

Report to: **Cabinet**
Date: **26 June 2018**
By: **Director of Adult Social Care and Health**
Title of Report: **Affinity Trust service at Cregg Na Ba**
Purpose of Report: **To consider proposals for the Affinity Trust service at Residential Home, Cregg Na Ba**

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1. agree the re-provisioning of care of five residents from Cregg Na Ba to other local care homes provided by Affinity Trust;**
 - 2. agree to the closure of the Affinity Trust service at Cregg Na Ba following the re-provisioning of the service within alternative Residential Homes operated by Affinity Trust; and**
 - 3. delegate to the Director of Adult Social Care and Health authority to take all necessary actions to give effect to the implementation of the above recommendations**
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1. Background

1.1 From April 2009, as part of the national Valuing People Now strategy, funding and commissioning of social care for adults with learning disabilities transferred from the NHS to local authorities. The rationale was twofold: to give full control of social care resources for learning disabled people to councils; and to clarify that the NHS's role is to meet the group's health needs, not offer long-term support.

1.2 Locally, the Affinity Trust manages the group home services which transferred to East Sussex County Council under Valuing People Now. These services were previously run by Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 The services included in the block contract held by Affinity Trust consists of six group homes providing services for up to 37 adults with a learning disability being supported by approximately 85 staff. Affinity Trust was awarded a seven year contract with a possible extension of two years in April 2012. The contract was let on the basis of that the services would be significantly re-developed to supported accommodation. The anticipated developments have not taken place as a result of the complexities of the Valuing People Now capital transfer arrangements.

2.2 Affinity Trust delivers a stable and consistent service with all the group homes rated by CQC as Good. The client group has been very stable and is aging. The provider has been resistant to accepting new placements as it has been difficult to match new clients with aging residents. As a result there has been a steady increase in voids across the six group homes. There are currently eight voids across all the services.

2.3 Affinity Trust agreed to produce an options appraisal to address the current void position. The options appraisal recommended developing Cregg Na Ba as the most suitable service to develop into a supported living model. Cregg Na Ba is located in Battle near the town centre and as such is well situated. It is recognised that there is a need for increased supported accommodation in the east of the county and specifically buildings that are fully accessible. It is likely that this would be for a younger cohort of clients with additional physical needs.

2.4 The proposal is therefore to close Cregg Na Ba and for the residents to move to alternative homes in the local area operated by Affinity Trust, which will consequently increase the occupancy rate within the remaining homes and reduce the financial commitment related to unoccupied beds. Five people with learning disabilities currently live at Cregg Na Ba. A profile of the service is available in Appendix 1. Packages of care for the individuals who would move will not reduce, but the location where they receive their care will change.

3. Consultation Summary

3.1 In the ten week consultation period from 15th February to 25th April 2018 a series of individual consultation meetings took place with the families of the residents living at Cregg Na Ba. Consultation has taken place as appropriate to the needs of the residents at Cregg Na Ba. In addition, views were sought from a range of stakeholders by letter, telephone and email. Appendix 2 outlines the consultation process and a summary of responses and themes. All responses to the consultation have been placed in the Members Room and the Cabinet Room for Member's consideration.

3.2 A total of ten comments or queries were received from people about Cregg Na Ba prior to and during the consultation period.

3.3 There were many complimentary and positive comments about the high standard of care that is provided at Cregg Na Ba with all families stating that they were very happy with the care and support provided.

3.4 Families were concerned that moving home could be distressing for the residents of Cregg Na Ba and that their connections to the local community could be lost. However, they recognised that if this proposal is agreed moving to a familiar home where staff and residents are known will minimise distress. They were also confident that any move would be managed well.

4. Alternative Service Provision

4.1 Affinity Trust have vacancies at three of the residential homes they operate as part of this block contract. These are The Willows in Bexhill, The Views in Broad Oak and Jasmine Lodge in Northiam. All are within a fifteen minute drive of Cregg Na Ba.

4.2 These homes are familiar to the residents of Cregg Na Ba as Affinity Trust operates all these services collectively and there will have been regular social events at these homes for all Affinity Trust residents. Two of the homes are the same design of Cregg Na Ba which enhances this familiarity. The staff at Cregg Na Ba will also move to the alternate residential homes ensuring continuity of care.

