

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Joint Extra Care Housing Management Board

Date of Meeting: 25 September 2012
Report of: Jayne McLaughlin – Solicitor
Subject/Title: Management and Governance of Extra Care Housing

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to the execution of an agreement documenting the roles and responsibilities of each Council in relation to the management and governance of the PFI Contract. At the last meeting of the Management Board Members considered a report recommending a lighter governance approach specific to the management of the operation of the Round 3 Schemes and this has been documented and circulated for agreement by the Joint Officer Group members.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Joint Extra Care Housing Management Board approve each Councils signing of an Inter Authority Agreement detailing the parties duties and responsibilities in relation to the management and governance of the existing PFI Extra Care Housing.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Originally the governance arrangements were designed mainly to deal with the procurement of Round 5 PFI Schemes. When the funding for schemes was withdrawn the Board accepted the recommendation for a documentation of a governance regime in an inter authority agreement. A draft Inter Authority Agreement has been circulated and agreed by the Joint Officer Group and authority is now sought for the execution of the Agreement by the respective Councils.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Cheshire East
Crewe West, Handforth, Middlewich
- 4.2 Cheshire West & Chester Council
Rossmore, Winsford Over & Verdin

5.0 Local Ward Members

5.1 Cheshire East

Crewe St Barnabas – Councillor Roy Cartlidge

Handforth – Councillors Barry Burkhill and Dennis Mahon

Middlewich – Councillors Paul Edwards, Simon McGroory and Michael Parsons

5.2 Cheshire West & Chester Council

Rossmore – Councillor Pat Merrick

Winsford Over & Verdin – Councillors Don Beckett, Tom Blackmore and Lynda Jones

6.0 Policy Implications

6.1 None.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 None.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 Legal has drafted and circulated to the Joint Officer Group an Inter Authority Agreement that will bring certainty to the roles and responsibilities of each Council in relation to the schemes.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 None.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The current governance arrangements for Extra Care Housing were set up in 2009. At that time, it was anticipated that there would be further PFI funding available and that the main activity for the next five years would be the procurement and building of 4 more PFI Extra Care Housing schemes together with an overview of the operation of the current 5 PFI Schemes.

10.2 In the light of this, a governance regime was approved that was overseen by the Joint Extra Care Housing Management Board who were to meet on a monthly basis in order to facilitate the fast decision making required by the proposed Competitive Dialogue procurement. Beneath this was a Joint Officer Group (JOG) consisting of the Heads of Service from both Authorities and reporting to JOG was the Project Development Group which was split into workgroups to deal with each part of the Competitive Dialogue (e.g. Legal, Finance, Planning, etc.)

- 10.3 The governance regime and the Inter-Authority Agreement that was set up to support it was mainly geared to the procurement of the Round 5 schemes – Overview of the operational schemes was to be “light-touch” and set up once the Round 5 governance arrangements were in place.
- 10.4 With the termination of round 5 the Board agreed that a lighter approach to governance was to be adopted and this has now been documented.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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