

CARE SERVICES PDS COMMITTEE

4 March 2015

4. QUESTIONS TO THE CARE SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

(1) From Councillor William Huntington-Thresher

Can the Portfolio Holder confirm the management systems planned for Manorfields to ensure that the proposed accommodation is suitable for the area?

The Council has a duty to ensure that people who are housed in this scheme are safe and secure and we would assess every prospective tenant. The scheme will be managed by Orchard & Shipman who are an experienced management company with a proven track record of successfully managing temporary accommodation in Bromley, including Belle Grove. They will provide round-the-clock staffing with full CCTV coverage and key-fob access to all parts of the complex. Strict rules will govern residents' behaviour whilst staying at the scheme.

We know that these measures allow this type of accommodation to meld into the neighbourhood as evidenced at Belle Grove where we have never received a complaint from local residents since it was opened in 2013.

2. PROPOSALS TO CHARGE CARERS THE FULL COST OF ANY SUPPORT SERVICES THEY ARE ASSESSED AS NEEDING. (ref. Item 7(d) Changes to the Non-residential Contributions Policy and Deferred Payments Scheme, CSPDS 20th Jan. 2015, Report FSD 14087).

(a) How many unpaid carers have been identified in Bromley?

Census data 2011

Provides 1 to 19 Hours Unpaid Care a Week (Persons) ¹	Count	21,274
Provides 20 to 49 Hours Unpaid Care a Week (Persons) ¹	Count	3,439
Provides 50 or More Hours Unpaid Care a Week (Persons) ¹	Count	6,299

(b) What is the estimated value of the care that they provide, and the Council would otherwise have to fund?

This information is not available

(c) What was the cost of services provided to eligible carers in 2013/14, and how many carers received services then and currently?

The cost of services to carers in 2013/14 was £933k, including third party payments and direct payments.

Statutory returns for 13/14 recorded 269 carers receiving services including respite services, and 865 carers receiving information advice and guidance services. This year from April to February 345 carers are recorded as having received services with 500 carers receiving information advice and guidance services.

3. 'INITIAL' EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF CHARGING FOR CARER'S SERVICES AND SUBSTANTIAL CUTS (£200,000) IN DISABILITY RELATED EXPENDITURE (see report FSD 14087).

How can the Care Services PDS Committee consider these proposals in the absence of this EIA (which is still not on the MyLife website)?

The report to Care Services PDS in January 2014 stated that "It is proposed to engage with service users, their families and key organisations in Bromley on the change to Disability Related Expenditure allowances commencing from the publication of this report. The period of engagement will be for 4 weeks commencing on the 29th January and ending on the 25th February 2015. It is anticipated that, subject to any changes being made as a result of the responses received, the new standard rates will be implemented for the commencement of the 2015/16 financial year"

The engagement period ended last week and in addition to views on Disability Related Expenditure we also asked for views on the other charging changes that result from the Care Act. The Impact assessment is currently being finalised taking into account the views we received during the engagement period. The outcome of the impact assessment and engagement with service users will be presented to the Care Services Portfolio Holder before implementation of the revised Charging Policy. The date of that meeting is planned for 26th March 2015 and prior to the meeting the report and supporting documents will then be available on the website.