

Title of Report:	Resource Community Cafe	Item 11
Report to be considered by:	Executive	
Forward Plan Ref:	EX0810	

Corporate Plan Priority:	CP2: Tackling all forms of Social Exclusion across the District
The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Corporate Plan priority by: <i>making a new facility available to those Socially Excluded by Mental Health Problems</i>	

Purpose of Report: To use West Berkshire's wellbeing powers to enable the Health Authority grant money to Resource Mental Health Charity.

Recommended Action: That the Executive approve the proposal.

Reason for decision to be taken:

- To enable grant money to be passed from the Health Service to the Resource charity.

List of other options considered:

- None

Key background documentation:

- Report to Newbury PCT

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Implications

Financial: The lease will be drawn up on a full repairing basis with Resource bearing any costs. In the event of default the lease is assigned to the Berkshire Health Care Trust who will be responsible for re-provisioning the service.

Legal: The monies transferring from the Council to Resource are dealt with under the well-being provisions of the Local Government Act 2000.

Property: See financial

Supporting Information

1. Background

Following the successful development of the community café project in Reading the Berkshire Health Care Trust (BHCT) now wish to work with Reading Mental Health Resource Centre (Resource) to open similar services in Newbury. The scheme will run along similar lines to the already successful Reading project. The staff team will be kept small so that employment can be provided to those who use the service in real, part time, short jobs – providing effective routes back into employment.

The proposed scheme has been developed in partnership between West Berkshire Council, Newbury PCT and BHCT through the Mental Health Local Improvement Team. Work on the project has reached a point where the BHCT has agreed a service specification which will complement their own NHS services and the charity have identified funding sources to meet the day to day running cost of such a facility.

BHCT had previously committed an amount of its own capital funding towards the potential accommodation costs and Resource has identified a suitable property in the centre of Newbury.

Newbury PCT now wish to provide grant funding to Resource using the Health Service's S28a procedure which enables them to pass capital funds from BHCT via West Berkshire Council to the Charity using the Local Authority's wellbeing powers. This grant will enable the acquisition of a leasehold property to proceed. Funds to meet the cost of the grant will be transferred from BHCT.

Resource and the landlord have agreed a lease clause that will enable the lease to be assigned to the BHCT in the event that Resource defaults on the service agreement. Should the lease be assigned to BHCT then that organisation would be responsible for re-providing the service or itself assigning the lease for an income stream.

The scheme provides the opportunity to bring a strong non-statutory contribution to local mental health provision, which has been lacking in non-residential services. This has the clear advantage of increasing choice for service users and leveraging additional resources into the area, which would not otherwise have been possible.

Appendices

None

Consultation Responses

Local Stakeholders: Newbury PCT; Berkshire Health Care Trust
Officers Consulted: Bev Searle; David Holling
Trade Union: N/a