

Derbyshire County Council

Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People

2 September 2020

Oversight of Next Steps in Relation to Direct Homes for Older People

Scoping Report

1. Purpose of the Report

To inform the Committee about the proposed scope for a topic to be included on the work programme.

2. Information and Analysis

On 4th June 2020 Cabinet received a report on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed closure of seven, and the refurbishment of three, Direct Care homes for older people. These homes were as follows:

Proposed for closure:

- Ladycross House (Sandiacre)
- Beechcroft (West Hallam)
- East Clune (Clowne)
- Holmlea (Tibshelf)
- The Spinney (Brimington)
- Goyt Valley House (New Mills)
- Gernon Manor (Bakewell)

Proposed for refurbishment:

- Briar Close (Borrowash)
- Rowthorne (Swanwick)
- New Bassett House (Shirebrook)

Cabinet approved the following:

- Further to the consultation none of the homes proposed for closure will close unless a local care home or alternative provision is available to replace it, and further consultation is undertaken as appropriate.
- That a further report setting out a programme of repair and refurbishment for these seven homes, to include any works required immediately to ensure their soundness and safety, will be presented to Cabinet in due course.
- That the plans to undertake a programme of work to refurbish New Bassett House, Briar Close and Rowthorne will continue with a further

report presented to Cabinet seeking a business case and procurement approval in due course.

- That People Scrutiny Committee be invited to consider including within its work programme, oversight of the next steps (with particular reference to the need for and type of local provision required) to ensure transparency of decision making and to make any recommendations to Cabinet or elsewhere that may arise as a result of such scrutiny.
- That a revised strategy and investment plan taking into account reviews of the Market Position Statement and of the strategic needs analysis will be presented to Cabinet by the end of 2020.

At the Places Improvement and Scrutiny on 22 July, Members agreed to include the task of overseeing the next steps (described above) on the Committee's work programme. It was also agreed that all Committee members would join a working group to undertake this work.

3. The role of the scrutiny working group

The scrutiny working group met on 17 August to discuss the scope of the work and consider how Members would like to carry out their role of overseeing the next steps in relation to direct care homes for older people.

It was proposed that evidence would be sought from the Cabinet Member for Adult Care, the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and senior officers from Adult Social Care and Property Services. It was anticipated that the Committees recommendations would be submitted to Cabinet before the end of the year and the following key lines of enquiry were identified.

1. How will the robustness and durability of ongoing mitigation measures be assessed ?
2. How will demand for current and future provision for older people be assessed?
3. How will the market be assessed?
4. What factors will be considered when determining what is local provision?
5. How will factors that determine what is suitable alternative provision be identified and assessed?
6. How will stakeholders be engaged?

4. Officer's Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

- (1) Agree the key lines of enquiry and scope of the work described above
- (2) Note that the working group will report its conclusions to the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee in due course.

Cllr Gary Musson
Chairman of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People