

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Health and Adult Social Care and Communities

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**Date of Meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
**Report of:** Mark Palethorpe: Acting Executive Director of People  
**Subject/Title:** Respite Review

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 Commissioners have embarked on a journey of engagement and coproduction with our residents and people who use respite services. Commissioners are aiming to co-design the current respite offer in relation to efficiency and effectiveness, leading to the future offer and recommissioning of respite care. The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to endorse the development of a new model as the basis to recommission respite care. The commissioning question we have posed is;

***“How can Cheshire East Council commission short term, person centred opportunities that meet the social, emotional and physical needs of our residents, improving outcomes for individuals and families whilst offering choice, quality and value for money?”***

### 2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the current carer respite contracts with care homes in Cheshire East are recommissioned and a more comprehensive and varied carer respite ‘offer’ is designed for the residents of Cheshire East to allow them to have more choice, control and value for money over their carer and cared for respite offer.
- 2.2 Following the prescribed procurement process that contracts are awarded to suppliers.

### 3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that Cheshire East is able to develop models of innovative, creative practice and solutions offering alternatives to traditional models of respite care. This will provide a carers in Cheshire East with increased in choice, flexibility for respite services which also meets the needs and aspiration of all individuals.

- 3.2 There is strong evidence for individuals, older people, learning disability, physical disability, mental health, autism and dementia using their agreed budgets for respite in a variety of settings, for example:
- Shared Lives
  - Extra Care Housing
  - Guest House and Supported Holidays
  - Home Based Sit In Service
  - Holidays with Support

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All

#### **6.0 Policy Implications**

- 6.1 This report is in line with the requirements under the Care Act 2014.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The current total projected annual spend for 10 beds in Cheshire East is £352,681.68. This budget will be used to re-commission 4 respite beds and alternative respite provision to provide geographical coverage and a choice for varied respite options across the Borough of Cheshire East.

#### **8.0 Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The aggregate value of the care at home provision is such that these services must be procured in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and in compliance with the Council's Finance and Contract Procedure Rules. This will require a fully OJEU compliant procurement exercise. The Service is engaging with Legal Services and the Council's Corporate Procurement Team in this process.
- 8.2 The procurement is a change to the way services are currently provided and commissioners have engaged with stakeholders including service users to co-produce the service specification. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to identify the impacts of any decisions, policies etc. on certain protected groups to ensure equality is promoted, and inequality minimised.
- 8.3 The impact of TUPE on existing provision will need to be considered during the course of the procurement process.

#### **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 Transition arrangements will ensure that there is no gap in the provision of respite care across Cheshire East.
- 9.2 The respite offer will be co-produced with local people to meet local needs and outcomes.
- 9.3 Clear communications with Carers and stakeholders of the new respite offer in Cheshire East.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 In November 2015 Cheshire East Council moved away from an in-house based carer respite provision for older people and commissioned a group of external providers. This was intended to enable carers to access respite in a variety of geographical locations, however, there are issues with low occupancy, and as the system operates on a block contract, it means that some pre-purchased beds are remaining unoccupied and the Authority is responsible for paying for these beds.
- 10.2 There is evidence that providing carer respite in this way is prescriptive and restricts choice. The recommendation therefore is to review the current block contracts and work with a wider range of providers to offer carers and the cared for a more diverse range of respite opportunities.
- 10.3 It is recommended that the current carer respite contract with care homes in Cheshire East are reviewed and a more comprehensive carer respite 'offer'/ opportunity is designed for the residents of Cheshire East to allow them to have more choice, control and value for money over their carer and cared for respite offer.
- 10.4 It has been acknowledged that the current carer respite service offers a better and more even geographical spread of respite across the Borough than previously. However, it is a traditional service, and the next stage of development is to create the range of outcome-focused choice that is desired. The current respite offer is also limited to a bed based offer and does not meet all cohorts of need (for example younger people with a disability).
- 10.5 There is strong evidence around individuals, older people, learning disability, physical disability, mental health, autism and dementia using their agreed budgets for respite in a variety of settings, e.g.
  - Shared Lives
  - Extra Care Housing
  - Guest House and Supported Holidays
  - Home Based Sit In Service
  - Holidays with Support
- 10.3 We also know that regionally, nationally and internationally there are developing models of innovative and creative practice solutions offering alternatives to traditional models of respite care.

- 10.4 There are currently 18 Respite Beds across Cheshire East, and as part of the review we will re-commission 4 beds as well as alternative respite provision to provide geographical coverage across the Borough. There will be a phased approach for re-commissioning with 10 beds being extended to the end of September 2018, while the new provision becomes embedded. The full service should be in place by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018.
- 10.5 A comprehensive engagement plan has been developed including;
- Programme of engagement with carers and the cared for to seek views on the current offer, what works, what could be improved, consultation on renaming the offer and ideas for alternative provision,
  - Programme of stakeholder and market engagement .
- 10.6 Existing surveys such as the National Adult Social Care Survey 2017 and National Carers Survey 2017 offer some intelligence and insight but greater detail and higher levels of engagement are currently being developed to achieve transformational change. The 2016-17 Carers Survey shows that one of the top five categories that carers mentioned the most as something that could be improved was the 'provision of breaks for the Carer.'
- 10.7 The Carers Joint Strategic needs Assessment is currently being developed by the CVS, which will provide a huge level of information, feedback and insight from Carers with regards to the current provision of carers services, and what they need to look like in the future. This report will be finalised in December and will be used to inform the new Respite offer in Cheshire East as part of the final service specifications. Further information about the carers JSNA is available via the Cheshire East JSNA web pages:  
<https://www.cvsce.org.uk/joint-strategic-needs-assessment-jsna/carers>

## **11.0 Access to Information**

N/A

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