

Consultation analysis & recommendations

The Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Team analysed the responses received from the consultation, theming them under the following categories which are set out in alphabetical order.

Alternative suggestion

Respondents took the opportunity to make alternative suggestions to the options consulted upon. The suggestions included but were not limited to; combining services, undertaking work to make current services financially viable, looking for savings in other areas, waiting for a change of government.

These alternative suggestions and ideas have been gratefully received and some of these have helped us to shape the recommendations in the report. Other suggestions have been noted and will influence how we shape future provision through commissioning and market development.

Disagree with the proposals

Where respondents were indicating a direct disagreement with the proposals but did not expand further.

We recognise that many people disagreed with the proposals. We are committed to working closely with people and their family/carers to explore all options available to have their needs and outcomes met (in accordance with our Statutory Duties within the Care Act 2014).

Financial mismanagement

Respondents expressed their opinion that financial mismanagement by Council, both with respect to Adult Social Care and in other areas, had led to the proposals being necessary.

In putting the recommendations to Cabinet, we needed to take into account the fact that, like every Council up and down the country, Derbyshire is facing significant financial challenges that are outside its control. These include inflationary pressures, staff pay awards agreed nationally but paid locally and continuing increasing demand upon our services, particularly in adult care and children's services. Demand for adult social care support has also risen dramatically with the cost of providing care and support accounting for 48% of the Council's overall spending. This means in order to set a balanced budget in 2024/25 as it is legally obliged to do, the Council needed to review how people's assessed needs are met under the Care Act 2014 and to what extent the Council provides a direct care service as a means of fulfilling those needs.

Impact on other services

Some respondents expressed their opinion that the proposals, if implemented, would negatively impact on other services provided by adult social care and also on other organisations. The opinions expressed included, but were not limited to, the proposals negatively impacting upon discharges from hospital and of the potential requirement for additional residential care placements being required as a result of reduced opportunities for respite care.

We have taken this feedback into account when making the recommendations and planning the future for directly provided services going forward and the report describes the Council's commitment to working with health partners to facilitate community support beds for Derbyshire residents. We also continue to work with health to facilitate hospital discharges for people returning home and into placements where appropriate. We have considered the impact across ASCH and feedback from partner organisations when putting the recommendations together.

Impact on residents, relatives, clients

Respondents provided feedback about the negative impact that implementing the proposals would have on the wellbeing of themselves as direct users of services and or their relatives and carers. Equally, carers and family provided feedback about the negative impact that implementing the proposals would have on their loved one using the service and themselves, particularly with respect to the impact of being asked to seek alternative day support.

We recognise that any move to an alternative home or change of service will cause disruption and concern for residents, people attending services and their families, as demonstrated by the number of responses to the consultation on this theme. Our commitment is to work together with people and their families to minimise the impact of any change, as much as we possibly can. We will take account of the financial, emotional and practical impact identified in feedback, through careful and detailed planning with people and their families. We recognise the importance of ensuring that families and friends can continue to maintain contact and that friendship groups remain connected. Any recommendations made will not impact on the individual's personal budget or level of formal support including carer respite. However, we recognise there may be changes to how formal support is provided going forward. We will ensure professional support is available to people and their family in order to support people to explore alternatives with robust transition planning and a review of the outcomes until support is stable and working well.

As part of the Equality Impact Assessment, a review of relevant academic papers was undertaken around the impact on the mental and physical well-being of elderly residents in care homes who are required to move home, both during and after closure. A summary of these papers is contained within the EIA alongside recommended action that should be taken to mitigate any negative impacts as far as possible.

The importance of day opportunities in enabling family members to support their family members in the community was a clear theme and the proposals around the external day centers were revised as a result for the reasons set out in detail in the report.

Lack of alternatives

Respondents provided feedback that they were concerned around the lack of alternatives, some regarding a lack of other opportunities within their local community in a wider context of Derbyshire as a whole.

In terms of PVI provision, as referenced in the Cabinet Report, there are many PVI providers that the Council contracts with that offer residential care and day services. We are continually working to identify areas of development and commission provision to meet demand. Specific comments included concerns around a lack of homecare. In April 2024, we introduced a new framework contract for provision of home care which has increased the available home care capacity in the county with a doubling of available providers. The impact of this, coupled with the Council's re-modelled Short-Term Assessment and Rehabilitation Team, means that more people are supported to live at home thus lessening the need for residential care in the future. We also continue to support people in Extra Care with enhanced support for long term needs. In addition to this, we have had an increase in the number of people accessing Direct Payments in the past few years in Derbyshire. We have a new Personal Assistant register for people to find and recruit PAs and also for people to register and find work as a PA. Alongside this we have a new enhanced support service to help with all aspects of managing a Direct Payment.

Lack of confidence in the consultation

Respondents indicated a disbelief in a genuine consultation process.

The consultation included specific sessions with people who attend the services, family and carers; public virtual sessions held in the evenings; drop-in library sessions across the County; online questionnaires with paper versions on request and support from the Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Team to ensure people were supported to share their views in the easiest way possible. No decision could legally be made until after the consultation had closed, feedback analysed and recommendations made to Cabinet. We have listened, analysed and adapted the recommendations based on feedback in the consultation process.

Local community

Respondents commented on the lack of public transport to support relatives to visit outside of their local community. This concern was expressed across a number of locations but particularly in rural locations where adverse weather would have further impact, and/ or the distance people would be expected to travel to alternative services as a result of the rural nature of the community. Comments were received regarding concern for the local community and the stripping of assets that

meet the needs of people in the immediate area across all areas, including the loss of employment to the local economy.

If any changes result in the need for people to travel further to get to a service, we will work together to reduce any negative impact. Any cost implications for families of maintain visits would be carefully considered and fully appraised. As part of a person centred review, we will explore people's individual circumstances, needs and outcomes to be achieved. Our aim is for people to be supported in their local communities with inclusive, meaningful activities. We are working to develop local opportunities, for example developing and stimulating Direct Payments, Shared Lives and Micro Providers. We are also continually working with providers to develop their appropriate, local and inclusive services in communities.

Not answering the question

Comments relating to other things and bore no relevance to the question asked or the consultation.

Other

Standalone comments were made that did not fit into any other category.

We have noted this feedback, and comments are included in the Consultation Report.

Political agenda

Respondents took the opportunity to comment on their thoughts relating to the democratic process and frustration with local policy makers.

We have noted this feedback, and comments are included in the Consultation Report.

Private sector concerns

Respondents reported concerns for the quality of private sector provision, availability and the cost of private sector provision, further fearing that if DCC removed itself from the market then the private sector would increase prices further.

With respect to concerns around quality, registered services are regulated by the Care Quality Commission and those on the Council's contracted framework are assessed to ensure they meet our standards and have regular contract monitoring to ensure a high-quality service is provided and maintained which includes in-person visits and auditing. People can report any concerns around the standards of care provided in any care home in the county to the Council's contracts department or directly to the Care Quality Commission. If people wish to have a review of support provision at any time, they are able to request a review or reassessment from an Adult Social Care Practitioner.

With respect to concerns around the private sector increasing, DCC will need to continue to effectively manage local markets to ensure there is accessible and affordable care for people and mitigate any impact of a reduction in directly provided services as far as possible.

Quality of DCC care and staff

Respondents reported their admiration and gratitude for the quality of care provided by DCC staff, this was often accompanied with a comparison to private sector provision that was not thought to be of the same quality. There was also concern voiced for the welfare of those staff directly affected should the proposals be implemented.

Please see above response provided to private sector concerns. Praise and concern for Council colleagues has been noted and will be fed back to colleagues directly.

Rationale for the proposals

Respondents reported a belief that background work had not been sufficient to warrant the rationale for the proposals, and that the proposals did not sit with current trends or needs.

The rationale is clear in the April 2024 Cabinet Paper and the associated papers and strategies, particularly the Accommodation Strategy and Market Position Statement, in terms of the requirement to make financial efficiencies and to use limited resources to meet current and future demand. There has been a reduction in demand for standard residential care due to people being supported at home for longer resulting in more complexity of need on admission to long term care. Demand for Adult Social Care is increasing and with the budgetary pressures we are facing, we're having to look at how best we can continue to support those who need us most. Directly providing residential and day services is discretionary. We are now having to look at doing things differently and considering all areas of spending.

During the consultation the Council also received feedback from its partners in the NHS around the benefits of a single operating model across fewer sites and the potential for further integration in the area of short-term assessment and reablement.

Petitions

At the time of drafting this report there were 7 petitions received, ranging from 22 to 5485 signatures. The lists did not fulfil the requirements for debate of the Petition Scheme as set out within the Council's Constitution.

Two petitions with a total of 593 signatures were received regarding Thomas College, one petition received for The Grange with 344 signatures, one petition regarding the eight non-integrated day centres with 5485 signatures, one petition about the Briar

Close with 1888, one petition about the proposals generally with 981 signatures and one petition around the residential care homes with 176 signatures.

People lacking capacity to engage

People that attend these services who were considered likely to lack the mental capacity to engage or who required support to engage in the consultation had access to the support needed either via family support or professional colleagues where this was considered to be appropriate following a best interests decision.

Service specific analysis and recommendation

Bennerley Fields

There were 43 comments expressed during the consultation meeting at Bennerley Fields, the comments were themed as:

Financial mismanagement (11 comments). With comments such as:

- How was this place viable 18 months ago as a beacon example of a care home, for others to copy. It is state of the art, absolutely superb building. There was a lot of money spent on this building £15 million. If the private sector built this then they wouldn't be shutting it so soon. It is not good financial business.

Impact on residents, relatives and clients (8 comments). With comments such as:

- If this closes, this would be my 4th move. I am going to be out on the bloody streets. I am diabetic and need care. Where am I going to end up. I am left in limbo.

Rationale for the proposals (7 comments). With comments such as:

- You say people want to stay at home for longer. There are lots of health and safety implications for that. Untrained or volunteers could injure themselves or others. I think the figures in the report are misleading. The paper reads like you want to send people back home.

Private sector concerns (6 comments), alternative suggestion (4 comments), disagree with the proposals (1 comment), local community (1 comment), consultation – lack of confidence in the process (1 comment), impact on other services (1 comment), political agenda (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council continues to operate Bennerley Fields but that it permanently ceases to operate long term residential care at this site, repurposing the entire building for the provision of community support beds under a single operating model. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Bennerley Fields.

There are 14 long term residents currently residing at Bennerley Fields and 1 person receiving regular respite. There are 127 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Briar Close

There were 46 comments expressed during the meeting at Briar Close, the comments were themed as:

Rationale for the proposals (10 comments). With comments such as:

- In your survey by Sortified it asked – would you wish to stay at home or go into residential care – most people would say they want to stay at home. With home care they get a call for about half an hour perhaps 4 times a day – this means that they become isolated with no stimulus. This means that their health deteriorates. Yes, they may have family come in – but family can't fill all the hours. The question was loaded and was a closed question – practicality means that they all can't stay at home – I am worried that you are going to this model without fully appreciating the affects.

Impact on relatives, residents and clients (7 comments). With comments such as:

- When you go back to the report – just put the beans down for a bit – imagine someone knocks on the door and says sorry mate you have to move to the other side of the county. This is their home.

Financial mismanagement (7 comments). With comments such as:

- What I find difficult to grasp – my grandmother has been here for 3 years, and this was to stay open and went through a £3 million renovation – is this poor planning or what is it – it's very confusing.

Private sector concerns (5 comments), consultation – lack of confidence in the process (4 comments), local community (4 comments), alternative suggestion (3 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (2 comments), impact on other services (2 comments), political agenda (2 comments).

Petition – Briar Close

Save Briar Close Care Home (EPET408)

Demand that Derbyshire County Council continue to run and fund Briar Close Care Home and abandon its plans to sell or close this very valued community asset.

1888 people signed this Paper petition.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Briar Close. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for Briar Close, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Briar Close.

There are 18 long term residents currently residing at Briar Close and 2 people receiving regular respite. There are 228 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Castle Court

There were 53 comments expressed during the meeting at Castle Court, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents relatives and clients (21 comments). With comments such as:

- It will be the death of my mum if you have to move her. It is the only council run care home in south Derbyshire. It was very hard to get my mum with dementia in here, but it will make her so ill if you move her. It is a home from home, it is not a nursing home, it is lovely. Some of the people here have been friends since they were young.

Rationale of the proposals (8 comments). With comments such as:

- Why here, it is purpose built, lovely team that work well, en suites. It is working well but only half full. There are people needing to leave hospital why not bring them here. My dad first came here 15 years ago for respite. Why get rid of something that isn't broken.

