

Meeting of the Cabinet - 31 October 2007

Report of the Director of Adult, Community & Housing Services

Continuing Development of Local Authority Residential Homes and Daycare Services – next steps

Purpose of Report

1. To approve proposals for the continued developments and realignment of residential services, day services and extra care housing to meet the changing future needs of older people and their carers.

Background

2. A number of reports have been presented to Cabinet over the past 4 years concerned with the development of Extra Care Housing and the ongoing improvement and development of local authority residential care in Dudley Borough. The aim has been to create a range of residential and housing options which meet the aspirations of current and future generations of older people.
3. At the Cabinet of 12 September a report was approved on the Extra Care Housing Partnership Agreement. Midland Heart our approved partner showed a DVD presenting the benefits of Extra Care Housing through the eyes of residents and relatives.
4. The first two schemes approved for development are at Middle Park Road, Russells Hall and at Broad Street, Coseley.

Future Developments

5. There is already an agreed scheme for Coseley, Wallbrook Residential Home is built on adjoining land and there is an opportunity to use the land for the Coseley Extra Care Scheme which would create 93 units of 1 and 2 bedroom properties.
6. Previous consultations with residents and relatives at other residential homes has revealed a strong interest in moving from residential care into Extra Care Housing.
7. Extra Care Housing provides the opportunity to retain and regain levels of independence and social engagement, whilst at the same time being safe and supported. Unlike residential care people also continue to be tenants or owner occupiers with the associated rights and levels of income and capital.

Wallbrook

8. Wallbrook was identified in previous reports as a home which did not meet National Minimum Standards in terms of room size and its lack of en suite bathrooms and that as a consequence it would in the future need reproviding to ensure the highest quality care is provided to our residents.
9. The proposed Extra Care Housing Scheme at Coseley provides us with this opportunity.
10. Midland Heart, the successful partner, believe it would be possible to build the Coseley scheme in two phases and that residents at Wallbrook would be offered the opportunity of tenancies in the first phase and a second phase could be built on the Wallbrook site, thus providing a total of 93 units sharing all of the facilities, including the restaurant, craft and activity areas, gym and social bar.
11. In addition, some of these units could be built to meet the needs of physically disabled adults. In consultation with Queens Cross Network users a need for more supported accommodation in the Borough has been identified either for respite or reablement.
12. It would not be appropriate to continue to admit people on a permanent basis whilst discussions on future plans take place, so these will cease. But Midland Heart will work closely with staff and residents to ensure they are confident about the benefits and opportunities of Extra Care housing and are fully prepared prior to any move.

Bridge House -Rehabilitation Unit

13. The success of the residents at Bridge House in moving into independent or more appropriate accommodation means that we will be able to open the rehabilitation unit at Bridge House, early next year. This will replace the facility currently at Wallbrook and increase the number of rooms available from 12 to 14. The facilities and room sizes at Bridge House are much more suitable for rehabilitation and reablement and one of the rooms will be available as a respite facility for physically disabled people pending the completion of the Coseley Extra Care Scheme.
14. Revenue currently funding Wallbrook would be used to support the scheme at Bridge House and the care costs of tenants and residents in the new Extra Care Scheme.

Shenstone-Carers Unit

15. The Extra Care Housing Schemes planned over the next 5 years will meet the needs of the increasing number of older people who wish to choose supported housing to meet their present and future physical and social care needs. Alongside this it is vital that Dudley also plans for the increasing numbers of people with dementia as a result of the increase in the elderly population figures. It is estimated that by 2012 there will be an additional 6,000 people over the age of 65 in the Borough, of whom an additional 300 people will have dementia related

needs. The needs arising from dementia are often best met by a combination of residential respite care, day care and carer support.

16. A Carers Unit to provide support for older people with physical frailty, dementia and their families is now in progress at Shenstone in Halesowen. It consists of a day centre now open 7 days per week, and two units due to open in November, one being a residential respite unit providing 5 places offering flexible responsive care, the other a unit of 13 places providing permanent care.
17. It is proposed that the Carers Unit at Shenstone serves the South of the Borough and that a similar service is provided for the North of the Borough at Russells Court.

Russell Court-Carers Unit

18. To achieve this it is proposed that one of the 4 units at Russells Court is dedicated to providing flexible short term respite for people with dementia, another unit is dedicated to providing long term care and the day centre focuses its service on providing care for people primarily with dementia. The Extra Care Scheme planned for Russells Hall Estate will have facilities which will provide day opportunities for older people with lower levels of need living in the local community, as well as those resident at the new scheme.
19. It is also proposed that the weekend services currently provided for people with dementia at the Pavillions Day Centre located in The Poplars at Brierley Hill is moved to Russells Court. This will enable us to increase capacity and to provide a complete and more flexible 7 days a week, 24 hours per day service to people with dementia and their carers. We would wish to engage with service users and carers in how best to develop this service.
20. The capacity of the service during the week at The Pavillions will be increased from 20-30 places by amalgamating it with the under-used and somewhat isolated centre at Hill House adjacent to Corbett Hospital, which is a unit for people with dementia. This will ensure an improved staffing complement is available at The Pavillions in more pleasant and suitable surroundings. It is proposed that discussions with service users, carers and staff take place to gauge their views.

