

Briefing Note

Circulation List:-

Councillor Doyle – Cabinet Member Adult, Health and Wellbeing

Extra Care Housing and Grafton House Merger Update

This briefing note outlines the current position of the Extra Care Housing and Grafton Merger.

A further report and Action Plan will be submitted to Cabinet Member for approval on the next phase of the merger. However this briefing note gives a summary of actions to date and next steps.

On the 27th September 2011 a report on the short term proposals for merging Extra Care Housing and Grafton House was submitted to Cabinet Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing

The report made recommendations on the merger of Extra Care Housing Support and Grafton House Service which are both under the remit of Health and Wellbeing - Adult Community Services.

The rationale behind merging the two services together was to create one joint service which improves service delivery, and provides services at a personalised level to the customer. In addition the joint service created management efficiencies which offset the savings target for Grafton House and satisfied Supporting People requirements.

The efficiencies at the management level have subsequently been achieved and the direct line management of Extra Care Housing and Grafton have been streamlined to a single line management structure.

Following the report in September 2011 there has been further analysis undertaken of the services to identify the most effective way of delivering the joint service to the customer. This analysis will be the secondary part of the review and will aim to look at the current operation of the support provided to the customer. The outcome of this will provide a consistent approach across all schemes, whilst offering services to the customer that demonstrate value for money.

The next phase of the review will look at the different levels of support that are currently in place at Grafton and Extra Care with a view to streamlining the teams and providing an holistic Housing Support Service that would aim to be delivered more flexibly across the whole service.

In addition to the current Community Support and Housing Support Service there is a dedicated home care team attached to Grafton House, Oak Trees, and Potteries Court. The Action Plan which outlines the next phase and timelines of the review also captures this, and the current service of the dedicated care teams on site will need to be reviewed in line with customers needs.

An overarching consultation plan and Equality Impact Assessment will also be devised to ensure that that the new merged service meets the needs of the customer and considers any areas of risk.