

1st April 2019**Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, AND
THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DIRECT
SERVICES****PROGRESS ON THE PROCUREMENT PLAN FOR SHORT TERM
ASSESSMENT/ RE-ABLEMENT BEDS AND NEXT PHASE OF THE CARE AND
SUPPORT CENTRE CLOSURE PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report:
 - a) provides an up-date on the procurement and development of alternative services, as part of the closure programme of the Council's Care and Support Centres
 - b) further to the decision of the Full Council Budget meeting on 26 February 2015 approving the closure of the Council's six remaining Care and Support Centres, the report seeks approval of the amended dates for the final phase of this previously agreed closure programme as follows: James Hince Court in September 2019 and Bishop's Court in March 2020.

Information

2. Following extensive consultation which shaped the final proposal, closure of the Council's six remaining Care and Support Centres was approved by Full Council on 26 February 2015. £4.346m savings were associated with the total closure programme as set out below in table 1 below.
3. Since the original decision was agreed, the closure dates for some of the Care and Support Centres have been altered through change requests agreed by the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee and the Improvement and Change Sub-Committee. All of this is reflected in the table below.

Table 1

Care and Support Centre	Original Target Closure Date	Recurrent Savings	Status
Kirklands, Kirkby in Ashfield	June 2016	£784,000	Complete
Woods Court, Newark & Sherwood	March 2018	£964,000	Complete
St Michael's View, Retford, Bassetlaw	May 2018	£739,000	Expected closure March 2019
Leiver's Court, Arnold, Gedling	March 2018	£678,000	Expected closure June 2019
James Hince Court, Worksop, Bassetlaw	March 2018	£594,000	By end Sept 2019 - date to be agreed
Bishops Court, Newark & Sherwood	March 2018	£587,000	By end of March 2020 - date to be agreed
Total		£4,346,000	

4. The condition of the Care and Support Centres estate is variable. Some environments are no longer fully fit for future purpose and are not an optimal model of modern provision in line with care home design principles or dementia friendly design. National minimum standards for new care homes built from 2002 onwards require a greater level of space, both personal and communal, and requirements for washing and bathing facilities are much more exacting with en-suite facilities being the norm for new care home registrations.
5. The closure of each of the Care and Support Centres requires:
 - Social Work assessment, support and transition planning with the remaining long-term residents and their families to find alternative residential care or Housing with Care placements. The majority of long term residents have become very used over several years to living in residential care and have therefore chosen to move into new care homes. Housing with Care offers a different model and it has been found that it is more likely that it will be new local people requiring significant support from social care or with unsuitable housing that are choosing to move into the Housing with Care schemes
 - phased procurement and development of short term social care assessment and re-ablement beds/apartments
 - negotiation with health partners on re-providing any NHS led short term intermediate care beds (currently only 10 Intermediate Care Beds remain, which are at James Hince Court)
 - alternative provision to meet long-term and short-term care needs being available. The Council's new Housing with Care strategy was approved by Policy Committee in June 2018 which sets out how this will happen.
 - phased work with staff in the Centres, to offer appropriate support in line with the Council's Human Resources policies.

Progress to date

6. The proposal included a decision that from February 2015, the Care and Support Centres would not admit any further long-term residents to the homes and would, in the interim, focus on providing short term care and assessment and rehabilitation beds. The number

of long term residents has reduced over this period from more than 100 to just 11, as at February 2019.

7. **Kirklands Care and Support Centre** closed in June 2016 following the opening of the Poppy Fields Housing with Care Scheme in Mansfield. Poppy Fields includes 12 assessment and re-ablement apartments which have been successful at avoiding the need for people to move into residential care by helping people to regain their independent living skills and confidence before returning to their own homes. This evidenced that the best way to meet the broad range of people's needs is to have a mix of accommodation-based assessment and re-ablement units, some in more home-like Housing with Care Schemes and some in residential care homes.
8. **Woods Court Care and Support Centre** closed in May 2018. Gladstone House Housing with Care Scheme opened on Bowbridge Road, Newark, and includes 10 short term assessment and re-ablement apartments.

