

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 27 February, 2019
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Children, Education and Social Care
SUBJECT: Refurbishment of Millbrow Care Home
WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide Executive Board with details of the proposed refurbishment of Millbrow care home and associated costs.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted;**
- 2) Agree refurbishment plans**
- 3) Agree funding**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Background

3.1.1 Millbrow care home is a 44 bedded Nursing establishment, situated in Widnes, providing care and support to vulnerable older people of Halton. The establishment was purchased by Halton borough council in 2017. At the time, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) had completed an inspection and rated the home as inadequate. The care and governance arrangements were poor and the building was in disrepair. Halton Borough Council purchased the home, which ensured that the vulnerable older people residing in the building could continue to do so, living within the borough. CQC re inspected the building in February 2019 and recognised the improvements that had been made in all areas, with particular focus on care, which was rated as good. A further CQC inspection has recently taken place in January 2020. Although the final report and rating has yet to be confirmed, initial feedback has acknowledged the improvements made across all of the domains.

3.1.2 Some initial building work has taken place to ensure the establishment is habitable and fit for purpose, the building is in need of a major refurbishment. Due to the extent of the work required, it has been divided into three phases. The first stage, detailed within this report focuses on the needs of the residents, ensuring the environment is suitable for good quality care provision and excludes additional work in relation to staff teams, e.g. offices.

3.1.3 As part of the proposed works, it is essential that we ensure the well-being of residents and minimise any disruption to their daily lives during the

refurbishment. This will involve creating temporary bedrooms on the ground floor.

- 3.1.4 If the proposed works and funding is agreed in principle, Halton Borough Council will request contractors to tender for the work and a full implementation plan will be devised.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Care Act 2014 came into effect in April 2015 and replaced most previous law regarding carers and people being cared for. There is a raft of legislation and policy regulatory framework to protect people at risk from abuse, neglect and harm. Ensuring people are protected from harm by providing a safe comfortable environment for them to live is as important as any other domain.

5.0 SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Refurbishment will support care delivery should ensure that people's needs are met appropriately, their dignity is respected and maintained and support them to live fulfilling lives, reducing the risks of safeguarding incidents.

6.0 FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Cost of Phase one of the work is estimated at £1.5m, it is proposed that this funding is released from the Social Care capital allocation, which is contained within the disable facilities Grant.

7.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This work is part of Overarching plan to ensure Halton can lead on the provision of outstanding model of care, and the development of a centre of excellence in Halton.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

8.1 Children & Young People in Halton

None identified.

8.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None identified at present.

8.3 A Healthy Halton

None identified at present.

8.4 A Safer Halton

None identified at present.

8.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified at present.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 8.1 If we do not complete this essential work, there will be an ongoing risk to the delivery of good quality care within Millbrow, and the ability to achieve our vision

to improve and enhance the quality and provision of outstanding care for older people.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

9.1 It has not been appropriate at this stage to complete an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA).