



LEAD MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

DECISIONS to be made by the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health,
Councillor Carl Maynard

MONDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 1.00 PM

CC2, COUNTY HALL, LEWES

++Please note, the Lead Member will not be present in person, but will be taking the decisions remotely++

AGENDA

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Member on 25 September *(Pages 3 - 4)*
- 2 Disclosure of interests
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 3 Urgent items
Notification of any items which the Lead Member considers urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda.
- 4 Proposed consultation on the way care and support is delivered at Newington Court Extra Care scheme in Ticehurst *(Pages 5 - 6)*
- 5 Notice of Motion calling on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care *(Pages 7 - 12)*
- 6 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

PHILIP BAKER
Assistant Chief Executive
County Hall, St Anne's Crescent
LEWES BN7 1UE

23 October 2020

Contact Harvey Winder, Democratic Services Officer, 01273 481796,

Email: harvey.winder@eastsussex.gov.uk

NOTE: *As part of the County Council's drive to increase accessibility to its public meetings, this meeting will be broadcast live on its website and the record archived. The live broadcast is accessible at: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/webcasts/default.htm*

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LEAD MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

DECISIONS made by the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Councillor Carl Maynard, on 25 September 2020 at County Hall, Lewes

++Please note that the Lead Member joined the meeting remotely++

Councillors Glazier and Sheppard spoke on item 4 (see minute 4)

1 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD MEMBER ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2019

1.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the decisions made on 24 September 2019.

2 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

2.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

3 URGENT ITEMS

3.1 There were no urgent items.

4 NOTICE OF MOTION: UNISON ETHICAL CARE CHARTER

4.1 The Lead Member considered a report containing a Notice of Motion from Councillors Scott and Webb calling for the County Council to sign the Unison Ethical Care Charter.

4.2 The Lead Member RESOLVED to recommend to the County Council that it:

1. welcomes the significant increase and scale of people being supported at home and the quality of the care services provided and commissioned; and

2. notes the consideration given to the Ethical Care Charter and rejects the Motion for the reasons set out in the report

REASON

4.3 East Sussex contractual arrangements with homecare providers largely adhere to the principles of the Charter. There are however challenges in agreeing to all the principles in the Charter. This relates to the likely increased costs that would result both in terms of fee rates and additional management and contract monitoring arrangements. The potential increased costs have to be balanced against the requirement to direct resources to maximising the level of care the County Council provides to meet local need.

4.4 There is a strong commitment across the County Council, care providers and unions to work in partnership to ensure the best possible terms and conditions for staff and standards of care. The Charter supports this overall approach, but the implementation of all the principles would have resource implications at a time when the focus of the County Council is maximising the level of home care support that is provided in East Sussex.

Report to: Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Date of meeting: 2 November 2020

By: Director of Adult Social Care and Health

Title of report: Proposed consultation on the way care and support is delivered at Newington Court Extra Care scheme in Ticehurst

Purpose: To seek Lead Member agreement to commence a consultation on the way care and support is delivered at Newington Court Extra Care scheme in Ticehurst

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health is recommended to agree that East Sussex County Council undertakes a six week consultation on how care and support is delivered at Newington Court in Ticehurst

1. Background

1.1. There are 35 flats at Newington Court Extra Care scheme, which are occupied by 29 residents. Of these 17 are Adult Social Care funded clients and the remainder are either privately funded or have no care and support needs. The Landlord is Optivo and Care at Home Services (CAHS) are the care and support provider.

2. Supporting information

Current Position

2.1. Approximately 50% of the residents who have lived at the scheme since it converted from sheltered housing have either no planned care needs or require less than five hours of support per week. The County Council has to fund a guaranteed minimum level of care hours to ensure the sustainability of the provider to deliver support at the scheme. There are currently 54 unused care hours per week which equates to a cost of £52k per annum.

2.2. East Sussex County Council also funds night-time support cover at a cost of £64k per annum, in line with Extra Care requirements. At present only one client has an identified need for night care. Newington Court is not therefore providing the level of preventative support nor value for money found in other Extra Care schemes in East Sussex, which all have residents with much higher levels of vulnerability and formal care needs.

2.3. There has been a high level of vacancies at the scheme, over a number of years, despite efforts to publicise the service and encourage a greater level of use. Currently there are nine vacancies, and these are increasing as people either leave the scheme or pass away. It will be difficult to fill the vacancies due to the rural location of the scheme to which very few eligible clients wish to move. This is a view shared by the landlord, Optivo.

Proposal

2.4. It is the intention to consult with residents, staff and key stakeholders on the potential to develop Newington Court into a sheltered scheme or housing with care scheme. If this approach was to be agreed, work would be undertaken with Rother District Council, CAHS and Optivo to increase referrals to Newington Court as retirement accommodation.

Next Steps and Timescales

- 2.5. It is proposed that the six week consultation commences on 10 November 2020 with the results being presented to Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health in early 2021. An equality impact assessment will also be completed for consideration by the Lead Member.
- 2.6. The Adult Social Care Department will continue to work closely with Rother District Council, Optivo and CAHS to ensure a full consultation with all stakeholders.
- 2.7. The Department will write to all residents to let them know about the consultation and invite them to take part.
- 2.8. The Department's priority will be to ensure that residents and their families can have their say and ask questions at any point during the consultation period. The views of partners, providers, and health and social care staff will also be sought..

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 3.1. The Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health is recommended to agree that East Sussex County Council undertakes a six week consultation on the way care is delivered at Newington Court in Ticehurst.

