

Agenda Item.6(h)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

10 December 2020

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE
AND HEALTH**

DIRECT CARE HOMES FOR OLDER PEOPLE: UPDATE ON ACTIONS

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

1. Purpose of the Report

For Cabinet to note the progress report on the actions and subsequent proposed next steps following the 4 June Cabinet report.

2. Background

On 4 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)

In this report 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 them, 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.

3. Information and Analysis

Progress report:

1. Programme of essential works on seven homes: Property have compiled a schedule of essential works required on the homes for older people which has been submitted for consideration as part of the capital programme. This schedule includes all works which relate to the safety and soundness of the seven buildings listed above including (where required) roof works, heating works/replacement of boilers, replacement of kitchen ventilation, etc. These are works which are deemed to be required over the next one to two years, but this does not include rewiring or full refurbishment which would need to be part of a longer-term plan. The funding for this proposed programme will be considered as part of the overall Capital Programme which will be reported to Cabinet in January 2021.

Should the Council consider the use of the older homes beyond two years, it will be necessary to develop a further plan for their continued use as they will require a comprehensive invasive re-wire and major refurbishment of their fabric. To develop this plan feasibility studies will be required that will describe potential options and provide budgeting estimates. Evaluation of the feasibilities will inform a subsequent capital strategy bid that will be required in twelve months to complete the additional, essential major refurbishment work. It should be noted that the outline budgeting cost for seven home refurbishments approximates to £30.000m.

2. Refurbishment of three homes: The Business Case for this programme of work has been finalised and the funding and procurement process were approved by Cabinet on 10 September 2020. The procurement process is now underway with a view to awarding a contract in January 2021, with work commencing in Spring 2021. It is envisaged that the three homes will be refurbished including rewiring and installation of sprinkler systems by September 2022.
3. Scrutiny oversight: People Scrutiny committee established a working group which has considered the current mitigation arrangements associated with the homes which require rewiring, and also considered key principles in developing any new proposals for the homes (i.e. definition of terminology “local”, “suitable” and “reasonable”). On the basis of the review so far the Committee reports it is assured that the mitigation measures in place are sufficiently robust and durable to address the increased risk associated with the properties that have been identified as needing rewiring in the near future, and that it will continue to pursue the other key lines of enquiry regarding the Committee’s role in overseeing the next steps in relation to direct care homes for older people. An interim report from the Scrutiny committee, “Next Steps in Relation to Direct Care Homes for Older People”, was presented to Cabinet on 19 November 2020. It is requested that the People Scrutiny committee complete the remainder of their work programme by the end of January 2021.
4. Revised Market Position Statement needs analysis and strategy development: preparations for undertaking public and stakeholder engagement in order to revise the Market Position Statement were well advanced prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme of engagement and development activity has been reviewed in light of this and a revised programme plan is in place with a focus on market shaping and market development. Recognising the impact COVID-19 has had on the care market, an Interim Market Position Statement 2021-22 will be produced to support the Council’s approach to fee modelling in 2021-22. It is intended to have a first draft of the Interim Market Position Statement by the end of December 2020 using data from the new reporting arrangements introduced as a result of the pandemic, for example the national Capacity Tracker data; and following completion of the citizen engagement process, an updated version will be completed by February 2021.

A virtual Older People’s Housing, Accommodation and Support investment event will take place on 14 December 2020 which will help to inform the medium/ longer-term development opportunities to support the implementation of the Strategy. There is also a requirement to undertake a review of the overarching Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Analysis in order to inform any future strategic planning.

Next steps:

Revised prospective key dates for future actions are as follows:

- December 2020 – January: citizen engagement and with care providers undertaken (including information from the virtual investment event 14 December 2020)
- February 2021: completion of an interim Market Position Statement to respond to the impact of COVID-19, which will be reported to Cabinet in March 2021
- Summer 2021 (estimated post pandemic): commencement of a full review of the care market to develop a refreshed Market Position Statement, review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Analysis.
- Summer 2021: completion of feasibility work on the seven homes which require rewiring
- Autumn 2021: consideration of a longer-term strategic plan taking account of the revised Market Position Statement, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Analysis.

4. Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. The feasibility studies described above will be funded through existing revenue budgets. The funding for essential works will be considered by Cabinet as part of the overall Capital Programme in January 2021.

5. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Human resource, Legal, Social Value, Human Rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property and crime and disorder considerations.

6. Background Papers

4 June 2020 Cabinet report: Outcome of the consultation on the future of Direct Care homes for older people

7. Key Decision

Yes

8. Is it required that the Call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report? -

No

9. Officer's Recommendation

For Cabinet to:

- Note the update on actions outlined in this report
- Agree to the revised timeline for reporting on the revised Market Position Statement

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MATLOCK**