

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT SOCIAL CARE** held on 15 June 2016 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Councillor P Smith (in the Chair)

Also in attendance was Councillors R Davison & P Jones.

09/16 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

10/16 **CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF ADA BELFIELD HOME FOR OLDER PEOPLE, BELPER** The Cabinet Member was informed of the commencement of a period of consultation on the proposed closure of Ada Belfield Home for Older People in Belper (“Ada Belfield”).

On 3 May 2016 Cabinet approved a proposal to consult on the proposed closure of Ada Belfield. The Strategic Director’s report set out the scope and practical arrangements for this consultation which would run from 16 June 2016 to 11 August 2016. This consultation would be on the basis that current and future residents in Ada Belfield would be supported to transfer to the new accommodation when it was completed and that Ada Belfield would only close once the new development was completed.

Cabinet was informed that the potential development of a new care home on Derwent Street, Belper (the former Thorntons factory site), as part of an integrated facilities scheme, was contingent upon the closure of Ada Belfield and that this new development would become a direct replacement for Ada Belfield. The home was in need of significant investment (in the order of £850,000) in terms of essential maintenance and refurbishment to meet minimum standards. In addition to the strategic need to develop specialist residential care for people with dementia in the Amber Valley area, there was also a need to maintain “non-top up” quality residential care. It was further proposed that the new care home should be increased to 40 beds as this would assist with affordability in terms of the staffing model.

This proposed approach was a variation from the Revised Strategy for Accommodation and Support for Older People agreed by Cabinet on 16 June 2015. That report identified the need to retain Ada Belfield as there was a strategic importance to maintaining service provision in the Belper area. This

remained the case. However, the revenue costs involved in maintaining the home were now considered to be unsustainable and it was, therefore, appropriate for consideration to be given to closing this home and replacing it with a new facility in Belper.

To make the proposed replacement home financially viable it would be necessary to use the current revenue budget for Ada Belfield to fund the new facility. On that basis, before the development of the new care home could proceed, it was essential that consultation took place with residents and their families at Ada Belfield. In addition to this, the Council would carry out an Equality Impact Assessment in respect of the proposed closure. It should be noted that Ada Belfield would continue to operate business as usual; the home would be maintained to an acceptable standard and would continue to accept new clients irrespective of the consultation or its outcome. If Cabinet determined in due course, having considered the responses to the consultation and the Equality Impact Assessment, that the Ada Belfield should not close, the plans for the integrated scheme would need further revision and a further report to Cabinet.

The proposed closure of Ada Belfield required a period of a consultation prior to any decisions being made. The extent of the potential impact would be determined through the period of consultation and would be taken into consideration and reported to Cabinet as part of the final decision-making on the proposals. The proposals would also be subject to a full Equality Impact Assessment.

The consultation process would involve an explanatory letter being sent to all residents and/or their carer/advocate as appropriate. Meetings with residents and their relatives and other interested parties would also be held. This would include the wider local community who would have a legitimate interest in the future care home provision in the area. Consultees would have a number of ways to respond which would take into account the age group of the residents. The consultation period of 8 weeks would run from 16 June 2016 until 11 August 2016.

There were currently 22 residents living at Ada Belfield, in addition regular day care and respite care clients would also be involved in the consultation. Any move would not take place until a comprehensive person centred assessment had been conducted in accordance with the Council's established procedure for closure of establishments set out in the "Major Change and Closure Guidance".

RESOLVED (1) to note the commencement of a period of consultation on the proposed closure of Ada Belfield Home for Older People;

(2) to also notes that the consultation would be on the basis that current and future residents in Ada Belfield would be supported to transfer to the new

accommodation when it was completed and that Ada Belfield would only close once the new development was completed; and

(3) that a report on the outcome of the consultation and an Equality Impact Analysis be prepared for the Cabinet meeting on 20 September 2016 at which point if it was decided that Ada Belfield should not close a revised business case on the new care home development would be required.

11/16 FUNDING FOR INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT WEST STREET RESOURCE CENTRE TO CREATE 2 DISABLED ACCESS TOILETS AND PERSONAL CARE SUPPORT FACILITIES TO PROVIDE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS FOR THE NO LIMITS (PMLD) SERVICE Approval was sought for funding from the Maintaining Minimum Standards budget for internal alterations to create 2 disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities in order to improve the current toileting and personal care facilities for the No Limits (Profound & Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) service at West Street Resource Centre, Chesterfield.

The No Limits Service (previously known as Chesterfield PMLD) was established in 2006 and has offered day opportunities to both adults with profound and multiple disabilities as well as those with high support needs from both Chesterfield and North Derbyshire areas.

The No Limits Service moved to West Street Resource Centre near Chesterfield town centre on 11 April 2010 and originally shared the facilities with Leonard Cheshire Disability Services. After Leonard Cheshire relocated, the No Limits Service remained at West Street Resource Centre where they were still currently based.

