
REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	12 July 2018
Subject:	Response to the Scrutiny Review on Dementia Friendly Housing
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Nick Powell, Divisional Director of Housing Services, and Visva Sathasivam, Interim Director of Adult Social Care
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Phillip O'Dell, Portfolio Holder for Housing, and Councillor Simon Brown, Portfolio Holder for Adults and Public Health
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	Yes
Wards affected:	All Wards
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report provides responses to the recommendations made in the Dementia Friendly Housing Report from the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to:

- Note the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review
- Agree the proposed actions in response to the recommendations as set out in this report.

Reason: (For recommendations)

The recommendations and responses are based on the outcome of the Scrutiny Review.

Section 2 – Report

Introduction:

In September 2017, the Council's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee carried out a review into dementia friendly housing in the Borough.

The review topic was chosen due to projections in the number of older people in Harrow with dementia and existing national and local focus on the issue.

The purpose of this review was to:

- develop a greater understanding of what constitutes 'dementia friendly' housing;
- develop a greater understanding of and clarity around whether current housing provision within the borough meets the needs of residents aged 65 and over diagnosed with dementia, or those that could develop the condition in the future;
- identify measures that the Council could implement to help meet future housing needs. In doing so, identify what overall steps Harrow Council can take towards becoming more dementia friendly.

The aim was to provide strategic support to the Council's Housing and Adult Social Care departments and Harrow CCG, to help plan for the long-term housing and care needs of those with diagnosed with dementia.

This supports the Council's priority to ***Protect the Most Vulnerable and Support Families.***

Options considered

1. Do Nothing – continue providing services for older people as now
2. Develop different options for older people housing including specialist provision for older people with dementia

Current situation

This report provides responses to the recommendations made in the Dementia Friendly Housing Report from Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Recommendation	Response
<p>1. Harrow Council undertakes a detailed and comprehensive needs analysis of demand for accommodation and support for older people in the borough and those diagnosed with dementia and other complex conditions.</p>	<p>The new vision for social care has identified the need to ‘transform the offer of care’ as one of its key work streams to include building extra care accommodation options.</p> <p>There are currently 109 extra care units in the pipeline and population sampling and needs analysis has commenced to plan for future demand for Harrow’s citizens with dementia and other complex conditions.</p> <p>We are exploring options to facilitate access to rented Extra Care and/or dementia friendly housing by owner occupiers in Harrow who require this type of provision, such as the potential to extend the Help2Care scheme where the Council could lease their homes for use as temporary accommodation for homeless families.</p>
<p>2. The outcomes of the intermediate care and wellbeing scheme on an existing site in Pinner Road, Headstone South Ward (if successful) be considered as a business case for developing a cost neutral solution for Extra Care housing within regeneration plans for Poets Corner (site of the Current Civic Centre).</p>	<p>A cross directorate officer team has already met to set an agenda for taking forward a new approach that will increase the range of housing options available to older people in Harrow.</p> <p>A number of site options will be reviewed for the provision of new extra care and extra care plus housing with ability to cater for people with dementia, including the potential for development on the Poets Corner site. These opportunities will be considered within the context of best practice and in accordance with the draft London Plan, with reference to some of the examples explored by the Scrutiny Committee. Consideration will also be given to the potential for existing older persons housing schemes to be upgraded to better</p>

	<p>meet the needs of frailer older people.</p> <p>A report will be brought back to Cabinet later this year on the options to be taken forward and the business case and funding arrangements for the recommended options.</p>
<p>3. Harrow Council produces an older people's housing strategy, which is incorporated within the Council's revised Housing Strategy.</p> <p>The strategy should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) take into account the provisions made for and funding available to develop specialist older people's housing to support older people diagnosed with dementia; b) take into account the policies and targets set within the Mayor's new Housing strategy and draft London Plan, with regard to the provision of specialist housing for older people with dementia; c) be integrated with health and adult social care priorities and provide a holistic approach to meeting the needs of older people with dementia as their condition progresses; d) take into account best practice examples and learning from other boroughs that have put in place strategies for supported accommodation and support for older people with dementia and other complex needs. 	<p>Housing Services will be reviewing all of its published Housing Strategies later in 2018/2019.</p> <p>The Housing Strategy includes a section on supported housing and will be expanded to cover the specific housing needs of older people including those with dementia. The Housing Strategy must be in conformity with the London Housing Strategy and will make reference to the draft London Plan although it should be noted the targets are still to be agreed and therefore our Housing Strategy will focus on what we will be able to deliver taking into account sites and funding availability.</p> <p>The Housing Strategy is developed in consultation with key stakeholders and to meet the joint priorities of housing, health and adults social care priorities. There will be opportunities for officers and members to engage with this strategy and policy review process. The revised Housing Strategy will be brought to Cabinet for approval next year.</p> <p>See above section regarding applying best practice examples in taking forward new opportunities for developing extra care housing in Harrow.</p>
<p>4. The borough's joint dementia strategy is refreshed to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) progress of outcomes from the previous strategy; b) integrated policies and action plans that meet the health, housing and social care needs of people with dementia in the borough; c) a care dementia care pathway to ensure improved post diagnosis care and support; better awareness and access to information and advice services via the council, the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Harrow has one of the highest proportions of older residents aged 65 and over. The Census indicates that 14.1% (33,637) of Harrow's residents are aged 65 and over. The prevalence of dementia in this group is around 2,500 and the rate of dementia diagnosis in Harrow has increased significantly over the last two years. - Discussions are taking place with Harrow CCG with a view to revising the dementia strategy, which will be published at the end of 2018.