Consultation – lack of confidence in the process (7 comments). With comments such as:

- At the end of the day this is a cost cutting exercise.

Alternative suggestion (6 comments), financial mismanagement (5 comments), political agenda (2 comments), lack of alternative provision (2 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (2 comments).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Castle Court. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for Castle Court, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Castle Court.

There are 22 long term residents currently residing at Castle Court and 1 person receiving regular respite. There are 35 ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

The Grange

There were 73 comments expressed during the meetings at The Grange, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents, relatives and clients (23 comments). With comments such as:

- My relative has transformed since being here, in other homes the decline was rapid. Individualised care needs are looked after here. The level of care and the cost for a facility such as en suite bathrooms. You are going to contribute towards residents having to move to places which will give them a worse quality of life and care.

Lack of alternative provision (10 comments). With comments such as:

- There are no beds locally for those with physical or mental illness, or for people that are old and frail. Our relatives are being sacrificed as they don't have dementia.

Financial mismanagement (7 comments). With comments such as:

- You have space to take in more people, but it isn't being utilised.

Private sector concerns (7 comments). With comments such as:

- The council is determined to dump care homes, if you can't make it pay then how will the private sector make it pay. They will buy it, shut it and sell the land.

Rationale of proposals (6 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (6 comments), alternative suggestion (5 comments), consultation - lack of confidence in the process (4 comments), disagree with proposals (2 comments), impact on other services (1 comment), local community (1 comment), political agenda (1 comment).

Petition

Save The Grange Care Home (EPET407)

Derbyshire County Council (D.C.C.) are considering proposals to close either 9 or 11 care homes across Derbyshire as part of SEVERE CUTS to Services. Among these homes is the Grange Care Home in Eckington - an institution, known for its excellence in care in a homely setting with its dedicated caring staff team. This home has been part of the Eckington community for over 40 years and would be a major loss.

344 people signed this petition.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate The Grange. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for The Grange, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to The Grange.

There are 15 long term residents currently residing at The Grange and 0 people receiving regular respite. There are 68 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Lacemaker Court (including integrated day centre)

There were 33 comments expressed during the meeting at Lacemaker Court, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents, relatives and clients (20 comments). With comments such as:

- It is one thing to say people can get respite for their loved ones with dementia, but a few hours a day isn't sufficient for working families.

Rationale of proposals (4 comments). With comments such as:

- The headline is for more provision for dementia care. This place is just that. My mum was able to stop at home a lot longer as she was able to use the day centre here.

Lack of alternative provision (3 comments). With comments such as:

- There will be multiple people across Derbyshire, that will need to find alternative care if you shut these homes.

Private sector concerns (3 comments). With comments such as:

- My mum has been in emergency care, the window wouldn't shut, the care was terrible, the place was filthy and unsafe. She went from squalor to the ritz coming here. The care she has had here has been amazing. We are so scared she will end up back in an unsuitable and unsafe care home if you shut lacemaker. We don't want her going to somewhere like that again.

Consultation – lack of confidence in the process (1 comment), disagree with proposals (1 comment), financial mismanagement (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Lacemaker Court, including the integrated day centre. It is recommended the home (including the day centre) be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for Lacemaker Court, including the integrated day centre, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Lacemaker Court.

There are 12 long term residents currently residing at Lacemaker Court and 9 people receiving support at the Day Centre. There are 106 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

The Leys

There were 20 comments expressed during the meeting at The Leys the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents, relatives and clients (14 comments). With comments such as:

- My dad loves this place, it is amazing, so he is well looked after. When my dad was in hospital, he quickly goes downhill. He is so much better as soon as he comes back here, as he is so well cared for. I worry how this would affect him and the other residents if it was to close.

Alternative suggestion (2 comments):

- You could bring extra services such as a day centre and ICB beds here.

Local community (1 comment):

- We live around the corner we have to travel miles to visit another relative.

Private sector concerns (1 comment):

- If you sold the Leys to a private company then everyone would have to pay the full cost of their care.

Quality of DCC care and staff (1 comment):

- This is an absolutely fantastic home. I have been associated with it for 40 years.

Other (1 comment):

- The Leys is a small home so unfortunately, we don't have a big voice to try and save it.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate the Leys. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for the Leys, including the integrated day centre, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable

alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to the Leys.

