

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

19 FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BY VIRTUE OF PARAGRAPH 14 OF PART 4 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND PARAGRAPH 21 OF PART 5 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

NID AR GYFER CYHOEDDIAD DRWY RINWEDD PARAGRAFF16 O RHAN 4 AC PARAGRAFF 21 O RHAN 5 O ATODLEN 12A O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 1972.

BRIDGEND SHARED LIVES SCHEME - PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet about the current and future arrangements for the Shared Lives scheme in the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate and to seek approval for a change in the service delivery model.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate priority/priorities:-

- **Supporting a successful economy** – taking steps to make the county a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county.
- **Helping people to be more self-reliant** – taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

3. Background.

- 3.1 The Bridgend Shared Lives Scheme is a service where adults with learning disabilities are offered short term, long term or emergency care with Shared Lives Carers. The care is delivered in the home of a Shared Lives Carer, thereby enabling people referred to the scheme to live in the community as independently as possible in a family environment.

- 3.2 The shared lives scheme in Bridgend offers a real choice to individuals about their accommodation arrangements and provides an alternative to residential and supported living placements by offering support in a family environment which has worked very well for the people on the scheme.
- 3.3 Shared lives is a very cost effective way of providing accommodation and short break services. The table below shows how the cost of a 'live in' shared lives placement compares with residential and supported living services in Bridgend:

<i>AVERAGE COST PER ANNUM</i>	<i>TYPE OF SERVICE</i>
£34,000	Shared Lives 'live in' placement
£110,000	Residential Care Learning Disability
£45,000	Residential Care Mental Health
£48,000*	Supported Living placement (commissioned service) *
£66,000*	Supported living placement (in house provision)*
	*excludes 'supporting people' funding

- 3.4 In October 2014 Cabinet agreed that Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) act as the lead authority in the commissioning of a regional shared lives service on behalf of BCBC, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and City and County of Swansea. A contract was put in place with an independent provider, which expires at the end of April 2019. This Western Bay regional contract will not be renewed following this date, because of the health authority boundary change which comes into force on 1 April 2019 and as a result of the analysis and options appraisal the Council has carried out of future delivery options which is described below in section 4.
- 3.5 Currently in Bridgend there are 24 people with a learning disability who live with a shared lives family and 13 who have short breaks on the scheme. There has been limited scope to expand the scheme into other service areas such as older peoples and mental health services which has been achieved successfully by other Councils.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1 In order to consider possible future arrangements for the continuation of the Shared Lives Scheme after April 2019 the council asked 'Shared Lives Plus' to carry out an independent review to help inform the development of an internal options paper. 'Shared Lives Plus' is a national organisation established to promote and develop shared lives schemes.
- 4.2 Shared Lives Plus completed a report in November 2018 which took into account the council's priorities for the continuation of the scheme, considered the potential for expanding and developing the scope of the scheme and identified three potential options for consideration for the future arrangements, which are:
1. Recommission the scheme to an external provider in the independent sector although there is not a diversity of providers in Wales.
 2. Bring the service in house, which would include recruiting a Registered Manager to enable compliance with regulations.
 3. Make an agreement with a neighbouring authority, who run a scheme, to combine the two schemes. BCBC are keen to explore the option of commissioning a neighbouring Local Authority scheme to expand provision

into the area. Vale of Glamorgan and South East Wales Shared Lives schemes are the closest local authority run schemes geographically. Vale of Glamorgan have also expressed an interest in expanding their scheme.

The report presents a detailed analysis of these options including a cost comparison and is attached at **Appendix 1**.

- 4.3 The option which meets the council's priorities and provides the best opportunity for expanding and developing the scope of the scheme, and is most cost effective, is number 3, particularly if the second scheme under consideration is the scheme run by the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council (VOG). This is because the Vale of Glamorgan scheme is run by a neighbouring Council and offers a wider range of services which would be of benefit to people in this county. This option also fits well with the Council's commitment and track record of collaborative working with neighbouring councils. It also fits with *'the health priorities set-out by the Cwm Taf University Health & Public Services Boards. The region, which will include Bridgend from April next year, has a history of close partnership working. The Cwm Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023, published by the Cwm Taf Public Services Board, identifies the Well-being of Future Generations Act as an opportunity to build on partnership working in new, exciting and innovative ways. It describes a unique opportunity for all public services to work differently together, involving communities in shaping long-term future and improving well-being. The flexibility of the Shared Lives model fits in well with this move to innovate and integrate services in a way that directly addresses the needs and wants of people using services. In this way Shared Lives can actively support the move to a new health board region.'* This quote is taken from the Business Case and Options Appraisal for Commissioning the Shared Lives Model in Bridgend - Shared Lives Plus (November 2018 Page 10).
- 4.4 The majority of shared lives schemes in Wales are run in house by local authorities in well-established collaborative arrangements with 15 Councils being part of four separate schemes. The VOG have operated a shared lives scheme, known as the Adult Placement Scheme since 1996. The scheme provides a range of services across learning disability, mental health and services for older people and currently has 39 host families providing services to 79 people. There is potential to develop the collaboration with other councils in the Cwm Taf area as the VOG have ambitions to collaborate further.
- 4.5 Option 3 would also enable BCBC to:
- Maintain stability for existing placements and provide reassurance through a period of change and a local point of contact for Shared Lives host families. This will ensure appropriate contact and formal and informal support in terms of training, placement reviews and compliance with regulations.
 - Develop the learning and experience from both Councils who would work together to develop innovative and imaginative ways of expanding the scheme across adult services, beyond the traditional location in Learning Disability services.
 - Draw on BCBC's and VOG's experience of joint/partnership (such as regulated services) working to develop further regional partnerships.
 - Achieve economies of scale by sharing a 'Registered Manager'.

