

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Subject: Residential Care: Update on Modernisation of Older Peoples' Services 2005-2015

Committee: Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 20 July 2010

Cabinet Member: Councillor Monahan

CMT Member: Director for Community Services

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Ref:

Part: 1

Executive Summary:

This paper seeks to confirm agreement to the continued direction of travel in relation to the Council's Strategy.

In November 2005 Cabinet approved a new strategic direction to modernise older people's services over a 10 year period. Modern high quality extra care accommodation would be built in the immediate vicinity of our residential homes wherever possible.

Several of our older people residential homes were in outdated buildings that did not meet current day expectations. There are also no en-suite facilities in any of the remaining units.

This paper both updates on our progress to date and outlines the proposed continued direction of travel to achieve the 2005-2015 ambitions taking into consideration new national and local expectations.

Since 2005 we have achieved significant progress against the strategy set out in the Cabinet paper – specifically:

- Peirson was de-commissioned with the transfer of skilled staff into the Local Care Centre at Mount Gould
- Three new extra care facilities (Runnymede (Efford), St. Pauls (Torrige Way), Astor Court (Cattedown)) have been built and Paternoster de-commissioned.
- In April 2009 Thomas Pocklington decommissioned their residential care home and developed a purpose built extra care scheme on the same site. The care home and support contract was commissioned by Adult Social Care.
- Whitleigh Respite Home was decommissioned in January 2010
- Devonport Extra Care Scheme for 40 older people is due to be completed in January 2011
- We are currently exploring the possibility of developing an extra care unit in the Honicknowle area of the city however this is early days. We will be working with Housing Strategy Team to progress this further.

In November 2009 Cabinet agreed to the re-provision of alternative respite services within the city, and changing the registration of Frank Cowl and Stirling Residential Units to short-stay facilities. This change of registration has been implemented through changing the use of a long-stay bed to short-stay when a vacancy has arisen.

The Council has remained committed to its policy that no older person currently residing in a Plymouth City Council residential home will have to move. However, they will be offered first choice of the extra care accommodation available and built in the same neighbourhood.

Plymouth City Council are recognised as regional leaders in the successful delivery of extra care schemes. The next phase of our delivery plans proposes to continue to develop extra care accommodation, and to develop alternative forms of respite provision in consultation with users and carers, to support both older people themselves and their carers in having choices about the preferred type of service.

We currently have three long-stay residential homes for older people: Frank Cowl House, Stirling House and Lakeside.

- There are 22 beds in Frank Cowl House Residential Home in Devonport. Currently there are 8 long stay residents and 12 beds occupied for interim care (short stay). Work has commenced on a new scheme in Devonport which will be completed in 2011 and is part of the regeneration of this area. There will be 40 extra care units of accommodation in this scheme. It is recommended that we offer residents of Frank Cowl first choice of the extra care accommodation developed in Devonport.
- There are 28 beds in Stirling House Residential Home in Honicknowle. Currently 18 of these have long term residents and 6 beds occupied for interim care (short stay). We are currently exploring the possibility of securing land in Honicknowle and work is ongoing to acquire this to develop an extra care scheme. It is recommended that if an opportunity arose we would wish to engage service users and carers in consultation about the future of the unit without going back for Cabinet approval. The outcome of the consultation would be presented back to Cabinet for decision.
- Lakeside is a specialist dementia care facility and at present we have no plans to move to extra care given the increase in demand for residential support for people with dementia. However, the building is outdated and there may be opportunities to develop partnerships to re-provide services in the independent sector.

In July 2009 Cabinet agreed that residents of Frank Cowl should be offered first choice of the extra care accommodation developed in Devonport.

It is proposed that users and carers are consulted about alternative provision of the services currently available at Frank Cowl House. This would entail discussions with service users who use Frank Cowl House for short stay and discussions with current long-stay residents and their carers about the Extra Care Scheme at Devonport. Their views would then be taken into account in relation to decisions regarding de-commissioning. Those residents who wish to move from Frank Cowl House into this new unit with the same level of care and support will be able to do so.

However, no long-term resident will be forced to move as a result of this proposal.

This is not about reducing the amount of short stay provision, or residential support for people but offering a wider choice of alternatives

This is in line with the new national strategies for both Carers and Putting People First. These strategies emphasise the drive to significantly increase opportunities for people to have greater choice and control over their lives including introducing individual budgets and expanding direct payments.

Corporate Plan 2010-2013:

This report links directly to the Council's Corporate objectives outlined in Corporate Improvement Priority 3 (Helping People to Live Independently) and Corporate Improvement Priority 14 (Providing Better Value for Money)

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

The proposals around Frank Cowl House lead directly to budget savings while ensuring no decrease in the amount of overall provision. It is anticipated that the full year savings will be approximately £480k.

Other Implications: e.g. Section 17 Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management, Equalities Impact Assessment, etc.

Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed. This will be reviewed and updated fully during the consultation process.

Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

It is recommended that :-

1. Consultation with users and carers (using advocacy services where appropriate) and dedicated social work professionals about residential provision in the City and the use of Frank Cowl House for this purpose is commenced. Their views will be taken into account regarding any decisions concerning the de-commissioning of Frank Cowl House and the re-provision of alternative services.
2. To begin consultation with staff about the use of Frank Cowl House.
3. To offer residents of Frank Cowl House as part of the consultation first choice of the extra care accommodation developed in Devonport.
4. To work with all users/carers and the long-stay residents of Frank Cowl House on an individual basis to listen to their views and ensure that appropriate service provision is in place to meet their needs.
5. It is recommended that the results of consultations in relation to Frank Cowl House are

reviewed at Health and Adult Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Panel and that they are asked to review the proposal as the beginning of the consultation and review the outcomes prior to them being presented to Cabinet.

6. To put plans in place to consult at Stirling House with users and carers and follow the same process as outlined in no 5.
7. To explore partnerships to re-provide an improved facility for Dementia care and similarly to consult with users and carers adopting the same approach as outlined above.

Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

To maintain our residential homes without significant future investment will not meet Care Quality Commission (formerly CSCI) minimum standards. Promoting Extra Care Housing as an alternative ensures accommodation of the highest quality and promotes independent living as outlined in 'Our Health, Our Care, Our Say' national strategy. Providing alternative respite arrangements promotes choice and control for individuals.

Background papers:

Cabinet Paper 29th November 2005 (Ref: C 61 05/06) – “Residential Care: Proposals to Modernise Older Peoples’ Services 2005-2015”

Sign off:

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Originating SMT Member: Pam Marsden											