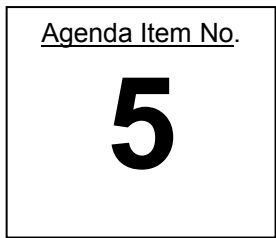


HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



**ADULT CARE AND HEALTH CABINET PANEL
MONDAY 3 JULY 2017 at 2.00pm**

DRAFT SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY

Report of the Director of Adult Care Services

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Commissioning (01438 843217)

Executive Member/s: - Colette Wyatt Lowe, Adult Care Services

1. Purpose of report

1.1 This report presents a draft 10 year Supported Accommodation Strategy (“the Strategy”), which sets out the vision for accommodation across a range of care needs and age groups in Hertfordshire. The Strategy sets out an ambitious approach that will aim to deliver on both strategic and local accommodation and housing priorities, ensuring that Hertfordshire residents with care and support needs have access to the right supported accommodation at the right time. Panel is invited to consider and comment on the Strategy.

2. Summary

2.1 The Strategy brings together social care, health and district and borough councils, as well as key providers that have a collective interest in how supported accommodation must develop in Hertfordshire to meet the future housing needs across a range of care groups.

2.2 There have been a number of initiatives to review service delivery across Flexicare, Supported Living services and residential care for older people and people with learning disabilities in recent years, that have focussed on the care and support offer for these groups of people, Parallel to these reviews there have been individual accommodation based projects, for example for the Transforming Care cohort of people. This Strategy aims to develop more integrated accommodation solutions across the whole spectrum of supported accommodation.

- 2.3 The provider market in Hertfordshire is made up of a broad mix of commercial, statutory and voluntary sector organisations, with a number of different arrangements in place for both care and accommodation. Providers often invest capital at a local level independently of the County Council, through investment in the private housing market. In addition to private investment, a number of housing associations, for example Aldwyck, lease properties from the County Council. In addition there is a rolling capital programme to upgrade existing buildings that the County Council utilises. This approach has not transformed the market in the desired way. The Strategy presents a more proactive approach and sets out the route to market for providers to attract additional investment into Hertfordshire and to give an impetus to accommodation and care providers to change in line with the needs of local people.
- 2.4 The Strategy will be used by care and housing providers to identify opportunities to enter into or develop existing or new services in Hertfordshire, with a clear understanding of what is required in a local area. It will be used by local district and borough councils to support their local housing plans and to work with the County Council on accommodation projects that serve mutual benefits. The health system will use the Strategy to ensure there is a pipeline of accommodation that supports people who need more specialist accommodation and support, for example Transforming Care and to support the County Council to develop a wider market for dementia care in care home settings. One of the key ambitions of the Strategy is to prevent Hertfordshire residents being placed in specialist accommodation outside of Hertfordshire due to the lack of appropriate accommodation within the county.
- 2.5 The following partners have contributed to the development of this strategy:
- i) Hertfordshire Adults Supported Accommodation Strategic Board
 - ii) Adult Care Services Co-Production Board
 - iii) Joint Commissioning Partnership Boards with Hertfordshire's CCGs
 - iv) Local District Accommodation Boards
 - v) Hertfordshire County Council Property Services
 - vi) Hertfordshire Care Providers Association
 - vii) Public Health Hertfordshire
 - viii) Care providers (with and without accommodation)

3. Recommendation/s

- 3.1 Panel are invited to note and comment upon the content of this Report and the Draft Supported Accommodation Strategy and recommend that Cabinet adopts the Hertfordshire Supported Accommodation Strategy attached at Appendix B.

4. Background

- 4.1. 'Supported accommodation' means any scheme where accommodation is combined with a support and/or social care service, provided with the purpose of enabling a person to live as independently as possible. This could range from nursing and residential care homes through to supported living schemes, Flexicare Housing or short-term accommodation to help people back to independence.
- 4.2. During the development of this Strategy, consultees identified the following Think Local, Act Personal outcomes as being important in relation to supported accommodation:
- I) Information and advice: "having the information I need when I need it"
 - ii) Active and supportive communities: "keeping my friends, family and place"
 - iii) Flexible integrated care and support: "my support, my own way"
 - iv) Workforce: "People who support me"
 - v) Risk enablement: "Feeling in control and safe"
 - vi) Personal budgets and self-funding: "My money for my care".
- 4.3. It is well evidenced that access to the right accommodation has a direct impact on health and wellbeing¹.
- 4.4. It is well evidenced that a lack of access to the right accommodation causes avoidable costs to public bodies such as the National Health Service (NHS)² and County/District or Borough Councils. These costs often relate to:
- i) Delayed hospital discharge and avoidable hospital admission
 - ii) Avoidable and permanent admission to care homes
 - iii) Loss of tenancies and build-up of housing related debt
 - iv) Homelessness and rough sleeping
 - v) Lack of employment or social opportunities
 - vi) Accommodating people in expensive out of county provision

¹ https://www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/_assets/MakingItReal/MIRHousing.pdf

² <https://www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/pdf/87741-Cost-of-Poor-Housing-Briefing-Paper-v3.pdf>

- 4.5. There are two main types of supported accommodation within Hertfordshire:
- i) Accommodation based services; where people live in a specifically designated property in order to receive support
 - ii) Non-accommodation based services; where the support available is not dependent on where the person lives.
- 4.6 This Strategy proposes a fundamental change to our current service models. People say they want to see more accommodation that supports them to live independently, but connected to their local communities.
- 4.7. A Hertfordshire wide Adults Supported Accommodation Strategic Board has been established under the oversight of the Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board. This Board is jointly chaired by the Director of Adult Care Services and the Chair of the District Council Heads of Housing group and leads work between Adult Care Services and district/borough Council housing leads around adults supported accommodation. Local Adults Supported Accommodation Boards are being established in each district/Borough Council area to support local implementation.
- 4.8. **Older People**
- It is the intended to change the proportion of the current long-term models of care being delivered to help more people stay in their own home - and to develop new short-term models of care to manage Hertfordshire's future demand for supported accommodation.
- 4.9. **Younger adults with Disabilities or Mental Health Issues**
- It is intended to change the proportion of the current long-term models of care being delivered, to help more people stay in their own home or tenancy - and to develop new models of care to manage Hertfordshire's future demand for supported accommodation.
- 4.10 Implementation plans for the Strategy are being developed and will be overseen by the Local District Accommodation Boards, who will make recommendations to the Hertfordshire Adults Supported Accommodation Strategic Board. Key commissioning decisions will be made through the appropriate governance structures across the participating authorities, and will be overseen by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The implementation plan template is appended to the Strategy and can be found on page 16.

5. Equality Implications

- 5.1 When considering proposals placed before Members it is important that they are fully aware of, and have themselves rigorously considered the equalities implications of the decision that they are taking.
- 5.2 Rigorous consideration will ensure that proper appreciation of any potential impact of that decision on the County Council's statutory obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty. As a minimum this requires decision makers to read and carefully consider the content of any Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) produced by officers.
- 5.3 The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council when exercising its functions to have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 5.4 An EqIA for the Supported Accommodation Strategy was completed on the 16 June 2017 and is attached at Appendix A.

Background documents

Appendix A- Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix B- Draft Supported Accommodation Strategy

Are attached as separate documents