KEITH HINKLEY
Director of Adult Social Care and Health

Contact Officer: Sam Tearle
Head of Strategic Commissioning-Housing and Support Solutions

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

LOCAL MEMBER:
Cllr John Barnes

Report to: Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Date of meeting: 2 November 2020

By: Director of Adult Social Care and Health

Title: Notice of Motion calling on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care

Purpose: The report sets out the Adult Social Care and Health response to the Notice of Motion for East Sussex County Council to call on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health is recommended to recommend to the County Council that it:

1) notes the consideration given to the call for the Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care and rejects the Motion for the reasons set out in the report; and

2) supports the ongoing lobbying and engagement with central government about financial, and other support, for social care throughout the Covid-19 crisis

1 Background

1.1 The following Notice of Motion has been submitted to the Chairman of the County Council by Councillors Tutt and Ungar:

East Sussex County Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care.

1.2 In line with County Council practice, the matter has been referred by the Chairman to the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health for consideration to provide information and inform debate on the Motion. The Lead Member's recommendation on this Notice of Motion will be reported to the Full Council at its meeting on 1 December 2020 (the Notice of Motion is attached at Appendix 1).

1.3 At the time of writing, there is no published central government timeframe for Social Care reform. Given the onset of the Covid-19 crisis, on 15th September 2020, Lord Bethell, parliamentary undersecretary of state at the Department of Health and Social Care, stated that a social care plan could not be committed to before the end of this year.

1.4 The Care Act 2014 was the first overhaul of social care statute in England for more than 60 years. The Government initially delayed implementation of Part Two of the Care Act, funding reforms, until April 2020 to allow Local Authorities to have more time to introduce and embed Part One of the Care Act.

1.5 Published in January 2019, the NHS Long Term Plan recognised that the NHS in England needs to provide more co-ordinated and personalised care. To promote health and wellbeing, and

break down barriers between health and social care, the NHS will also need to work closely with local government. Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) are the latest in a series of NHS initiatives to develop integrated care in England. In East Sussex, health and social care partners are working together to deliver the ambition set out in the NHS Long Term Plan, including the ongoing development and delivery of integrated care and support.

2 Supporting information

2.1 Covid-19 is the biggest challenge the health and care system has faced in living memory. It is essential that lessons are learned from this experience. There is now not only an imperative to restore service provision while remaining prepared for future waves of the virus, but to build on this learning to bring about positive change so that the health and care system can support improvements in health and wellbeing for their local populations, well beyond this crisis.

2.2 The experience, both nationally and locally, of implementing the Care Act reforms underlines the need to approach system-wide change with caution. Such change consumes significant time and resource, diverting staff and leaders away from other priorities. It can be argued that the health and social care system, especially providers of care and support services, can ill afford such upheaval given the pressure it is currently under.

2.3 There is also the risk that if the case for change lands in the midst of a crisis, the lens by which solutions are assessed could be through a health care crisis, given the current focus on protecting the NHS. In consequence a new social care system fit may be developed for a crisis but not be fit for purpose in the longer term.

2.4 Although there is not currently a published timescale for a Social Care reform, the future of Social Care is actively being considered by several national organisations, including the impact of Covid19 on the sector.

2.5 In July 2020, the Local Government Association, together with 32 other organisations, published seven key principles which they believe must underpin reform of social care and support, considering the many lessons learned from the pandemic. The seven principles are listed below and cover several points raised in the Notice of Motion, which is particularly evident in Principle 2: The importance of 'local'.

2.6 The principles are:

1. People first and the value of social care

2. The importance of 'local'

Councils' democratic accountability and leadership supports effective partnership working at the local level and the Government should follow this lead by working with local government and its many partners as equals in helping to build resilient communities that are geared towards prevention, wellbeing and public health.

3. Funding

4. Workforce

5. Providers and commissioning

6. Health and integration

7. Care and support reform

2.7 The full report can be found at:

<https://local.gov.uk/adult-social-care-seven-principles-reform>

2.8 The Kings Fund has produced a number of papers relating to Covid-19 and the impact of the care sector. Prior to the pandemic, the 2018 Kings Fund published the report: 'A fork in the road: Next steps for social care funding reform. The costs of social care funding options, public attitudes to them – and the implications for policy reform'. The report considers various options for social care funding reform which have been debated in recent years and offers a clear summary of all the key options:

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-05/A-fork-in-the-road-next-steps-for-social-care-funding-reform-May-2018.pdf>

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 There is consensus that long term, sustainable reform is required for the Social Care sector, however the timing of such reform is a critical consideration. Such reform will require considerable consultation and engagement with the public and all key stakeholders at a time when the social care sector is facing another round of winter pressures on top of the continuing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

3.2 Given the context that the health and social care system is currently operating within, Lead Member is recommended not to support the Notice of motion that 'East Sussex County Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care'.

3.3 Lead Member is recommended instead to support the ongoing lobbying and engagement with central government about financial, and other support, for social care throughout the Covid-19 crisis, prior to longer term reform being proposed.

KEITH HINKLEY Director Adult Social Care and Health

Contact Officer: Samantha Williams, Assistant Director, Strategy Commissioning and Supply Management

Tel. No. 01273 482115

Email: Samantha.williams@eastsussex.gov.uk

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

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NOTICE OF MOTION

East Sussex County Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to publish its White Paper on the reform and future of Adult Social Care.

In drawing together its White Paper the government must take into account the already close working between this council and the NHS.

We welcome an opportunity of closer working with the NHS but future plans should not only ensure world class services for the people of East Sussex but also those services should continue to be under the control of democratically elected local councillors. This is to ensure local accountability and control by the community. This is the best way of delivering services as local people know what they need and what they want".

Proposer:

Councillor Ungar

Seconder:

Councillor Tutt

Dated: 21 September 2020

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