

By: Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing

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

Subject: **PROPOSAL ON THE CLOSURE OF THE DOROTHY LUCY CENTRE – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Decision Number: **16/00007**

Classification: Unrestricted (Appendix is exempt)

Previous Pathway of Paper: Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee – 14 January 2016 and 10 March 2016

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member decision

Electoral Division: Maidstone

Summary: Further to the report to the 14 January meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee, this provides the additional information required in order for the Cabinet Member to consider the outcome of a period of public consultation that took place from 28 September - 20 December 2015 proposing the closure of the registered care home, the Dorothy Lucy Centre (DLC).

Recommendations The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to agree:

- i) to close the Dorothy Lucy Centre, Maidstone
- ii) to re-provide elderly frail services (currently provided by the Dorothy Lucy Centre) through existing external provision
- iii) to re-provide dementia day services (currently provided by the Dorothy Lucy Centre) through a block contract
- iv) to re-provide the short term beds (currently provided by the Dorothy Lucy Centre) in the independent sector
- v) that Dorothy Lucy Centre day provision continues to operate as is until at least March 2017, to allow time to complete a procurement exercise for a block contract and implement a transition plan
- vi) that existing services will not close until alternative provision is available for the current service users
- vii) to give consideration to leasing the Dorothy Lucy Centre day centre part of the building to an external provider as an interim measure if they are unable to secure a suitable venue within the procurement timetable, with the understanding that they identify an alternate venue within a given timeframe
- viii) to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

1. Background

1.1 Following the period of consultation on the future of the Dorothy Lucy Centre, Maidstone and the report that was presented to the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 14 January 2016 (Attached as Appendix 2) which

confirmed how the successful re-provision of beds could be achieved, the additional work requested to be undertaken has been completed and the outcome is detailed in this report.

- 1.2 This report accompanies the full report on the outcome of the consultation that is included at Appendix 2 and covers the areas of work required to fully present the evidence needed to demonstrate how day care services at the Dorothy Lucy Centre can be re-provided locally.
- 1.3 The proposal for the Dorothy Lucy Centre is to close the service and purchase services in the independent sector to provide alternative accommodation. It is expected that this could be achieved by the end of August 2016 for the re-provision of short term beds. This report suggests that day service re-provision could be achieved by the end of March 2017.
- 1.4 The main drivers for the proposal to close the service are:
 - People are living longer with more complex conditions and they rightly expect more choice in care.
 - People wish to remain in their own homes with dignity and expect high quality care.
 - Residential care should be in high quality buildings. Our older buildings have reached the end of their useful life.
 - Good quality care can be commissioned for less money in the independent sector. Unit costs for in-house services are substantially higher.
- 1.5 For the purposes of this report, the Commissioning Strategies and the vision for Adult Social Care in Kent include the requirement of day opportunities to support the individuals and their carers to allow the carer a short break to enable them to carry out this crucial function.

2. Required additional information

- 2.1 Section five of the report presented to Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee in January 2016 covered the future service delivery and was not able to fully evidence the ability to secure alternative day care provision. Further work has been undertaken and is detailed further in the report to show the picture of demand and provision in Maidstone. There was also a request to look at whether the Dorothy Lucy Centre could be developed as a specialist day centre.

3. Day Service re-provision

3.1 Summary of current position

- 3.1.1 The Dorothy Lucy Centre (DLC) has a total of 135 day care places per week, 50 day care places for elderly frail people and 85 day care places for people living with dementia.
- 3.1.2 A total of 53 people are currently attending day services at DLC. Of these, 16 attend elderly frail days, using 23 of the 50 available places per week. In comparison, 37 people are attending the dementia days using 95 places per week.

3.1.3 Due to lower numbers of elderly frail days, the centre has been able to reallocate some of these places to accommodate the increase in demand for dementia day places. There is currently no waiting list for this service.