Tiled House – Day Care

21. Tiled House Day Centre has a low attendance rate; it currently only has an average 10 attenders each day. Those who attend are relatively fit and able and could easily be found more interesting and stimulating opportunities to meet their needs during the day. It is proposed that, following consultation with these service users, that resources should be dedicated to finding them suitable and acceptable alternatives and that the day centre at Tiled House is closed.
22. The resources from the Day Centre at Tiled House would then be used to increase the community opportunity service based at Brettell Lane Older Person's Day Centre in Amblecote. This has been very successful already in helping older people, in the area it covers, to access "ordinary" day opportunities such as local community centres, pubs and clubs much more in keeping with their interests and

needs. With these additional resources it is anticipated that another 70 people could be supported to access “ordinary” day time activities across the Borough.

23. Brettell Lane, Brett Young and Roseville Day Centres will continue to support the most physically frail and vulnerable older people. An extension is planned for Roseville in order to enhance the service they are providing to those with the most significant care needs.

Tiled House-Residential Unit and Extra Care

24. Consultation with residents and their relatives regarding the re-provision of Tiled House took place in 2005 and was approved by Cabinet at the meeting of November 2nd 2005. Residents and relatives were generally in favour. The first scheme with strategic partner Midland Heart has been identified for Russels Hall and will open early in 2009. With this in mind residents at Tiled House could be offered first refusal on the new scheme. Midland Heart have experience of working with residential homes to make sure residents and staff are properly prepared for the move from residential care to Extra Care Housing. We think it is appropriate to start to plan this process as soon as possible and will therefore cease permanent admissions whilst plans are being formulated with residents staff and relatives.

Consultation and Service Outcomes

25. These proposals will be fully discussed with and consulted on with service users and their relatives as well as interested groups such as Age Concern and Alzheimers Society. We believe, if accepted, that the net result will be a better geographical spread of services across the borough to meet the needs of the most physically frail and vulnerable and an increase in service availability to people experiencing Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia and their carers. Tables showing this can be found in Appendix 1 and 2, but in summary the number of specialist day care places for people with dementia will increase during the week from 52 to 72 and at the weekends from 20 to 30. For the physically frail we will expand service provision during the week by 35 from 170 to 205. The two Carers Units will ensure that flexible support is available to carers of people with dementia seven days a week, to provide both planned and unplanned respite to support them in their caring roles. The number of supported living units, residential and extra care, will increase by 145 from 250 to 395 and provide a much improved availability of high quality accommodation.

Finance

26. The current gross resources spent on Local Authority residential homes and day care services for Older People amount to £8.7m. The proposals within this report would be achieved within existing resources.

Law

27. The statutory provisions relating to the proposals in this report are contained in the Housing Acts and Social Services Legislation, including the National Assistance Act of 1948.

Equality Impact

28. The Council's Equality and Diversity Policy addresses our commitment to ensuring that all Dudley Citizens have access to services and opportunities that allow them to play as full a role as possible in our local community. By developing residential and day care services in the way recommended in this report we will ensure that older people, especially those with dementia, and their carers, will be able to enjoy, experience and contribute to ordinary everyday opportunities available in our local communities.

Recommendations

29. It is recommended that Cabinet: -

Gives approval in principle to the service improvement proposals contained within the report, subject to full consultation with residents, day centre attenders, staff and other interested parties such as Age Concern and Alzheimers Society.



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List of Background Papers

Residential Care of Older People and Disabled People in Dudley, Executive report 19/11/03

Extra Care Housing Bid, Cabinet Report 27/10/04

Future Developments of Local Authority Residential Homes and the further development of Housing with Care, Cabinet Report 15/06/05.

Extra Care Housing – Partnership Agreement, Cabinet Report 12/9/07.

Appendix 1 – current and proposed day care capacity

Appendix 1

DAY CARE SERVICES

	CURRENT			PROPOSED		
	Specialist Dementia Service		Physically Frail	Specialist Dementia Services		Physically Frail
	Monday-Friday	W/E		Monday-Friday	W/E	
Hill House	20			-	-	
Pavillions	20	10		30		
Rowan Lodge	12	10		15	15	
Russell Court			20	25	15	
Brett Young			45			45
Roseville			45			45
Brettell Lane			45			45
Brettell Lane Outreach (Borough wide)						70
Tiled House			15			
	52	20	170	70	30	205

Appendix 2

RESIDENTIAL AND EXTRA CARE SERVICES

	Current	Proposed
Amblecote House	36	36
Tiled House	48	-
Wallbrook	44	-
New Bradley Hall	31	31
Shenstone	41	41
New Swinford Hall (Rehab)	18	18
Bridge House (Rehab)	-	14
Russells Court	32	32
Russells Hall Extra Care	-	130
Coseley Extra Care	-	93
	250	395