and communities in an informal setting. LINK development officers would be happy to explain this further and support anyone who would like to help their groups and communities to have their thoughts and views recorded in this way.

If you would like to know more, please call **0300 111 0102** or contact the LINK by one of the methods shown below.

Consultation Meetings

WSCC are holding six public consultation meetings in August and September:

- 18th Aug** (6.30 – 8pm) Roffey Millennium Hall, Crawley Road, Roffey, **Horsham**, RH12 4DT
- 2nd Sept** (6.30 – 8pm) Midhurst Rother College, North Street, **Midhurst**, GU29 9DT
- 7th Sept** (6.30 – 8pm) The Venue, Spur Road, **Chichester**, PO19 8PR
- 9th Sept** (6.30 – 8pm) Crawley Town Football Club, Broadfield Stadium, Brighton Road, **Crawley**, RH11 9RX
- 14th Sept** (2.30 – 4pm) The Charmendean Centre, Forest Road, **Worthing**, BN14 9HS
- 16th Sept** (2.30 – 4pm) The Windmill Entertainment Centre, The Green, Windmill Road, **Littlehampton**, BN17 5LH

If you will need help getting to and from one of these meetings, contact **ICIS** on 0800 859929 or visit the website at: <http://www.icis-info4life.org.uk> for details of community transport in your area.

Obtaining a questionnaire

If you would like a copy of the information booklet issued by WSCC with a paper copy of the questionnaire, please contact *Holly Chant* on 01243 777693 or email: haveyoursay@westsussex.gov.uk

Downloads of the consultation material and the on-line questionnaire are also available from WSCC's website: www.westsussex.gov.uk/yourdayyoursay



This is how to get in touch if you want to contact the West Sussex LINK

Please advise us also if your contact details change or if you no longer wish to be a LINK participant.



telephone 0300 111 0102

Calls to 03 numbers are charged at no more than UK geographic rates (as for 01 and 02 numbers) and will be included as part of any inclusive minutes. Calls from mobiles may be higher.



email westsussexlink@makesachange.org.uk



post Freepost RSCG-BYGL-LGKS, West Sussex LINK, Billingshurst, RH14 9EY



SMS text message to 07739 436601

To visit the LINK website go to www.makesachange.org.uk and select 'West Sussex'.