3.1.4 However, overall the centre continues to operate at 87% capacity (see below)

Day	Type of Day Care	Capacity (per week)	Current Usage
Monday	Elderly Frail	25 places	9 places
	Dementia	17 places	21 places
Tuesday	Dementia	17 places	16 places
Wednesday	Elderly frail	25 places	14 places
	Dementia	17 places	19 places
Thursday	Dementia	17 places	17 places
Friday	Dementia	17 places	22 places
Total	Elderly frail	50 places	23 places
	Dementia	85 places	95 places
	Overall	135 places	118 places

*usage based on centre registers as of 2nd February 2016

3.1.5 People using the DLC elderly frail day services are currently transported into the centre from their homes in the following locations:

Location	Number	
	Elderly Frail	Dementia
Allington	1	
Aylesford		2
Bearsted		4
Boughton Monchelsea		4
Chart Sutton	1	
Coxheath	2	
Detling		1
Fant, Maidstone Town	1	
Leybourne		1
Loose, Maidstone Town	1	2
Maidstone Town Centre	2	2
Marden	1	1
Oakwood, Maidstone Town		1
Park Wood, Maidstone Town	1	4
Sandling Maidstone Town		2
Shepway, Maidstone Town	1	9
Snodland		1
Staplehurst		2
Sutton Valence	1	
Sutton, Maidstone Town	1	1
Tonbridge Rd, Maidstone Town	1	
Tovil, Maidstone Town	1	
Vinters Park, Maidstone Town	1	
Total	16	37

3.2 Current alternate provision (elderly frail and dementia)

3.2.1 Age UK Maidstone is currently the main provider of day services in the community for elderly frail people in the Maidstone area. They operate a hub model across

the district providing social opportunities in community based venues and sheltered housing schemes. See below:

Location	Days open
Parkwood	Monday
Barming	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
Loose	Tuesday
Staplehurst	One day a week
Shepway X 2	Thursday & Friday
Coxheath	Monday and Friday
Borough Green	Friday
West Malling	Monday & Thursday
Snodland	Thursday
Boxley	Wednesday & Friday
East Malling	Wednesday

3.2.2 Age UK Maidstone also operate the only local community day service for those with dementia, the Dorothy Goodman Centre, located in Bearsted.

3.2.3 Based on their current level of occupancy, they would be able to accommodate the 16 people currently attending DLC elderly frail day services at their current level of service. However, the Dorothy Goodman Centre does not have enough capacity to accommodate the dementia service.

3.2.4 Cost per person per day is included in the exempt appendix.

3.2.5 Age UK Maidstone are currently exploring options to expand their dementia day services beyond the existing provision at Dorothy Goodman Centre. They are in talks with Golding Homes (who they currently work with to deliver day services from their property) to identify sites they can use to provide dementia services for 3 days per week. This, in addition to the existing capacity in Dorothy Goodman Centre, would enable them to meet the demand from the Dorothy Lucy Centre.

3.2.6 Shared Lives Day Support is an in house provision providing short and long term placements for people with disabilities or dementia to live with families in their family home. Some of their providers also provide day support from their homes.

3.2.7 At present there is only one provider in the district. They are located in Bearsted and are able to offer one placement for older person / dementia day support.

3.2.8 Cost for dementia day support is included in the [exempt] appendix

3.2.9 Garden of England Homecare is a new provider who is currently providing domiciliary care in the area. They are planning to set up a dementia day care provision based on feedback from their domiciliary clients and have approached KCC for support. This will add an additional provider to the market.

3.2.10 Although, this provider does not currently have an established day care provision within the area, they are linking into the local Dementia Friendly Communities forum to gather feedback about what is needed in the area, and are in conversation with Mid Kent Shopping Centre in Allington about leasing a property in the centre. The shopping centre management team are interested in the day centre because they are seeking to make the centre more accessible and friendly to those in assisted living.

3.2.11 Private Residential Care Home providers were asked to indicate if they would provide day support to non-residents. Four providers in Maidstone have indicated that they could do this. The providers, their capacity and rates are included in the exempt appendix.

3.2.12 The KCC Property Department do have property in the Maidstone area, however, additional scoping is required in order to understand whether these would be suitable alternatives to the DLC as a day centre.

3.2.13 The KCC Property Department are not opposed to acquiring property for a day centre as an alternative to DLC, but would need to understand the longer term plans for the day centre and be assured that the building would be an asset to the Council's property portfolio. A key consideration would be whether the day centre would remain an in-house provision or whether any property acquired would be leased to an external provider.

3.2.14 KCC Adult Social Care collects Section 106 contributions from developers and there is a significant amount of development in Maidstone. Although use of the contributions is for the additional growth in the area, analysis would be needed to show that the additional usage of the service is as a result of the new communities and certainly looking forward to plan for even more use of day services. There is money available for use

3.2.15 In summary, there is enough capacity within the external market to offer a suitable local alternative to individuals attending the elderly frail day services provision at DLC, but not currently for those attending the dementia day service.