4.3 If this proposal is agreed Best Interest meetings will be held, involving families and advocacy, to ensure that any move is managed with the residents' need for help paramount. The alternative home will be identified for residents taking into account their needs, friendship groups, compatibility with current residents through discussion with families, the care and support team, Care Managers and advocacy.

4.4 The three residential homes that would be considered for the residents to move to are able and equipped to meet the needs of these residents to the same high standards that they currently receive. A schedule will be implemented to facilitate any potential move to include visiting, decorating new bedrooms and plans to maintain current community activity such as attending church.

4.5 As a consequence of implementing this proposed alternative service model it would be possible to achieve savings on the basis reflected within the Table below.

	Average Unit Cost of a Vacant Bed per week (£)	Average Number of Vacant Beds per week	Annual Saving Achieved (£)
Reduced Financial Commitment	1,156	6	360,672

5. Impact of delivering of the proposed service change

5.1 In considering the proposals in this report, Cabinet Members are required to have ‘due regard’ to the duties set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Public Sector Equality Duty). Equalities Impact Assessments (EqIAs) are carried out to identify any adverse impacts that may arise as a result of the proposals for those with protected characteristics and to identify appropriate mitigations. A summary of the key impacts from the EqIA are attached at Appendix 3 and the full version of relevant completed EqIAs have been placed in the Members’ and Cabinet Room and are available on the [Cabinet](#) pages of the County Council’s website. They can be inspected upon request at County Hall. Members must read the full the EqIAs and take their findings into consideration when determining these proposals.

5.2 The area of impact is on the existing five residents at Cregg Na Ba, who all have disabilities. All the residents have been at Cregg Na Ba for many years and are settled there. If the proposal goes ahead the move to a new home may cause some considerable anxiety and distress and affect their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

5.3 Residents have very limited capacity for understanding so there is an additional impact on the families of those residents. Advocacy services have been part of the planning for this proposal and are actively supporting families and clients during the consultation process, where appropriate.

6. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations

6.1 There is support from families to retain the residential service at Cregg Na Ba. However, the local availability of alternative services operated by the same provider combined with the number of voids across Affinity services and the cost of void payments means that maintaining this provision in the current format is not considered good value. Should it be maintained, savings will need to be made to services elsewhere to continue to support it. The views of families reflected concern at possible loss of service and distress and anxiety this could cause to residents. There is however a range of viable and familiar options for the residents to move to and be supported by familiar staff ensuring that the current clients continue to be properly supported.

KEITH HINKLEY

Director of Adult Social Care and Health

Contact Officer: Richard Lewis, Strategic Commissioning Manager

Lead Member: Councillor Maynard

Local Member: Councillor Field

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix 1: Profile of Services, Proposal Summary, Impact and Changes Made

Appendix 2: Consultation Report

Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

Profile of service, proposal summary, impact and changes made

Service Area	Profile of service	Proposal summary	Number of people affected by, and impact of, the proposal	Number of staff affected by, and impact of, the proposal	Changes made in response to feedback
<p>Cregg Na Ba</p> <p>Registered residential home for adults with a learning disability operated by Affinity Trust</p>	<p>Cregg Na Ba is a six bed residential home.</p> <p>The single bedrooms share bathrooms, kitchen and communal lounge.</p>	<p>To close Cregg Na Ba and facilitate the residents moving to other residential services operated by Affinity Trust</p>	<p>Five people with learning disabilities currently live at Cregg Na Ba.</p> <p>The care package will not change although this will be delivered in a different home.</p> <p>The residents may experience distress and anxiety through moving although this would be mitigated through moving to a new residential home where the environment, staff and other residents are familiar.</p>	<p>Affinity Trust do not need to make any redundancies as all staff will be able to work in alternative homes.</p> <p>Their contracts of employment are not specific to Cregg Na Ba therefore no formal consultation is required.</p>	<p>The feedback has highlighted the importance of maintaining current community access.</p> <p>This will be written into care plans so that activity such as attending church is maintained.</p>

ASC savings consultation 2018

LD residential



Date: June 2018

Document summary

Results from the ASC savings consultation carried out between February and April 2018, focusing on the LD residential service managed by Affinity Trust.