Current position

9. **St Michael's View**, Retford, Bassetlaw, is on track to close by the end of March 2019 and all the remaining long term residents have successfully been supported to move into alternative homes. Short term assessment and re-ablement beds are not provided at St Michael's View. It does provide short term respite care which in future will be spot purchased from the independent sector, which has sufficient supply and will offer a greater range of choice to people. Priory Court Housing with Care Scheme in Worksop is opening in summer 2019, approximately eight miles from the centre of Retford. Development of a further Housing with Care Scheme in Retford is a priority in the Council's Housing with Care Strategy and options are currently being explored.
10. **Leiver's Court**, Arnold, Gedling, has an approved closure date of the end of June 2019. Two long term residents live there who are being supported to find an alternative home. Housing with Care is locally available at the St Andrew's scheme in Mapperley which opened in June 2015. A number of options are currently being explored to develop a block of 10 short term assessment and re-ablement beds with the flexibility to spot purchase an additional five to replace those currently provided at Leiver's Court.
11. **James Hince Court**, Bassetlaw - agreement being sought for final closure date. There are currently three long term residents living there. Priory Court Housing with Care scheme is due to open in Worksop in summer 2019. The Council will have nomination rights to 37 units (which includes 10 assessment and re-ablement beds), out of a total of 51 units. The following short term residential beds are also currently provided at James Hince Court:
 - 10 Intermediate Care - Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) was informed in 2015 of the Council's decision to stop providing and funding these beds from 2019 and is considering alternative options with partners
 - 10 Social Care Assessment & Re-ablement Beds
 - 5 Respite/Interim Care Beds.
12. **Bishop's Court** - agreement being sought for final closure date. There are six remaining long-term residents living there. Newark and Sherwood District Council has approval for funding to build a 40 unit Housing with Care Scheme at Ollerton which has a planned

completion date of December 2020. As partners, the Council has agreed that they will provide the personal care and support to eligible people in up to 30 units to which social care will have nomination rights, a proportion of which could be assessment beds if required. The following short term residential beds are currently provided at Bishop's Court:

- 10 Social Care Assessment & Re-ablement Beds
- 5 Respite/Interim Care Beds.

Progress with procurement plan for short term assessment and re-ablement beds

13. A tender for short term assessment and re-ablement beds for older adults was concluded in January 2019. The Framework list is let for an initial term of two years, with an option to extend for up to a further two years and is available for any relevant public body to purchase from within Nottinghamshire, including all the County's CCGs. Seven providers were successful and now form a list from which short term assessment and re-ablement beds can be individually spot purchased. They range from providers with one care home up to multiple home enterprises across the County:
 - Ashmere Nottinghamshire Limited
 - Four Seasons (Evedale) Limited
 - Four Seasons (Bamford) Limited
 - Hatzfeld Care Limited
 - HC-One Oval Limited
 - Milford Care Limited
 - Nottingham Community Housing Association Limited.
14. A block of three assessment and re-ablement beds was also awarded to Ashmere Nottinghamshire to cover Mansfield and Ashfield and complement the short-term apartments provided at the Poppy Fields Housing with Care scheme.
15. The number of providers on the list, however, is relatively small, not evenly spread across the County and few are able to offer services to people with very complex multiple conditions and/or dementia. For these reasons, a further tender is due to be advertised in March 2019, accompanied by further pro-active engagement with the market. Based on learning from the initial tender, sessions will also be run for providers on the essential elements of completing the application process.
16. The tender secured two providers in the south from whom it is possible to spot purchase short term assessment and re-ablement beds for people without complex long term conditions and significant dementia. It was not, therefore, possible to award a block contract in the south because most people who will use the service have complex needs including dementia care.
17. In the south alternative options are therefore also being progressed to ensure short term assessment and re-ablement beds are in place. This includes discussions with existing Housing with Care and Sheltered Housing providers in the south regarding providing a small number of assessment and re-ablement apartments. Initial work is promising and subject to approval from the provider(s) and the development of agreements relating to the tenancies, aims to have these available by June 2019. Discussions are also underway with health colleagues in the south who purchase similar services, regarding joint commissioning

of residential care assessment and re-ablement beds. This includes discussion with the Clinical Commissioning Groups about planning a long term sustainable contractual approach to GP cover for both health and social care short term rehabilitation/re-ablement beds.