4. Options for re-provision of day services at DLC

4.1 Included at Appendix 3 is the full detail regarding four options that were explored in the re-provision of day services in Maidstone.

4.2 The options considered were:

- Option One - Retain DLC as a specialist day service:
 - Option 1a: KCC to provide
 - Option 1b: external provider to provide
- Option Two - Close DLC and re-provide through existing external provision:
 - Option 2a: elderly frail only
 - Option 2b: elderly frail and dementia
- Option 3 – Close DLC and re-provide day services through a block contract:
 - Option 3a: Dementia day care only
 - Option 3b: Dementia and elderly frail day care
- Option 4 - Close DLC and retain day service as a specialist in house provision delivered from an alternate site

4.3 It is recommended that KCC implements a combination of:

- Option 2a: re-provide through existing external provision for elderly frail only

- Option 3a: re-provide through block contract for dementia day service only
- 4.4 For Option 3, it is noted that interested providers do not currently have a site to deliver the service from, and so the recommendation is that consideration is given to leasing the DLC day centre part of the building to an external provider as an interim measure if they are unable to secure a suitable venue within the procurement timetable, with the understanding that they identify an alternate venue within a given timeframe. KCC Social Care, Health and Wellbeing along with Property and Infrastructure will provide support to secure alternative accommodation
- 4.5 It is recommended that the Dorothy Lucy Centre day provision continues to operate as is until at least March 2017, to allow time to complete a procurement exercise for a block contract and implement a transition plan.

5. Use of the Dorothy Lucy Centre as a specialist day centre

- 5.1 As explored in option one above, the feedback received from KCC Property Department on the costs of having the Dorothy Lucy Centre as a specialist day service would not be significantly different to the current running costs of the full centre, from a property management perspective.
- 5.2 The preference would be to have the service managed as one whole building, as to close down part of the building would incur additional health and safety risks and costs, such as:
- Physical separation of the building for example with partitions or walls. This would then have an effect of the operation of essential services in the building including the fire alarm and emergency lighting system. A new fire risk assessment would have to be completed
 - Electrical and mechanical systems will also need adapting, for example heating, lighting and power which would also be dependent on intake position. Isolating water services may also prove problematic depending on water supply and location of water tanks. This could lead to extensive works to adapt current hot and cold services to the building (pipework).
 - All the above adaptations would be required in order for the building to remain in a statutorily compliant position.
 - Additional costs would be incurred for security if one part of the building is unused while the day service was operating and would appear unwelcoming to a service operating in one side of the building.
 - The potential to have the remaining part of the building let out would incorporate additional costs for managing and subsequently metering both sides of the building for utilities
- 5.3 KCC's Property Department out turn budget for 2014/15 for the DLC was £107.3k. This would be ongoing should the building remain in KCC management for an operating building.
- 5.4 Should the decision be taken to accommodate an external provider into the service, some income could be generated to off-set the £107.3k as part of the rental/service charge costs, however this would of course be part of the day provision cost and would be charged back to KCC.
- 5.5 An interim, short-term, arrangement could be managed whilst any provider identifies accommodation within Maidstone, which would be a stipulation on any tender for the re-provision of services.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 The financial implications of this proposal are detailed in Appendix 2 to this report.

7. Equality Implications

7.1 An equality impact assessment has been completed and a copy is available on request.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 The County Council has a statutory responsibility to accommodate people assessed as requiring residential care services. There is a duty to make sure all care home provision that the Council places residents in is safeguarding individuals and that effective contract management is in place.

9. Summary

9.1 The evidence has been provided to demonstrate that the beds at the Dorothy Lucy Centre can be secured through the care home tender and can be in place by the end of August 2016. The detail of this is in the report that was presented and discussed at the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 14 January 2016 (Appendix Two).

9.2 This subsequent report has provided evidence that day services can also be secured in Maidstone. However a tender exercise will be required and so alternative services will take time to be developed and which may require the use of the DLC as an interim measure. This would be by way of utilising existing external provision for elderly frail and to tender for a block contract for people with dementia. The existing services will not be closed until alternative provision is available for current service users.

9.3 Using the DLC as a specialist day service would be very costly longer term as detailed above and therefore an interim measure would be considered

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to agree:

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they identify an alternate venue within a given timeframe

viii) to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

11. Background Documents

None

12. Contact details

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