Contents

Background	9
Summary	9
Respondent numbers and response methods	9
Key messages.....	10
Summary of themes by response method.....	11
Organisation and group comments	12
Individual comments including clients, carers, staff and the public	12
Appendix 1: Family feedback.....	13
Appendix 2: Other feedback.....	15
Organisation and group feedback	15
Responses	15
Individual feedback.....	17

About this document:

<p>Enquiries: Author: Community Relations Team Telephone: 01273 481 242 Email: consultationASC@eastsussex.gov.uk</p> <p>Download this document From: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/ascsavings</p>	<p>Version number: 1 Related information</p>
<p>Accessibility help Zoom in or out by holding down the Control key and turning the mouse wheel. CTRL and click on the table of contents to navigate. Press CTRL and Home key to return to the top of the document Press Alt-left arrow to return to your previous location.</p>	

Background

The Council agreed its budget for 2018/19 at its meeting on 6 February. It will see the Council make savings of £17 million. This includes a budget reduction for Adult Social Care and Health of nearly £10 million.

We used the consultation to ask for people's views on how we are proposing to make the savings. Shortly before the consultation launched, the Government announced some extra funding for social care provision. No decisions have been made yet on how the Council will spend the £1.6 million it will receive.

This report is about the savings proposal for the LD residential service managed by AffinityTrust. We are proposing to make changes to how our residential services in the east of the County are provided.

The Council's Cabinet will consider recommendations, the consultation results and Equality Impact Assessments at its meeting on 26 June. All responses received in the consultation will be presented in Members Papers.

Summary

This section provides a summary of the key themes and activity from the consultation. You can find the full results in the appendices.

We consulted on our savings proposals for the LD residential service between 15 February and 25 April 2018.

Respondent numbers and response methods

The response rates for this consultation reflect the small number of people who live in the residence.

Method	Volume
Other feedback (Email, letter, call, video, feedback form)	Indiv: 3 Org: 1
Event or meeting	6
Total responses	10

Key messages

These key messages reflect the feedback received from groups and individuals across meetings and other feedback such as emails and letters.

- People praised the service and the wonderful staff, saying their relatives and friends are happy and settled.
- The area the care home is based in is safe and accessible for residents and the alternatives which have been suggested aren't as well located.
- It would be harder for family to visit as the alternative homes are not easily accessible by public transport and this could mean residents become isolated.
- Many residents are known within the local community and some would be moving away from their Church community.
- The residents have complex needs and adjusting to new things can be traumatic.
- Staff said that it is very important that concerns about the health of residents are addressed as part of the assessment and placement process.
- A permanent move from the home is likely to have a negative impact on residents' health and wellbeing and for some residents it may have serious implications for their life and health.
- Some residents would need extra support during and after the move to allow it to happen and to help them to try to settle in.
- Retaining staff they know would help if the move went ahead.
- Staff requested that any move doesn't take place until after the summer holidays, so that they can fully support residents with the process.
- Staff suggested that it would help residents to visit and to retain their links to their local community if extra disabled parking spaces could be added.

Summary of themes by response method

Meetings with relatives

Views on the proposal

- They are very happy with the current service and the support their relative receives.
- They are confident the provider would handle the move well if it does go ahead.
- They were reassured that any move would be to a home run by the same provider.
- They were reassured that staff would be moving too.

The impact of the proposal

- The potential disruption to their relatives and their lives.
- A move to a rural location would make it harder to visit their relative in the longer term.

Other feedback via letter, email etc

Organisation and group feedback

Views on the proposal

- They are keen to protect the wellbeing of the residents they support and minimise the impact on the people they support.
- The residents' health and wellbeing must be considered in planning any move and they should provide extra support if they need it.

The impact of the proposal

- A move from their home is likely to have a negative impact on the residents' health and wellbeing, and for a couple of residents it may have serious implications for their life and health.