Recommended closure time-scales

18. The alternative services required are now either in place or in development. If there is any delay to the plan for short term beds in the south, an additional option to mitigate this is that Bishop's Court beds could be used to bridge this in the interim. Specific closure dates now need to be agreed for the remaining two Care and Support Centres to enable the final phased programme plan to be completed by the target date of March 2020.
19. It is therefore recommended that the next phase of Care and Support Centre closures are:
 - James Hince Court in September 2019 and
 - Bishop's Court by the end of March 2020.
20. The remaining long term residents will all have an allocated Social Worker to liaise with them, their families and the Care and Support centre staff, in order to not only identify suitable alternatives but also to support a smooth transition. This has proved to be very successful in the closure of previous centres.

Other Options Considered

21. Other options have been considered, however, given that it is now the last twelve months of the programme timeline, the proposed option is the only viable one that will oversee the closures in a way that provides a phased timeline to enable:
 - sufficient operational time to practically manage the closures
 - work with long term residents and their families to identify and move into alternative accommodation
 - work with affected staff to provide support in line with Nottinghamshire County Council's Human Resource policies
 - establishment of the alternative services
 - savings to be delivered to target.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

22. These are outlined in **paragraph 21**.

Statutory and Policy Implications

23. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below.

Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

24. The closure of the six Care and Support Centres will deliver a total of £4.346m savings after accounting for the costs of providing alternative care. This is broken down in the table at **paragraph 3** of the report.

Human Resources Implications

25. There are HR implications associated with the closure of the Care and Support Centres, but these would need to be assessed once the final plans are confirmed and may differ from centre to centre. The closure of St Michael's View is currently being supported by HR and relevant employment procedures.

Implications for Service Users

26. There is currently a total of 11 remaining long-term residents who will have an allocated Social Worker to support them to find alternative long-term placements.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

27. Sustainability will be tested as part of the phased introduction of using more short term and assessment beds in the independent sector.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee:

- 1) considers whether there are any further actions it requires arising from the update on the procurement and development of services, as part of the closure programme of the Council's Care and Support Centres.
- 2) further to the decision of the Full Council Budget meeting on 26 February 2015 approving the closure of the Council's six remaining Care and Support Centres, approves the amended dates for the final phase of this previously agreed closure programme as follows: James Hince Court in September 2019 and Bishop's Court in March 2020.

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Constitutional Comments (HD 20/03/19)

27. The Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required, it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments (DM 19/03/19)

28. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 24 of the report.

HR Comments (SJJ 19/03/19)

29. The agreed employment policies and procedures will be followed in managing the closures and supporting the affected staff

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.

Annual Budget Report 2015/16 - report to County Council on 26th February 2015

Commissioning Plan for Short Term Independence Services for Older Adults 2017-19 - report to Adult Social Care and Health Committee on 14th November 2016

Retford Extra Care and the Poppy Fields Extra Care Short Term Assessment Apartments - report to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee on 10th July 2017

Progress Report on Delivery of Programmes, Projects and Savings – report to Improvement and Change Sub-Committee on 12th March 2018

Better Care Fund: 2017/18 Progress Update and Approval for the use of the BCF Care Act Allocation and the Improved BCF 2018/19 – report to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee on 13th March 2018.

Procurement Plan for Short-Term and Assessment/ Reablement Beds and Next Phase of the Care and Support Centre Closure Programme – report to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee on 14th May 2018

Nottinghamshire County Council's Strategy for Housing with Care 2018-2025 – report to Policy Committee on 20 June 2018.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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