Changing Learning Disability Services
Consultation Summary Report
for Wood n Ware

With Outcomes and Decisions
October 2012

Better Days for People with Learning Disabilities in Kent
The Good Day Programme

This report can be made available in other formats and large print
copies are available at Wood n Ware.
Background

During March to June 2012 we have been in consultation, talking to people about their views on the future of Wood n Ware.

The proposal was to find another organisation (not KCC) to run and develop the Wood n Ware Service in Ashford.

The proposals took into account ideas from:
- The Localism Act (2011)
- Valuing People Now (2009)
- Bold Steps for Kent (2010-14)
- Better Days for People with Learning Disabilities in Kent.

The aim is to develop the services in the following ways:
- To get the right balance between social outcomes and business outcomes
- Training and development opportunities
- Business and employment
- Access to other income streams
- It would enable people to use Direct Payments to access these Services, which at the moment they cannot.

This report is the outcomes and decision for Wood n Ware.

If you would like a copy of the report for the other services please contact: Tahsina Rahman on 01622 221484 or email Gooddayprogramme@kent.gov.uk
What happened during consultation?

A consultation is when you find out what people think about something.

Consultation packs were sent out and a series of presentations, workshops and 1:1 meetings took place with people who use the services, their family carers, staff, KCC Members, Councillors and other people who were interested.

Independent Advocacy supported people who use the service, including those with complex needs to make sure their views were included.

Presentations and updates have been held with Ashford District Partnership Group.
What did people who use the service say?

After Advocacy for All supported workshops, a visit to Princess Christian Farm and 1 to 1 meetings. Many students had ideas about how Wood n Ware can change and get better. Many students want to help choose who will run Wood n Ware in the future.

"I like to meet people here and do different jobs."

"I would feel confident to show others what to do if they let me."

"I might struggle at first if I don’t know new staff, but I’d like there to be more staff."

"The building needs to be bigger for all the stuff."

"I still want 2 come here if the staff change."

"I would like to increase our life skills by being shown new work skills involving selling things."
What did Family Carers and other people say?

Family carers attended 2 workshops and asked about:

- Money and funding in the future
- Selling and marketing products
- Staff staying the same
- The building and whether it would stay the same.

"Is Kent County Council going to remove funding?"

"If it was developed, the site could come into question?"

"I’m keen the service continues and thrives . . ."
We took people’s views and comments to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health for him to look at and make a decision.

He agreed the outsourcing of five group based Learning Disability Day Services (Freeways Catering Service, Nolan’s Table Café & The Check Café, Wood n Ware, Wood & Leather Craft and Hadlow Pottery) to external organisations.

It is important we take the time to get the right organisation to take over the Wood n Ware service. So this will be planned carefully with full involvement from people who use the service and family carers.

Together we will set out what we want and this will help us to find the right organisation.
Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this consultation and given their views and ideas.

For more information please contact:

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This summary report is available in alternative formats and can be provided in a range of languages.

Please contact us on 08458 247 100