There are 11 long term residents currently residing at the Leys and 0 people receiving regular respite. There are 126 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 15 miles of this service.

New Basset House

There were 53 comments expressed during the meeting at New Basset House, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents, relatives and clients (20 comments). With comments such as:

- My mum has been here 13 years. Familiarity is so important for people with dementia and trust. This will kill her.

Lack of alternative provision (7 comments). With comments such as:

- There are very few places for people with challenging needs.

Rationale of proposals (6 comments). With comments such as:

- If you closed these facilities, the care beds would reduce. Is demand reducing across the county.

Private sector concerns (5 comments), consultation – lack of confidence in the process (4 comments), financial mismanagement (4 comments), political agenda (3 comments), alternative suggestion (2 comments), local community (1 comment), quality of DCC care and staff (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate New Bassett House. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for New Bassett House, including the integrated day centre, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to New Bassett House.

There are 10 long term residents currently residing at New Bassett House and 3 people receiving regular respite. There are 76 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Rowthorne

There were 24 comments expressed during the meeting at Rowthorne, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents, relatives and carers (7 comments). With comments such as:

- My grandkids like to pop in and see grandad so would like him to be local.

Financial mismanagement (4 comments). With comments such as:

- I know people that are desperate to come here, and being told there aren't spaces.

Private sector concerns (3 comments). With comments such as:

- Local private care homes may cost way more than Rowthorne. That wouldn't be good value for Council budgets.

Local community (2 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (2 comments), rationale of proposals (2 comments), alternative suggestion (1 comment), disagree with proposals (1 comment), lack of alternative provision (1 comment), political agenda (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Rowthorne. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for Rowthorne, including the integrated day centre, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Rowthorne.

There are 16 long term residents currently residing at Rowthorne and 0 people receiving regular respite. There are 102 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Thomas Colledge

There were 50 comments expressed during the meeting at Thomas Colledge, the comments were themed as:

Impact on residents relatives and carers (17 comments). With comments such as:

- This is a lovely home. It was his first choice of home. He went into another home that had lots of people with dementia. He didn't like being in the dementia home. Why should people with dementia take precedent over those with other conditions. These are people that have lived and worked in this area all their lives. Why can't he live somewhere he wants to live, with people he can converse with.

Consultation – lack of confidence in the process (7 comments). With comments such as:

- I feel the report has already been written and the case has been made.

Financial mismanagement (6 comments). With comments such as:

- What are you doing to people. We tried to pay a bill for 6 months and no one responded. We tried again and again to pay it. If people can't pay when they need to then it is no wonder the council is in financial trouble.

Impact on other services (4 comments), local community (4 comments), other (4 comments), private sector concerns (3 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (2 comments), lack of alternative provision (1 comment), political agenda (1 comment), rationale for proposals (1 comment).

Petitions

Save Thomas Colledge Care Home (EPET401)

We the undersigned petition the council to Save Thomas Colledge Care Home

This care home is extremely important to local residents and families. Closure would mean residents have to move out of the area where they have lived all of their lives.

22 people signed this ePetition.

Closure of Thomas Colledge Care Home Bolsover (EPET406)

Stop the closure of Thomas Colledge Care Home

571 people signed this paper petition.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Thomas Colledge. It is recommended the home be offered for sale to the open market as a going concern for a period of up to eight weeks. If the Council receives an offer for Thomas Colledge, including the integrated day centre, the offer would be considered by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Property. Where conditions of sale are not met, the current residents would be supported to find reasonable and suitable alternative accommodation. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis and response to the feedback provided during the consultation is set out above and applies to Thomas Colledge.

There are 14 long term residents currently residing at Thomas Colledge and 3 people receiving regular respite. There are 97 'Good' or 'Outstanding' vacancies within 10 miles of this service.

Non-integrated Day Centres

Petition

Objection to Derbyshire County Council's proposal to Close 8 Day Centres for Older People (EPET402)

We the undersigned petition the council to stop the proposed closure of 8 Day Centres for Older People.

We call on Derbyshire County Council not to close 8 Day Centres for Older People as proposed, including Jubilee Centre in New Mills, Eccles Fold in Chapel, Queens Court in Buxton, Blackwell & Valley View Day Centres in Bolsover, Fabrick Day Services in Clay Cross, Hasland Resource Centre in Chesterfield & Shirevale Resource Centre. These day centres provide a vital service in our communities. They enable hundreds of older people to live in their own home & give respite to unpaid carers. It should be debated at Full Council.

