

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

25 JULY 2006

<p>OUTCOME OF CALL-IN PROCEDURE:</p> <p>OLDER PERSONS CHANGE PROGRAMME</p>
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PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To report the outcome of the special meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) held on 7 July 2006, to review the decision made by the Executive on 19 May 2006, in accordance with the Authority's call-in procedure.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The call in process was instigated following a meeting of the Executive where a report entitled 'Older Persons Change Programme' was approved. The decisions were as follows
 - a) The approval of Option 1 – the transfer of residents to a new care home, operated by the Independent Sector, in July 2006.
 - b) It was recommended that the Executive approve in principle, the submission of a capital bid to the Council to create extra care housing on the Levick site in partnership with a registered social landlord, subject to the agreement of Levick Trustees.
 - c) That appropriate actions be taken, which ensured that the sites would be properly secured and protected.
3. Subsequently a special meeting of the OSB was held on 7 July to allow the Board to review the decisions taken.

CONCLUSION

4. The OSB concluded that the Executive made a decision to close Levick House and Albert Cocks by 1 August 2006 and that the concerns expressed on the precipitousness of the time scale were found not to be relevant as the alternative accommodation is unlikely to be available by that date. The board appreciated the intention of the service to ensure all

residents who were considering the proposed alternative would have the opportunity to visit the premises before making their final decision, thereby reducing trauma and subsequent relocations.

5. The board also explored the effects on staff and were informed, that while a range of alternatives are being presented to staff, every effort would be made to assist staff with re deployment.
6. The board did find that the basis the Executive made its decision has changed and the agreed implementation date was no longer applicable. Consequently a referral back to the Executive was considered a real option. However, the Board supported the logic for closing these care establishments and the assurances conveyed by the Executive Member and officers that implementation of the proposal will be sympathetic to the needs of residents.
7. The Executive is considering the recommendations made by the OSB at their meeting to be held on 18 July.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. However, the Board made the following additional **recommendations**:
 - i) That the implementation date identified in paragraph 20 of the Executive report is no longer relevant.
 - ii) That no specific date is applied for implementation and that action is dependent upon alternative accommodation being open and available.
 - iii) That the wishes of those residents who have not secured alternative accommodation be considered.
 - iv) That application for the extension of a Commission for Social Care Inspection Certificate (CSCI) be pursued

COUNCILLOR MICHAEL CARR

CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Board – 7 July 2006 ‘Call In – Older Persons Change Programme’

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