

5 October 2015

Agenda Item: 8

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR NORTH
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DIRECT SERVICES**

**PROGRESS ON DIRECTLY PROVIDED SHORT BREAKS FOR ADULTS
WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY AND THE SHARED LIVES SCHEME**

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee on the progress being made with the resettlement of service users from the Kingsbridge Way Short Breaks Service, and the use of Emergency beds within the Short Breaks Service.
2. To update the Committee on the progress being made with the Shared Lives Scheme.

Information and Advice

Short Breaks Service

3. Both the Short Breaks Service for adults with learning disabilities and the Shared Lives Scheme contribute to the provision of services to carers and support carers to continue with their caring responsibilities.
4. From the end of September 2015 there will be a total of 32 beds provided within three locations across the County. These are Wynhill Lodge, Bingham; Helmsley Road, Rainworth; and Holles Street, Worksop. They are roughly aligned to the health planning areas in the south, centre and north of the County and provide up to a maximum of 11,680 bed nights per year.
5. The Kingsbridge Way Short Breaks Service will cease to provide short breaks at the end of September 2015. This was agreed at Full Council on 27 February 2014 as part of Adult Social Care & Health savings and efficiencies. There is currently work on-going regarding the future use of the Kingsbridge Way buildings. At this time the most likely option is to sell the property to a housing provider for conversion into supported living arrangements for adults. This proposal will be the subject of a report to Committee in the future.
6. There are 56 families who have been using the Kingsbridge Way Service, and alternative provision has been made available for them within the three other directly provided services, or referred to the Shared Lives Scheme. Work to support service users and their carers through this transition period has consisted of service visits and overnight stays and has been carried out jointly by staff from Kingsbridge Way and from the receiving service.

7. The staff from Kingsbridge Way have been offered redeployment to other services within the directly provided group, or have been offered voluntary redundancy. There have been no compulsory redundancies as a result of this process.
8. In January 2015 the Helmsley Road Short Breaks Service in Rainworth stopped taking emergency stays for people who were not known to the Short Breaks Service. This was approved by this Committee on 1 December 2014.
9. Since this time, contracts officers have identified a small number of independent sector care homes which are able to provide emergency stays for people on an as and when necessary basis. Helmsley Road ceased taking new emergency placements but, where required, continued to support those people who were already placed at Helmsley Road due to safeguarding or Court of Protection concerns. The last person in this situation has now moved from the service.
10. The table below shows emergency placements within the Short Breaks Service for people who are known to and use the service.

Emergency Stays within Directly Provided Short Breaks Services (number of nights)					
	April	May	June	July	Total
Helmsley Road	19	19	18	17	73
Wynhill Lodge	30	31	26	35	122
Holles Street	43	3	0	19	65
Kingsbridge Way	0	0	0	0	0
Number of nights	92	53	44	71	260

11. A total of 260 nights were provided across the service. This included one service user who needed to stay for 112 nights and another service user who stayed a total of 23 nights, equating to more than 50% of the total number of nights provided. The service anticipates that it will continue to provide emergency stays for people known to the service wherever possible following the reduction in the overall number of beds from the end of September 2015.
12. In cases where it is not possible to provide an emergency placement this will be discussed with the family and the involved social worker and arrangements will be made with another provider until a bed becomes available.

Shared Lives Scheme

13. The Shared Lives Scheme was launched in 2013 and transformed the Adult Placement Scheme into its current format. The decision to expand what was then a service predominantly for adults with a learning disability in to other client groups was taken and support to do this was provided by the Community Catalyst organisation.
14. The table overleaf shows the growth of the scheme since March 2013, and although progress to increase the size of the service appears slow this needs to be set against the 12 carer households leaving the scheme during the same period. There are currently 15 carer households going through the assessment process. The assessment consists of an

application by an individual or couple to become a Shared Lives carer. This is followed by an intensive assessment of their suitability including references, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, medical clearance, and training.

	March 2013	May 2015
Long term households	18	23
Short break households	13	25
Support carer households	6	4
Total number of households	37	52
Total number of people supported	53	69

15. Some of the key achievements for the service since 2013 are:
- all scheme policies, procedures, forms and agreements have been updated
 - a new assessment process has been implemented which includes a training programme and materials for potential carers
 - a Carer Handbook has been written and distributed to all carers
 - the first long-term placements for older adults and a person with a mental health condition have been made
 - visits to events and team meetings to raise the profile of the scheme have taken place
 - new marketing material has been designed and produced
 - a three-monthly Bulletin has been designed to improve communication with carers
 - on-going work with marketing to promote the scheme to the media is taking place
 - new payment bandings and system were introduced in 2013
 - a new payment system for short break carers was set up in 2014
 - the County Council (the Council) hosts the quarterly regional Shared Lives meetings
 - work is underway to implement the Care Certificate into Shared Lives. This replaces the Common Induction Standards which were previously applied. The Care Certificate was a recommendation following work in the wake of the Francis Inquiry into the mid-Staffordshire Hospital.
16. The Shared Lives Scheme continues to grow and the Council is starting to expand its range of flexible support options which are now available to older people and people with mental health difficulties as well as people with learning disabilities. Shared Lives is all about living together in an ordinary lifestyle, sharing family life. It is a highly successful way of helping people to live in their communities because it is based on relationships which make a real difference to the lives of individuals and their Shared Lives carers. The Council has over 50 carers already working with it, and a number of positive stories that show how valuable and successful this type of support is. One such example is a young man who had lived in institutional care for most of his childhood due to a mental health condition and is now settled living with a family, something he thought he would never be able to do.

17. The Adult Social Care Strategy sets out the need to seek the most cost effective way to provide support in order that the Council can continue to meet the needs of all people who are eligible for care and support. Shared Lives continues to be a cost effective way of doing this. Shared Lives can be hugely successful in this area because it can offer an alternative to residential care, it can help people to remain in their own homes and it can support families to continue to care for their relatives for longer.

Other Options Considered

18. The report is for noting only

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

19. The report is for noting only

Statutory and Policy Implications

20. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

21. Service users affected by the reduction in the number of short breaks beds will have their breaks provided at Helmsley Road, Wynhill Lodge, Holles Street or by referral to the Shared Lives Scheme.
22. Emergency stays for people not known to the Short Breaks Service will continue to be provided through a small number of independent sector providers.
23. Options to use the Shared Lives Scheme for both long-term and short stay/respite care are increasing, as the number of approved carers increases.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee:

- 1) notes the progress being made with the resettlement of service users from the Kingsbridge Way Short Breaks Service, and the use of Emergency beds within the Short Breaks Service.
- 2) notes the progress being made with the Shared Lives Scheme.

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Constitutional Comments

24. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required

Financial Comments (KAS 14/09/15)

25. There are no financial implications contained within the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Changes to the Provision of Emergency Accommodation within the Learning Disability Short Breaks Service – report to Adult Social Care & Health Committee on 1st December 2014

Outline Business Case C03 ASCH Residential Short Breaks Service.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.