

Social Care Senior Management Team

Briefing Paper

7th June 2018

Subject: Re-tender of home care within extra care schemes (Beechfield Court and Pennyman House)

Matter for Consideration:

1. The contracts for both schemes end on the 14th January 2019. The contract for Beechfield Court is currently with Comfort Call and the contract for Pennyman House is currently with Allied Healthcare.
Pennyman House currently has a block day and block night contract and covers 42 units. The model runs reasonably well. The Council pays for the overnight response and the response for day time is managed within the block hours.
Beechfield Court currently has a contract based on levels of care with a block for the night provision for 70 units. Unfortunately this model of care delivery has not worked as outlined in a previous paper to SMT. The Council pays for the overnight response.
A Project Group has considered various models for the retender of services in both extra care schemes and have also considered the housing model at Beechfield Court in order to make it more manageable and unwieldy.

Options

2. Pennyman House

Care Model

The Project Group propose that the model of care delivery remains the same, but a level of response should be clear. The Group are in agreement that service users should pay towards the facility of being in extra care, that is, the response element during the day and night.

3. Beechfield Court (scheme), Beresford Crescent / Close

Care Model

The Project Group propose that the model of care delivery changes to Core Background (which incorporates response during the day and night and also some activities) and spot planned hours. The Group are in agreement that service users should pay towards the facility of being in extra care, that is, the core background element.

Housing Model

The housing at Beechfield can currently be broken down as follows:

At Full Capacity

Floor	Sheltered	Extra Care	Comments
Ground	3	17	
First	5	21	
Second	8	11	
Bungalows	1	21	
Total	17	70	1 tenant in the bungalows and 1 in the scheme are from R&C. They retain ordinary residence for funding and care management

Middlesbrough Council only contract for the extra care element.

An option is to consider looking at the bungalows and whether they still require Extra Care status and be downgraded to sheltered accommodation.

A brief exercise has been undertaken with the Care Provider to understand the needs of the current bungalow tenants. See below:

No. of Bungalows	Current Occupancy	Level	No. of Tenants	Require Scheme Call Alarm	Alternative Provision if required
21	19	Level 1 (up to 9.5 hours)	14	1	13
		Level 2 (up to 17.5 hours)	0	0	0
		Level 3 (up to 25 hours)	3	2	1
		Level 3 plus additional spot hours	2	1	1

It is the Care Providers opinion that 15 of the 19 tenants residing in the bungalows would manage with a 'normal' home care package and do not really require the response element or could manage with another call alarm system such as Connect. This would need to be backed up with social worker / service user discussion.

If this was workable then there would then be the option to turn the sheltered properties within the scheme into extra care, however this would be ongoing, as a sheltered tenant left it would then revert to extra care. This would reduce the

number of extra care provision from 70 to 65. Thirteen's sheltered offer would increase to 22 bungalows and they would still be able access the community offer within the extra care scheme.

The Project Group felt this was the way forward in order to try and stabilise the scheme. There was some thought that many of the persons in the bungalows were more accommodation needy rather than extra care.

Financial

4. Current fee rates for Pennyman House are low at £11.32 per hour when compared to neighbouring authorities. It is envisaged that at tender the fee rates bid by providers will increase substantially.
The Council are currently providing additional payments to Comfort Call at Beechfield Court which puts their fee rates at approximately the level of other authorities.

5. Pennyman House

The new care model could be more costly to the service user as the response element will increase their package of care by approximately 3.5 hours per week. This would cover the night response and 35 hours per week during the day time to provide a response within the block element. An exercise undertaken by Financial Assessments has shown that that this could affect some service user's contributions as follows:

Capacity when full	42+
Current number of service users	40
No of service users not affected by new charging (weekly)	28
Increase of charge by: £21.44	1
Increase of charge by: £28.30	5
Increase of charge by: £31.28	1
Increase of charge by: £49.34	1
Increase of charge by: £49.85	1
Increase of charge by: £51.99	1
Increase of charge by: £56.28	1
Increase of charge by: £57.10	1

This is a total increase of contributions of £458.78 per week

6. Beechfield Court

The new care model at Beechfield Court poses more challenges in terms of changing the current model, that is, changing levels to hours and possibly the financial impact.

For example, a Level 1 banding - 1 hour to 9 hours costs £60.28 per week. A person on 9 hours will be paying an average of £6.70 an hour.

In the new model there will be no bandings and there will be an actual hourly rate instead. Service user charging rate is currently set at £13.91 an hour.

In addition it is proposed that packages of care be increased by 3.5 hours per week to offset the cost of response (day and night and a level of activity). Due to economies of scale this would provide cover throughout the day and night. Financial Assessments estimate that this could increase some service contributions as follows:

Capacity when full	70
Current number of service users not incl. R&C	62
No of service users not affected by new charging (weekly)	52
Increase of charge by: £16.07	1
Increase of charge by: £17.37	1
Increase of charge by: £28.05	1
Increase of charge by: £28.30	7

This is a total increase of contributions of 259.59 per week

7. There are two options available:
 - a) Introduce the new rates for all. This would affect the Equality Impact Assessment, as this would have a considerable impact on those service users who have funds in terms of their contributions for the service.
 - b) Introduce the new method of payments but waiver the new rates for any affected service user as the service user 'bought into' the original care model delivery and they may not have made the decision to move in to extra care at the new cost.

Recommendations

8. It is recommended that the care / housing models outlined in 2 and 3 are used for the re - tender of Pennyman House and Beechfield Court. If the housing model is approved it is recommended that this is progressed prior to tender.
9. It is recommended that the financial model is used in 5 and 6 to ensure some level of equity across the schemes.
10. It is recommended that 7 (b) is implemented in regards to rates for service users.

The Council is currently paying £1,267.84 per week at Pennyman House and £1,350.72 at Beechfield Court as a block commitment for night cover with no service user contribution. At the start of the new contract in January 2019 the Council will no longer pay these block contributions but will continue to pay service user contributions for existing service users. Over time as new service users come into extra care settings using the financial assessment criteria they will meet the new costs and the Council contribution will decrease.

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