

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TAKEN BY:**

Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

**DECISION NO:**

16/00067

**For publication****Key decision**

The need to modernise services and respond to changing demands.

**Subject: Accommodation Based Short Break Service for People with Disabilities.**

**Decision:** As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I agree to:

- a) Proceed with the Accommodation Based Short Break Model;
- b) End service provision from Osborne Court and identify alternative services for the 58 service users and close Osborne Court; and
- c) Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

Historically accommodation based short break services for children and young people across Kent were managed separately and transition at the age of 18 was at times unprepared and difficult for families to understand and on occasions left individuals without a service.

The proposed future model of service will ensure the accommodation based short break services are fit for purpose and fit for the future.

**Financial Implications:**

The current budget for the service will be reallocated to the relevant services, the cost of which will be known once services are secured. There may be associated costs relating to redundancy and retirement which will be known following the formal staff consultation period, plus efficiencies from the reduction of one short break building.

**Legal Implications:**

The County Council has a statutory responsibility to support carers and the person they care for, with one area of provision being accommodation based short breaks.

**Equality Implications:**

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed for the project. This will be reviewed at the end of the consultation period and will accompany the recommendation report and proposed decision.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The proposed decision was discussed at the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee meeting on 11 October 2016.

*Ms S McGibbon, Change Implementation Officer, and Ms R Adby, Infrastructure Business Relationship Manager were in attendance for this item.*

1. Ms Southern introduced the report and presented a series of slides which set out the planned development of the service and set out the key aims of the current proposed development, e.g. to achieve a smooth transition between children's and adults' services. She reassured Members that there was no proposed reduction to service provision and demonstrated that the accommodation based short break services are countywide services and therefore accessed based on which service can best meet the needs of the individual rather than the location of the building

2. The Cabinet Member, Mr Gibbens, drew Members' attention to the easy-read report, which had been presented in the agenda pack with the usual papers, as had become customary when reporting on a range of public-facing services, and said he would welcome Members' views on how to improve and clarify the presentation of future reports.

3. RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, to proceed with the accommodation-based short break model, to end service provision from Osborne Court and identify alternative services for the 58 service users and family carers and close Osborne Court, and to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision, be endorsed.

**Any alternatives considered:**

None – It has been concluded that Osborne Court is out of date and is not deemed to be fit for purpose and would require total refurbishment for it to continue. After due consideration of this option, it is felt that resources would be better spent in updating a site with more potential for improvement to both the building and facilities.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:**

NONE



signed

1 NOVEMBER 2016

date