Suggestions

- The move should be delayed until after August, so that staff aren't on leave and can support residents with the move.
- More disabled parking is added in their current local community to allow residents to continue to maintain their links to the area.

Individual feedback

Views on the proposals

- The service is great and the staff are wonderful.
- Their relative or friend is happy and settled.
- They are concerned about how the move itself would affect the residents and what any future service would be like.
- It's important that they retain staff they know and access to community activities that they currently take part in.

The impact of the proposal

- The move could have health implications for residents and have a negative impact on their wellbeing.
- It would be harder for people to visit them and for them to access the community at the proposed alternative care homes.

Suggestions

- That people are able to move with staff and friends who they know.

Sample quotes

These comments are a small selection of the comments we received during the consultation. They have been chosen as they either reflect the key themes or offer a specific suggestion.

Organisation and group comments

“We want to support all the [people] we look after to have fulfilled, happy and settled lives in their twilight years.”

Individual comments including clients, carers, staff and the public

“I am very sad to hear that my [relative] is going to move to another care home. [They have] never been happier than now. [They are] calm, clearly feel safe and enjoy the company of [their] fellow residents. The staff ... are wonderful.”

“[S]taff ensure that [two residents] who are both members of my church are able to attend worship each week. This is an extremely important part of their lives and we would take a very dim view if either of them were denied their right to worship in a place of their choosing.”

“My [relative] has complex needs and finds adjusting to new spaces, people and situations, very traumatic... I am hugely concerned for [my relative's] emotional wellbeing at being moved from [their] stable surroundings permanently.”

Annex 1: Family feedback

One-to-one meetings were held with the relatives and carers of the residents.

The key overall themes were:

- They are very happy with the current service and the support their relative receives.
- They are confident the provider will handle the move well if it does go ahead.
- They were reassured that any move would be to a home run by the same provider.
- They were reassured that staff would be moving too.

The key concerns were:

- A move to a rural location would make it harder to visit their relative in the longer term.

The key impacts were:

- The potential disruption to their relatives and their lives.

Meeting date	Held with	Feedback
9 March	Relatives of resident x 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concerned about the potential disruption to their relative, although they understood the rationale.• Happy with the support their relative receives.• They are confident if the move does take place that the provider would manage this well.• They were reassured that any move would be to a home run by the same provider.• They both live some distance away so changing locations for their visits wasn't a concern.
19 March	Relatives of resident x 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• They were concerned about the move, as they are very happy with the support their relative receives and don't want to lose that.• They were particularly concerned that their relative could continue to attend their church.• They were reassured that there would be support and if a move occurred this would be written into the care plan.• They were concerned about continuing to visit if they could no longer drive and their relative was living in a rural location.• The provider confirmed that visits could be arranged elsewhere if need be.• It was confirmed that residents would be involved in the move wherever possible, such as planning their

		rooms.
19 April	Parents of resident x 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following a number of placement breakdowns, their relative is now having a positive experience at the residence. • They are very happy with the care and support provided. • They are concerned at the potential disruption, but confident the provider would manage the move well. • They were reassured to hear that staff would also be moving if the proposal went ahead, so there would be familiar staff. • Their main concern was the same provider continue to provide the care for their relative.

Annex 2: Other feedback

Organisation and group feedback

The following organisations provided feedback about the proposal:

- The staff team at the residence.

The key overall themes were:

- They are keen to protect the wellbeing of the residents they support.
- The move feels inevitable and they want to minimise the impact on the people they support.

The key concerns were:

- That the health and wellbeing of residents is considered as part of the assessment and placement process if the proposal goes ahead.
- Residents have extra support if they need it during and after the move.

The key impacts were:

- That a move from their home is likely to have a negative impact on the residents' health and wellbeing.
- For a couple of residents it may have serious implications for their life and health.

Suggestions:

- The move be delayed until after August, so that staff aren't on leave and can support residents with the move.
- More disabled parking is added in their current local community to allow them to continue to maintain their links to the area.

Responses

Please note that the summaries cover all topics that the organisations have provided feedback on and not just the ones directly relevant to this report.

