



Briefing No3, 8 July 2020

We know that some of those we currently support at home, in the community or virtually, and a few that we have not been asked to support away from the Centre, wish to return to HDC, because you, or they, have told us so. However, we require the approval from Bristol City Council Commissioning (BCCC) before we are permitted to re-open the Centre again.

When I last wrote (1 June) I promised to write again after we had been able to have a meeting with BCC Strategic Commissioning. At Monday's meeting I was informed that we were the first day services provider that BCCC had met with, probably because we have been asking for a meeting for weeks.

It was our hope that we could reopen the Centre next month, and have been making lots of preparations, to include defining three separate activity rooms, each with their own access doors, refreshment facilities, accessible loo's per room, with signage, introducing new practices etc. Our intention was to support up to 12 persons a day at the Centre each morning, then support others at home or in the community each afternoon.

However, BCC commissioning commented that they have only just begun to consider what the requirements and expectations will be for Day Centres to reopen and what their role will be in the process. (Whether they may have to audit each location before opening). Therefore, we do not envisage that we will be able to reopen the Centre next month. When I know more, I shall be in touch again.

Our priority to offer places will have to be foremost to those who were funded by BCC, as they have continued to fund us through recent months. However, we are trying to keep in touch with all where possible.

We need to be mindful of other centres or activities you may be wanting to attend outside of your home, for infection control purposes.

As instructed by BCCC, we are working towards the suggested requirements from the following link. <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/scwru/res/ARC-SL/unlock-lockdown>

Two other items of news. We are not, as we had planned at the start of the year, to close the Centre over the coming months for staff holidays. Our first planned holiday closure will now be around Christmas/New Year and we shall remind you nearer the time.

Also, Juliet who has been with us for over 12 years has taken the decision to retire early. In recent years she has become our Care Coordinator. We are already missing her many talents and unflappable nature.

Paul Jackson, our Facilities Manager, is now looking for alternative work. He has helped us much with minibus transport, maintenance and COSHH assessments and documentation.

Both will be very much missed by you and us.

Yours sincerely,

Simon David

Centre Manager