

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Acting Director of Social Work Services

Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership: 17 May 2006

Subject : Joint Commissioning for the Reprovisioning of Long Term Care Services for Older People

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to update the committee on developments in the work of the reprovision of long term care services for older people.

2. Background

- 2.1** Earlier reports to committee in October 2002, 2003, February 2004 and February 2006 outlined the process by the Council and its partners in inviting expressions of interest and identifying potential sites.
- 2.2** In October 2004 the Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership agreed to work in partnership with Bield Housing Association, who should be invited to tender for two developments (one in the Vale of Leven and the other in Clydebank).
- 2.3** A number of difficulties have arisen in relation to the identification and acquisition of appropriate sites and around the risks associated with the capital funding of these new build homes. However, a site in the Vale of Leven, in the grounds of the Vale of Leven Hospital, had been identified and negotiations with NHS Argyll & Clyde and Bield took place.
- 2.4** In November 2005, NHS Argyll and Clyde agreed in principle to lease the identified site for a care home to a provider for a reasonable fee based on a 125 year lease, and to use the District Valuer's valuation to determine the price of the land for sheltered housing.
- 2.5** In February 2006, a report to this committee on Capacity Planning and the Balance of Care Services identified that the additional 40 Sheltered Housing Units identified in the proposal with Bield "would still not be sufficient to meet the growing older population in West Dunbartonshire". The report also invited the Partnership "to consider a more substantial increase in our sheltered and very sheltered housing capacity".
- 2.6** In March 2006, negotiations with Bield resulted in a final pricing structure for the 60 bedded care home which was unaffordable to the Council.
- 2.7** The Vale of Leven site is still available at the agreed price, as NHS Glasgow and Clyde have agreed that the offer made by the previous Health Authority stands.

2.8 It is considered appropriate to now seek alternative service providers for the care home and sheltered housing at the Vale of Leven site, though it is not necessary for these services to be provided by the same supplier.

2.9 The Clydebank development has proved to be rather more difficult in terms of finding a suitable site, but officers are continuing to investigate alternatives.

3. The Next Steps

3.1 Progress towards the development of the proposed developments of two care homes and associated sheltered housing units has been protracted and hampered by issues of site availability and land disposal.

3.2 Officers consider that the appropriate action is to seek alternative service providers for the Vale of Leven site through competitive tendering. This process will involve the Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde working jointly to run a tendering exercise with a view to identifying suitable service providers to provide this new service.

3.3 Ongoing investigation of sites in the Clydebank area will continue.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 Assuming suitable tenders are received there may be issues around funding places which will be needed as demand for service expands in line with expected demographic trends over the next 5 to 10 years. However, additional Scottish Executive funding is available in 2007/08 and this could be used to assist this process. Ongoing Scottish Executive funding past 2007/08 is not yet known.

4.2 There may be implications regarding the wider Balance of Care review which will be reported to a future Committee.

5. Personnel Implications

5.1 None at present

6. Conclusion

6.1 The procurement process has been protracted as a result of delays in identifying available sites and the timescale the preferred provider took to cost the proposed services.

6.2 In the proposed Clydebank development appropriate sites have yet to be successfully identified.

6.3 In the Vale of Leven development a site has been identified and land owner permission has been obtained for its use.

6.4 Negotiations with Bield Housing Association have been unsuccessful.

6.5 For the Clydebank development officers require to continue to attempt to identify a suitable site.

6.6 In the Vale of Leven Officers now require to identify potential service providers through a tendering process which will be run jointly by the Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The Committee notes the position to date and ask that the Acting Director of Social Work:

- (1) identifies a suitable site for development in the Clydebank area
- (2) identifies potential service providers for the identified Vale of Leven site through a joint Council/NHS tendering process
- (3) reports progress to a future meeting of this Committee.

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Background Papers: Reports entitled Joint Commissioning of Reprovisioning of Long-Term Care Services for Older People to:-

- (i) Health Improvement and Social Justice Sub Committee 8 October 2002
- (ii) Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership 12 November 2003
- (iii) Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership 18 February 2004

Update on Partnership Capacity Planning and Balance of Care Services for Older People in West Dunbartonshire – to Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership 15 February 2006.

Wards Affected: All wards