

Update on the Development of Community Living Networks

1. Adult Social Care recognises the need to find new ways to help people progress in their independence and to support people to move on from services that provide more support than they need.
2. A Community Living Network is based on a small number of disabled people, usually up to about 10, living in close proximity to each other in their own home or flat (although some may choose to share) in order to foster community inclusion and peer support to one another, backed by more formal ongoing support where necessary provided by the local core Care Support and Enablement provider. It can provide an opportunity for someone to 'step down' from a 24-hour supported living service or residential care home or can provide an alternative to entering these services.
3. A temporary post has been funded until March 2020 to help to establish a programme of Community Living Network developments across the county.
4. The first network is now up and running in Worksop. It currently has 5 tenants, but this is due to expand to 9 in early 2019. 3 of the tenancies have been provided by a housing association. The other 6 are provided by A1 Housing. Bassetlaw District Council, in conjunction with A1 have been extremely supportive of the project and agreement has been reached to take these properties out of the choice-based lettings system.
5. 4 of the 5 current tenants had significant personal budgets before moving into the network. These have reduced significantly - in three cases by several hundred pounds per week. Through the facilitation of regular tenant meetings, the individuals have begun to seek support from one another around a range of practical and emotional issues, as opposed to requiring input from paid staff.
6. There are active discussions with a range of partners in other localities, with a view to establishing at least one network per locality over time.

For any enquiries about this update please contact:

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