5485 people have signed this ePetition

Blackwell Day Centre

This service is not open due to lack of demand.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Blackwell Day Centre. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report. Ceasing to operate

this service will not impact any individual service user as there are not any attendees as a result of a lack of demand.

Fabrick Day Centre

This service is currently operating a reduced service over 2 days as a result of lack of demand.

There were 47 comments expressed during the meeting, the comments were themed as: impact on residents relatives and carers (23 comments). With comments such as:

- It is helpful to hear everyone points. Models like this don't work for most people. Money on an individual care package doesn't work for people. Loneliness is detrimental to people. 20 cigarettes a day is the equivalent to the dangers of isolation. A lot of support, especially preventative support is no longer available. We still need to bring people together, and make some connections. If you strip back the costs here, people will deteriorate, the social needs won't be met by someone popping into their home. This is a therapeutic community facility; it is so important. Shutting services will incur costs that aren't being factored in. Data with mental health teams, this is a short-term decision that will have a long-lasting negative impact.

Quality of DCC care and staff, with 5 comments such as:

- Its like a good hotel here, the staff are marvellous, they are really good to us. What will happen to this space if you close it.

Financial mismanagement, with 5 comments such as:

- Are all the 8 facilities making a loss? In the future people with disabilities will increase. If places are working within their budgets, then they should remain open. Is it that the council haven't managed services well previously. There is an establishment on the list that has never reopened after covid.

Impact on other services (3 comments), private sector concerns (3 comments), local community (2 comments), lack of alternative provision (1 comment), political agenda (2 comment), rationale for proposals (1 comment), lack of confidence in the consultation process (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Fabrick Day Centre. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis above is relevant to this service.

There are currently twelve people who attend this service who will be offered a review and alternative provision to meet their eligible needs, including the in-house provision that will continue to be operated by the Council where appropriate.

Jubilee Day Centre

There were 36 comments expressed during the meeting, the comments were themed as: impact on residents relatives and carers (15 comments). With comments such as:

- I don't think you can compare here for 2 days with anything else. It refreshes me. He loves coming here and I get a much needed break. It wouldn't be the same having carers come into our home, it wouldn't be a break for me.

Local community (6), with comments such as:

- We need this in our community. We work so need to be assured our loved ones are being cared for whilst we work. Local support, where we can reach them easily if there is a problem is important.

Private sector concerns (4), with comments such as:

- You wouldn't get that same level of care from the private sector and it would cost more.

Financial mismanagement (3 comments), Impact on other services (2 comments), lack of confidence in the consultation process (2 comments), political agenda (2 comment), rationale for proposals (2 comments).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Jubilee Day Centre. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis above is relevant to this service.

There are currently sixteen people who attend this service who will be offered a review and alternative provision to meet their eligible needs, including the in-house provision that will continue to be operated by the Council where appropriate.

Queen's Court Day Centre

There were 68 comments expressed during the meeting, the comments were themed as: private sector concerns (19 comments). With comments such as:

- you are on about money – it will cost a hell of a lot more to put these people elsewhere – then you will put them somewhere where they stick them in a corner.

Impact on residents relatives and carers (15 comments). With comments such as:

- because of this facility I got the person I care for out of residential care because of the care that is provided here.

Local community (9 comments), with comments such as:

- We are not in a city centre – carers just don't want to come out to you – you only get 10 – 15 minutes.

Alternative suggestions (6 comment), rationale for proposals (6 comments), financial mismanagement (5 comments), lack of confidence in the consultation process (3

comments), Impact on other services (2 comments), political agenda (2 comments), quality of DCC care and staff (1 comment).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Jubilee Day Centre. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report and the analysis above is relevant to this service.

There are currently twenty-nine people who attend this service who will be offered a review and alternative provision to meet their eligible needs, including the in-house provision that will continue to be operated by the Council where appropriate.

Valley View Day Centre

This service is not operational due to lack of demand.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council permanently ceases to operate Valley View Day Centre. The rationale for this recommendation is set out in detail in the report. Ceasing to operate this service will not impact any individual service user as there are not any attendees as a result of a lack of demand.