

**REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE MEMBER
ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

PART II

BYWAYS REPROVISION PROJECT

The Executive Member for Adult Social Care has given her approval to commit capital funding of £100,000 from the 2010/11 budget towards the Byways Redevelopment scheme to build twelve units of Extra-Care accommodation for adults with a learning disability on the Byways site in Odiham.

Byways is a twelve bedroomed residential home and has been running for 50 years. The service currently provided is, however, now outmoded. As a large residential care home, it no longer fits with the strategic direction outlined in Hampshire's Learning Disability strategy, "Ordinary People leading Ordinary Lives". No new referrals have been made in the past two years.

Given the current situation, an appraisal was made of the four main options available, i. e. (i) maintaining Byways as a residential care home and making necessary investment which would increase its costs; (ii) creating an alternative housing and support model in the form of Extra-Care; (iii) closing Byways and for the residents to move into houses in the community with support from MCCH Limited (an independent provider of learning disability services and the sole member of Byways Trust) and/or another domiciliary care agency or (iv) closing Byways and supporting the current residents to move to alternative accommodation.

Detailed evaluation of these options indicated that the best option was to modernise Byways into an Extra-Care project. Twelve independent flats can then be created on the site, nine of which will be available for rent and three of which will be offered as Shared Ownership. The current nine residents, all women aged between forty-six and seventy-six, with an average age of fifty-seven, have been consulted. The majority of them have lived at Byways for many years with all of them considering Byways to be their home. All of the residents are enthusiastic about the proposal to develop Byways into an Extra-Care site and the prospect of having their own independent living accommodation within it.

Person centred planning is currently being undertaken with all residents and this will include determining how they wish to be supported. Whilst the new accommodation is being built, the residents will be supported to move into houses within Odiham and be supported by MCCH. The Human Resource (HR) implications of the proposal have been addressed, with all members of staff having been consulted and accepting the proposal. The plans for Byways are also very much supported by the local community and local Councillors.

The plans being put in place will create a unique project as it will be the first Extra Care scheme for adults with a learning disability in the county.

In return for a one off £100,000 investment in the scheme, Hampshire County Council Adult Services has negotiated 100% nomination rights for the twelve units (for a minimum of three years). The Nomination Agreement will ensure that Hampshire County Council Adult Services will be able to decide who, in addition to the current residents, will be able to move into the scheme to ensure that it is used for the benefit of Hampshire residents. Discussions are continuing over whether and how this agreement should be extended and the inclusion of a void period following each vacancy to allow Adult Services time to identify whether there is an appropriate local person who would benefit from taking up residency.

Valuing People Now (2009) states that people with a learning disability should have choice about where they live, who they live with and how they are supported. Hampshire County Council's strategy for people with a learning disability, developed in response to Valuing People Now and the views of stakeholders within the county, states: "Hampshire intends to reduce the amount of residential care that it commissions through the independent sector. We will work with the residential provider sector to identify opportunities for the development of alternative models of provision".

The proposal to develop Byways into an Extra-Care scheme is one that supports the implementation of Hampshire County Council's Rural Delivery Strategy by promoting choice and independence for people with a learning disability living within rural areas. The proposal also supports the implementation of Hampshire County Council's Sustainable Communities Strategy by promoting inclusive communities where vulnerable people are safeguarded.

Full details of the decision taken by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care can be accessed via

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item_ID=1513&tab=2

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