CCG and through local voluntary and community sector (VCS);
d) details of plans for the development of a dementia information and advice hub for Harrow.

(to Harrow Council and Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group)

- We are working in partnership with the Harrow Memory Assessment Service (MAS) to ensure that dementia patients have access to and are referred to appropriate services within the borough.
- Processes have been put in place to facilitate regular engagement with older people services within the borough.
- A social worker is now co-located in the team.

b) As part of our plans to refresh the joint dementia strategy, a multi-agency stakeholder task and finish group will be established to ensure that health, housing and social care strategies and priorities are incorporated. Opportunities will be identified to engage with and consult people living with dementia and their families and carers.

c) We have taken on board the findings of the report and feedback from service users. Newly diagnosed patients and their carers now receive a post-diagnostic information pack.

d) Plans for the development of the dementia and information hub align with the Adult Social Care Pathway review to optimise the customer journey and to make for a personalised experience.

The Hub will blend raising awareness of latest technological advances e.g. enhanced telecare, through to offering information and advice on a digital platform, e.g. Harrow Council's website front end.

Online information will be complimented with a physical space to cater for people who do not go online, enabling people with an option to drop in for support that is well linked to key touch points in the dementia pathway. This offers a multi-tier level of support for citizens in Harrow affected by dementia to have access to the necessary information as listed above.

The potential for new and emerging assistive technology to significantly improve

	<p>the lives of people living with dementia is recognised and officers intend to engage with these opportunities alongside key partners. Examples include internet-connected sensors and wearables to monitor people with dementia and GPS enabled wearables.</p>
<p>5. Council departments are encouraged to explore opportunities for increased partnership working with:</p> <p>a) Harrow CCG to ensure better integration of health and adult social care services, improved awareness of and signposting to other services in the borough and identify gaps in service provision;</p> <p>b) local VCS sector to raise awareness of dementia diagnosis and support services among BAME communities.</p>	<p>a) Harrow CCG commissions the Memory Assessment Service which provides extensive information to all newly diagnosed patients and carers and the public. Future planned work will see increased information through GPs and the CCG website. The review of the adult social care pathway will realise opportunities to better integrate working.</p> <p>b) The Minority Ethnic Elders Project and the work of commissioned groups like Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisation continue to extend the reach to BAME Communities.</p> <p>A task and finish group has been established in response to the VCSE Review 'Strengthening the VCSE relationship with the council' this is consistent with the Adult Social Care transformation that sees community resilience as its bedrock and using a co-production / co-design process as intent to increase partnership working. Involving stakeholders affected by dementia is key to ensuring that people's awareness of diagnosis and support is heightened among BAME communities.</p>
<p>6. The Chair of the Harrow Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee, invites Harrow CCG's Chief Operating Officer to a future meeting of the Health Sub-Committee to respond to the findings of this report.</p>	<p>The Chief Operating Officer of Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group has accepted an invitation to attend the next Health Sub-Committee meeting in July to discuss the findings of the report.</p>
<p>7. Additional action following Cabinet briefing</p>	<p>Consideration will be given as to how all Council activities can become more dementia-friendly in the context of both increased demand for services and increasing budget challenges, including exploring options such as the dementia-friendly communities programme.</p>

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk implications at this stage.

Procurement Implications

There are no procurement implications at this stage.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications at this stage.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications at this stage.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

Dementia friendly housing usually relates to older people and the protected characteristics of age and disability. However there are no specific equalities implications arising from the recommendations in this report at this stage and it is considered that generally the impact on protected groups would be positive.

Equalities impact will be considered separately for actions or proposals that develop out of the recommendations in the report.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This report incorporates the administration's priority to

- Making a difference for the vulnerable

And the *Harrow Ambition Plan's* strategic themes to **Build a Better Harrow** and to **Protect the Most Vulnerable and Support Families**.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearances

Name: Donna Edwards and
Tasleem Kazmi, Finance
Business Partners

on behalf of the
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 2 July 2018

Name: Matthew Adams,
Principal Lawyer & Service
Manager – Commercial

on behalf of the
Monitoring Officer

Date: 2 July 2018

Section 3 - Procurement Officer Clearance

Name: Nimesh Mehta, Head of
Procurement

Head of Procurement

Date: 2 July 2018

Ward Councillors notified:

**NO, as it impacts on all
Wards.**

EqIA carried out:

NO
*Not required for this report as
this report only outlines
responses to
recommendations.*

EqIA cleared by:

Not Applicable

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

Meghan Zinkewich-Peotti, Housing Strategy Project Manager, Housing Services, Community Directorate
020 8424 1346
meghan.zinkewich-peotti@harrow.gov.uk

Mario Casiero, Safeguarding Assurance & Quality Services Project Manager, Adult Social Care, People Services
020 8424 1023
mario.casiero@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None

**Call-In Waived by the
Chair of Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

NO

(Call-in applies)