- Enable the support workers to be located in the social work teams which has proven benefits for effective communication and planning.

This option is the preferred option and initial discussions have opened between officers from the two councils which are very favourable.

4.6 Should option 3 be approved, it is proposed that this option is implemented in two phases. Phase 1 would be for one year (May 2019 to May 2020) and would be to provide transition time, consolidation of the existing scheme, implementation of a development program and the preparation of a business plan for the expansion of the scheme in Phase 2.

4.7 It is also proposed that a partnership agreement be developed with colleagues in Legal Services which will be put in place between BCBC and VOG to provide governance for the proposed arrangement, set out the requirements of both partners for the scheme and expectations in terms of growing the numbers and breadth of the scheme. Performance and outcomes will be monitored and reviewed throughout the term of the agreement to ensure agreed objectives are met.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

5.1 There is no effect on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no direct equality implications of this report.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Implications

7.1 The implementation of the duties and responsibilities under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA) in turn, supports the promotion of two of the seven goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 within the County Borough of Bridgend. By promoting an environment that maximises people's physical and mental well-being and by supporting children, young people, adults and their carers and families to fulfil their potential no matter what their circumstances, the wellbeing goals of a Healthier and more equal Bridgend and Wales are supported.

7.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with five ways of working to guide how the Authority should work to deliver wellbeing outcomes for people. The following is a summary to show how the five ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been considered in this report:

- Long Term – Social Services is demand led and the SSWBA focusses on sustainable prevention and wellbeing outcomes for the future. There is a requirement to meet the needs of people in the longer term and, because of rising demographics and increasing complexity, the remodelling and transformation of services continues to be a priority. The Shared Lives scheme provides a long term sustainable accommodation option which offers more choice to people who use services.

- Prevention – the report is about the new approaches adopted by the Directorate in line with the SSWBA, for example, the provision of information, advice and assistance to enable people to remain independent for as long as possible. This will ensure that need is anticipated and resources can be more effectively directed to better manage demand. The Shared Lives Scheme enables people to live and participate in their chosen community.
- Integration – the implementation of the SSWBA requires local authorities to work with partners, particularly the NHS and the Police, to ensure care and support for people and support for carers is provided. The report evidences work with the Third Sector, enabling people to remain linked to communities, and work with young people to enable access to employment.
- Collaboration – The strategic planning and local delivery of integrated support and services are developed and agreed at a regional basis in order to provide the best possible intervention to people. The majority of councils in Wales are in collaborative arrangements to provide shared lives services.
- Involvement – the key stakeholders are the people who use social care. There is considerable engagement including surveys, stakeholder meetings, feedback forms and the complaints process. The provision of accessible information and advice helps to ensure that the voice of adults, children and young people is heard.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The Shared Lives Plus report demonstrates that currently the Shared Lives Scheme in Bridgend requires a different level of funding if the potential for development and expansion is to be realised. The report suggests that £100k would be required in phase 1 of the scheme which is £60k more than the current core funding of £40k to provide adequate staffing and potential for growth.
- 8.2 The additional £60k will be funded through the anticipated savings which will be generated from this scheme, which will be realised by transferring an existing residential and/or supported living placement into a shared lives placement. Paragraph 3.3 within this report highlights the cost comparisons and the likely potential for savings. For example, if one existing learning disabilities residential placement can be transferred into a shared lives placement then an annual saving of £76k could be generated – as the estimated cost of a learning disabilities placement is £110k compared to an estimated cost of £34k within a shared lives scheme. Alternatively, if two existing internal supported living placements can be transferred, then an annual saving of £64k could be generated – as the cost of each internal supported living placement is £66k compared to £34k. The funding from the earmarked reserve could be used to enable a move to happen as described above.
- 8.3 There will also be cost avoidance potential as new placements can access a more cost effective shared lives service.

9. Recommendation.

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- approve delivery model option 3, described in section 4;
- delegate authority to the Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing, to negotiate and agree the terms of the regional scheme and, agree the terms of and enter into a formal partnership agreement with the VOG in consultation with the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services; and
- note that performance and outcomes will be monitored and reviewed throughout the term of the agreement to ensure agreed objectives are met.

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Background documents:

None.