



Savings Consultation – Voluntary Sector Session

2pm, Thursday 9th October, Pembrokeshire Archives

Present:

Organisation	Name
50 + Central Forum	Gaynor Davies Ken Davies
Alcohol Concern (Fishguard & Goodwick)	Marc Mordey
Barnardos (Mid & West Wales)	Delyth Raynsford
Barnardos (Pembrokeshire Family Link)	Deirdre Connell
Bloomfield Community Centre	Janine Perkins
Citizens Advice Bureau	Nicola Roguski Nikki Neufeld
Community Ages Together	Hayley Wood
Communities First	Christine Gwyther
Fishguard and Goodwick Young People's Trust	Zoe Davies
Garth Youth Hive	Anji Tinley
PACTO	Emma Lewis Margaret Vickery
PAVS	John Gossage Sue Leonard Lee Hind
Pembrokeshire County Council	Cllr Keith Lewis Cllr Huw George Jon Haswell Claire George Sarah Worby
Pembrokeshire People First	Karen Chandler
PLANED	Liz Cartwright
Tanyard Youth Project	John Heffernan
Young Farmers Club	Helen Hodges Nia George
Fishguard Yacht Club	Martin Sykes

Apologies:

Organisation	Name
Hawthorn Project & Pembrokeshire Young Carers	Charlotte Phillips
Milford Youth Matters	Sian Jones
PAVS	Bernie Scourfield Julie Kirk
Red Cross	Denise John

Services

Increasing Income

- Increasing Council Tax was seen as more equitable than increasing charges for individual services. However, was recognised that increasing Council Tax would only go a short way toward meeting savings targets

Doing Things More Efficiently / Productively

- Sharing CEO / Directors / Managers with other local authorities / organisations – particularly where it was recognised that services were well run, share this expertise
- Share back-room functions with other authorities (e.g. legal, IT)
- Is there an excess of middle managers?
- Reducing salaries
- Need strategic restructuring. To date, reduction in the number of staff had been through 'natural wastage'. This was no longer sufficient, need to undertake strategic restructuring
- Drive efficiency through procurement and contract management (department to handle contract delivery)
- More effective solutions / resolution of queries through improved client management – not passing individuals through numerous officers, have CRM upon which officers can be aware of case to date

Do Less Of / Stop Doing

- Would it be a mistake to cut whole services?
- Do we have too many County Councillors?
- Haverfordwest Airport
- Welfare Benefit Advice
- Harbours
- Duplicating services – youth service provision
- Switch off street lights
- More renewable energy – schools, homes etc

Services

Doing Things Differently

- What sort of organisation does the Council want to be in 3 years time? Need clear vision and strategic direction
- Are commercial organisations able to do things more efficiently?
- Look at different service models (e.g. trusts)
- Look at devolving responsibility to town and community councils
- Need early dialogue not crisis management
- Look at what has been done in Oldham – local authority contracts with local communities, has lead to greater satisfaction with services
- Look elsewhere for good examples
- Outsource PRU and Social Activity Centres
- There is a risk with outsourcing that money will be lost to the local economy (contracts awarded outside Pembrokeshire). Look at maximising use of community benefit clauses etc
- Local outsourcing preferable but need to ensure quality is maintained
- Positive outcomes for service users should be the priority for service provision – service users don't mind who provides as long as the service is good
- Cuts to social care budgets would have impacts for the health service. The voluntary sector had a role to play in providing low-level support (such as transport home from hospital) that reduce burden on the health service
- School Inclusion was an area where there was lots of opportunity for the voluntary sector to provide support services
- Consultation/engagement, older persons services and support for carers were all areas where the voluntary sector could provide support
- The Intermediate Care Fund was constructing in helping with the development of alternative service provision. However, it was only for 12 months – needed to be for 3 years to give sufficient time for development of sustainable alternative services
- Voluntary sector would need funding support to the development of innovative / alternative solutions – focus on services where involving the voluntary sector could make a difference. Look at money being used for these services at the moment being diverted to the voluntary sector.
- More joint commissioning with Hywel Dda University Health Board
- More third sector service commissioning
- Means testing for services
- Relocating community planning into the community sector

- Pembrokeshire College to deliver community education

Infrastructure

Infrastructure

- Re-examine county estate – getting development on sites, become a developer, generate income from sites
- Ensure use of technology is being maximised to cut down on unnecessary travelling etc (e.g. video conferencing etc)
- Services do not necessarily need to be delivered from where they are being delivered at the moment
- Need to ensure that what is provided in a building is what a community wants (e.g. Bloomfield)
- ‘Teams around the community’ concept – hubs in communities, providing local services
- Co-location with Police, health, advice etc
- Need to match up need for space and provision – needs to be facilitated
- School buildings – greater use of school buildings by the community. This could be an opportunity for governing bodies to raise revenue
- Increase use of community buildings that were currently under-used e.g. low level support services for older people – social activities, gentle exercise, food etc
- Bloomfield – sports facilities were under-used during the day. Also greater use could be made of the meeting rooms
- Could more use be made of County Hall out-of-hours? E.g. youth clubs, concerts, cultural activities etc
- Transfer of buildings / assets – need to be careful not dumping a liability
- Relocate services provided at Greenhill Avenue, Tenby and sell / develop site

Other Comments

- Need for investment, consultation, dimensional impact assessment of changes