The current equipment/facilities in place for personal care and moving and handling were assessed and provided based on the needs of the Leonard Cheshire clients. Professional opinions had been gathered who were all of the opinion that the equipment was no longer fit for purpose.

As a result, the service had no choice but to use 2 alternative areas of the building to provide personal care to the people that were supported on a daily basis but were not really suitable.

Corporate Property Services had previously assessed the viability of the whole building at West Street and identified that it was not financially viable to carry out repairs and refurbishment so that it could be fully utilised through bringing in other services and teams to occupy the space. As a result of this there was an ongoing requirement to find alternative accommodation in the Chesterfield area. However this had been the case for over a year and no suitable alternative options had been found to date. During that time and until

alternative options can be found the No Limits service continued to occupy and operate out of the West Street building and a further Suitability Assessment Survey which included the functionality, quality and condition of the building, was completed with regard to the No Limits facilities at West Street Resource Centre on 19 January 2016. The audit has identified the need for improvements in the facilities available to the No Limits service to meet the personal care and toileting needs of those people who accessed the service. The audit had identified that the following areas were assessed as 'completely unsatisfactory':

- Toilet facilities
- Layout of building for its existing use
- Inadequate toilet and bathrooms for the number of people who use the service
- A lack of suitable privacy and dignity areas
- Persistent odours present due to toilet drains
- Whilst not subject to this Cabinet Member funding request, the audit also identified the following areas that also require improvement:
- Decoration, flooring, way finding and lighting
- Improved furniture appropriate for the needs of the people who use the service.
- Improved soundproofing and ventilation

To respond to the situation outlined above, it was proposed that, despite uncertainty about the long term future of the building, essential work was carried out to bring the facilities up to a standard so that the service could meet the needs of clients safely and the departments health and safety, infection control and hygiene regulations. It was proposed that 2 disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities be funded within the existing toileting/changing areas at the front of the building. These facilities would provide all the equipment required to support people with profound and multiple disabilities with every aspect of their personal care needs. As well as providing crucial facilities to the people the authority supported, these specialist changing facilities could be opened to members of the public both within the local community as well as visitors to the Chesterfield area. There were currently no changing facilities within Chesterfield or North Derbyshire for adults with profound needs, except at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

Without the alterations being made, the authority continued to be in serious breach of health and safety, infection control and hygiene regulations.

In summary, the building space being utilised by the service was in a general poor state of repair and is subject to a programme of improvements in terms of decoration, equipment and furniture. Whilst the service was not currently regulated by CQC, its current state of repair and facilities for meeting personal care would not meet their regulatory standards as well as the

departments responsibilities under infection control, moving & handling and health & safety regulations. The toilet and personal care facilities did not provide an effective person centred environment for those who accessed the service and a safe working space for staff to assist with complex moving and handling and personal care. All people attending the service required suitable and adequate facilities to ensure they could be supported to complete their personal care with the necessary and appropriate equipment and facilities.

Asset management had confirmed that there were no proposed plans for the No Limits service to be relocated from West Street Resource Centre at this time.

Although there was an ongoing engagement process in place to review LD services and although the future of this service had not been set, it was highly likely that the complex needs of people using this service would mean that it would continue. In scoping for future services, the review group had factored in that No Limits would not only need to remain but would also possibly expand and that West Street Resource Centre appeared to offer the best opportunity to accommodate the service (with some investment) in the future because of size and location. The relatively small investment required at this point was essential regardless of future plans in order to deliver effective, safe and appropriate care now.

There were currently no disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities in the centre of Chesterfield. It was proposed that both toilets and personal care support facilities could also be made available to members of the public during the opening times of the service as well as to those who accessed the support from No Limits

- The improvements would provide a social and physical environment that would maximise the quality of life for those who use the service and our staff's wellbeing and morale.
- The improvements would allow the service to be compliant in regard to CQC, infection control, moving and handling and health and safety regulations.
- The improvements would enable staff to provide care and support in a safe environment where people could be supported with dignity and respect.
- The improvements would enable the staff to provide personalised care for people with complex care needs. The present condition of the facilities sent a negative message to those who used the service and their carers in respect of the quality the authority attached to the service provided.
- The improvements would allow staff to safely promote an ethos that allowed maximum independence by providing facilities that those who accessed the service could use safely and independently.

Property Services (Architectural Design) have assessed and costed the work required to remove the existing facilities and to fit and install 2 disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities within West Street Resource Centre. Detailed costings are available for each room.

The project would cost £58,930 and would be funded from Maintaining Minimum Standards, the current budget is £1,421,125 prior to this commitment, this would leave a balance of £1,362,195 for future projects.

RESOLVED that approval be given for funding from the Maintaining Minimum Standards budget for internal alterations to create two disabled access toilets and personal care support facilities in order to improve the current toileting and personal care facilities for the No Limits (PMLD) service at West Street Resource Centre, Chesterfield.