South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

REPORT

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Held on 25th June, 2015

Agenda Item 10

Title Supported Accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities

Summary:
The purpose of this report is to advise the Integration Joint Board of a proposal agreed by South Ayrshire Council to seek to procure the provision of a 7 unit core and cluster model of supported accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities at Citadel Place in Ayr.

Presented by Tim Eltringham, Director of Health & Social Care

Action required:

It is recommended, as part of its strategic approach to the provision of services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, that the Integration Joint Board supports the Council's proposals to seek to construct supported accommodation for this purpose at Citadel Place in Ayr.

Implications checklist – check box if applicable and include detail in report

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SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Integration Joint Board of a proposal agreed by South Ayrshire Council to seek to procure the provision of a 7 unit core and cluster model of supported accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities at Citadel Place in Ayr.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended, as part of its strategic approach to the provision of services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, that the Integration Joint Board supports the Council’s proposals to seek to construct supported accommodation for this purpose at Citadel Place in Ayr.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 ‘Keys to Life – Improving Quality of Life for People with Learning Disabilities’ (link here) is the Scottish Government strategy to address the health inequalities facing people with learning disabilities. It places a strong focus on accessing housing as a way to improve quality of life and promote independence. The associated ‘Keys to Life in South Ayrshire, Adult Learning Disability Strategy 2013-2016’ (link here), agreed by the Council’s Leadership Panel in May 2013, reinforces the need to shift the balance of care for people with learning disabilities from institutional to community based service provision.

3.2 Currently in South Ayrshire, clients with learning disabilities receive care and support packages which are delivered to them in their own homes. This is suitable for many people, however, some individuals would benefit greatly from the combined provision of housing, care and support within a single supported accommodation service. This would allow people to live independently with the security of onsite support should they require it.

3.3 There are around 47 South Ayrshire Council service users with complex learning disabilities that could benefit from shared support packages. The cost of current care packages ranges from £50,000 to £120,000 per year. Some of these 47 service users currently live at home with elderly parents and care costs are expected to escalate should family circumstances change. The delivery of shared care as part of supported accommodation would reduce these costs and contribute to potential efficiency savings.
3.4 The ‘Core and ‘Cluster’ model of supported housing is one in which residents have their own self-contained flat and onsite accommodation for carers and support workers. The benefits of this model include:

- Increased independence and better outcomes for service users.
- Greater flexibility of support provision.
- Helps service users to develop good social networks.
- Increased security for service users knowing that someone is always onsite to respond to issues.
- Increased peace of mind for families and relatives.
- More efficient use of support provision, (no travel time for staff and reduction in individual support hours).
- An immediate response to dangers identified through technology.

3.5 A core and cluster model of accommodation has been successfully operated by Turning Point Scotland at Ardfin Court, Prestwick for a number of years and is achieving the benefits outlined in section 3.4 above.

3.6 Officers from the Council’s Housing Service and Community Care Services which are delegated to the Health and Social Care Partnership have been working together over the last six months to determine the most cost effective way of delivering core and cluster accommodation for people with learning disabilities. The location and size of the site are fundamentally important to the sustainability of any new development. There is a requirement for the accommodation to be close to amenities and transport links to promote independent living, as well as a need to limit the number of units to achieve a homely and secure environment.

4. REPORT

4.1 As part of the development work undertaken by Officers, an appraisal of sites in both Council and private ownership that are identified in the Local Development Plan as being suitable for housing, were considered as a possible site for this type of development. The outcome of this exercise was to identify a site at Citadel Place in Ayr. It was established that this could be developed to provide a 7 unit core and cluster model of supported accommodation together with the appropriate support base.

4.2 A report was approved by the Council’s Leadership Panel on 27th May, 2015, which suggested that the proposal should be taken forward and that a project should be undertaken to provide the accommodation. All contractual matters relating to the potential construction of the properties will be undertaken by South Ayrshire Council and all of the necessary capital funding required to meet the construction costs will be provided by, or through, South Ayrshire Council.

4.3 Once built the accommodation will be part of the Council’s Housing Revenue Account (HRA) portfolio. All units will be wheelchair-accessible and lift access will be incorporated into the accommodation.

4.4 Statutory community consultation on the development proposals will take place as part of the planning process. In addition to this, focused consultation with adults with learning disabilities and their carers will also be carried out to inform the layout and design of the accommodation. Partners from third sector organisations will also be involved in the design process to ensure the homes meet customer needs.

4.5 It is anticipated that the development could be complete by March, 2017.
4.6 To ensure best use of resources and the provision of high quality services to this client group, the care and support delivered as part of the accommodation would be tendered prior to the completion of the units. Although the physical asset will be part of the Council’s property portfolio as detailed above, the commissioning, management and monitoring of the support provider’s performance would be overseen by the Health and Social Care Partnership.

4.7 As the existing Strategy for Learning Disability is due to expire on 31st March, 2016, the Partnership’s Strategic Plan for 2015-18 contains an action item on page 74 to develop a new Strategy for this service area with an outcome focussed action plan based on available resources for completion by this date. Early work in this regard is now underway and given the need to provide a range of services and supports for this client group, core and cluster of accommodation is seen as being an essential part of this provision for all of the reasons stated earlier in this report.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications
5.1.1 There will be no capital construction cost implications for the Integration Joint Board arising from this proposal. All such costs will be the responsibility of South Ayrshire Council.

5.1.2 As indicated at paragraph 3.3, the cost of individual support packagers can be significant. The delivery of shared care as part of supported accommodation would reduce these costs and contribute to potential future efficiency savings. The cost of the social care service to be provided together with the commissioning, management, and monitoring of this would be chargeable to the Integrated Budget, but based on the model being advanced in this paper would be expected to be less than that currently being incurred based on existing levels of demand. The required action will be taken in this regard as part of the budget preparation exercise.

5.2 Human Resource Implications
5.2.1 There are no Human Resource issues for the Integration Joint Board arising from this report.

5.3 Legal Implications
5.3.1 There are no legal issues for the Integration Joint Board arising from the consideration of this report.

6. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

6.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this paper. See Paragraph 4.4 for details of consultation proposed.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on the proposals by South Ayrshire Council as part of the reporting to its Leadership Panel. The New Learning Disability Strategy and corresponding Action and Resource Plans will be similarly subject to a full Equalities Impact Assessment.
8. **SUSTAINABILITY IMPlications**

8.1 The proposed construction of Core and Cluster Supported Accommodation is part of the delivery of the Local Housing Strategy 2011-2016, which was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

9. **CONCLUSIONS**

9.1 That the Integration Joint Board supports the Council’s proposals to seek to construct supported accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities at Citadel Place in Ayr.

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**REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT**

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report by the South Ayrshire Council Executive Director Economy - Neighbourhood & Environment and Executive Director – Resource, Governance and Organisation to the Council’s Leadership Panel of 27th May, 2015, entitled “Supported Accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities.” (Please note that this is a private and confidential report as it contains information on potential contractual matters.)

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4th June, 2015
Site Map of Citadel Place