Code: Org0034	April	Letter	Learning disability residential staff team	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HIV support service	Carers support	DESSS	Intermediate care and day services (Milton and Firwood)	LD dps & residential
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall	Older people's day centres	Supporting people (accommodation)	Supporting People (Community)	Stroke Recovery Service
Summary				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are concerned about the proposals and keen to protect the wellbeing of the residents they support. • The move feels inevitable and they want to minimise the discomfort, distress, disruption and trauma to the people they support. • The staff request that any move of residence doesn't take place until September at the earliest, as staff leave in August means they wouldn't be able to fully support residents with the move. • They say that it is very important that concerns about the health of residents are considered and addressed as part of the assessment and placement process if the proposals go ahead. 				

- Some residents would need extra support during and after the move to allow it to happen and them to try to settle in.
- A permanent move from the home is likely to have a negative impact on residents' health and wellbeing and for some residents it may have serious implications for their life and health.
- The residents can access the community and are known within it. They would like them to be able to maintain that link.
- Staff suggest that the Council provide extra disabled parking spaces in their current location so the residents could still visit and remain part of the community if the move goes ahead.

Individual feedback

About the feedback	
Number of respondents:	3
When it was received:	February: 1 March: 2
How it was received:	Email: 1 Letter: 2
Who it was from:	Family/friend: 3

Key themes

The overall themes were:

- They are concerned to hear about the proposed move for their relative or friend.
- The service there is great and the staff are wonderful.
- Their relative or friend is very happy there.

The key concerns were:

- They are concerned about their relative or friend moving to a new care home that is less suitable for them personally.
- That residents would lose access to the community they know and the ability to attend their church.

The key impacts were:

- The move could have health implications for residents.
- There is the potential for the changes to have an impact on the residents' wellbeing both in the short-term and the long-term.
- The proposed alternatives are less accessible for family to visit and for residents to access the community.

Suggestions:

- That people are able to move with staff and friends who they know.

Equality impact assessment – summary report for Learning Disability Affinity

The results of equality impact assessments must be published. Please complete this summary, which will be used to publish the results of your impact assessment on the County Council's website.

Date of assessment update: 8 May 2018

Manager(s) name: Richard Lewis

Role: Strategic Commissioning Manager, Learning Disabilities

Impact assessment:

The proposal for Affinity (ASC savings proposals 2018/19) is to close the residential service at Cregg Na Ba and for the clients living there to move to an alternative residential service delivered by Affinity Trust in the Hastings & Rother area.

Summary of findings:

The area of biggest impact is on the existing five residents at Cregg Na Ba, who all have disabilities.

- All the residents have been at Cregg Na Ba for many years and are settled there. If the proposal goes ahead – the move to a new home may cause some considerable anxiety and distress and affect their mental and physical health and wellbeing.
- In some cases frailty is a considerable factor and the move may also increase the risk of needing acute and primary health services.
- Residents have very limited capacity for understanding so there is an additional impact on the families of those residents. Advocacy services have been part of the planning for this proposal and are actively supporting families and clients during the consultation process, where appropriate.
- Access for families to visit may be more difficult if relying on public transport – however none are primary carers.

Summary of recommendations and key points of action plan:

- Should the proposal go ahead, Adult Social Care and Affinity, advocacy services, families and the clients will work together to identify the most appropriate new home and support the move at a pace that is best for each individual.
- Clients are familiar with the alternative homes and know the residents there. The staff team at Cregg na Ba will also move to the alternative homes providing a level of continuity and consistency. The current manager of Cregg Na Ba will 'float' between the new homes to support the clients (and their families) in the move.
- In cases where frailty is a particular factor, appropriate medical care and occupational therapy input should be taken into consideration.
- Religion has been identified as an area that will need to be addressed for some of the residents at Cregg Na Ba. If the proposal goes ahead, it will be necessary to ensure that clients are still able to access their chosen place of worship and maintain their faith.

Groups that this project or service will impact upon

Please mark the appropriate boxes with an 'x'

	Positive	Negative
Age		
Disability		X
Ethnicity		
Gender/Transgender		
Marriage or Civil partnership		
Pregnancy and Maternity		
Religion/Belief		
Sexual Orientation		
Other (including carers/rurality etc)		X
All		