

CABINET – 30 JANUARY 2024

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Public Questions:**Question (1): Ellen Nicholson**

A previous question I submitted on adult social care provision was to the former Woking joint committee in 2022 about the closure by Surrey County Council run facility of Heathside Care Home in Coley Avenue, Woking. I was then informed that a decision would be made by Surrey County Council in Autumn 2022 about the use of the facility/land. To date I have not been informed of any information concerning decisions on this site.

Since 2022, adult social care developments have led to a recent consultation for closure on Brockhill Extra Care facility in Goldsworth Park, Woking which commenced at the end of 2023 and is due to be reported on at Woking Borough Council shortly.

Does the Cabinet agree with me that Woking is now experiencing a deficit in terms of accessible adult social care and extra care facilities for the Woking population and is likely to impact on timely access to care and support.

What measures do Surrey County Council intend to take in line with the statutory duty under the Care Act 2014 to increase provision of facilities, such as an additional extra care facility within Woking and what time lines and assurances can SCC provide Woking Borough Council that this provision will be subject to business case and commissioning within 2024?

Reply:

Thank you for your questions in relation to how Surrey County Council is ensuring residents have access to care and support at the right time, in the right place.

We are pleased to share that in July 2019 Cabinet approved Surrey County Council's Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy, which sets out our approach to increase the provision of specialist accommodation across Surrey and reduce the Council's reliance on traditional residential care.

The size and scale of our Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy demonstrates Surrey County Council's commitment to transform how residents are supported to live independently in the 'Right Homes with the Right Support'. In total, we have an ambition to deliver over 1,400 units of specialist accommodation across Surrey delivering improved outcomes for our residents and ensuring 'nobody is left behind'.

Included in this Strategy is our affordable Extra Care Housing programme, which has a target to deliver a minimum of 725 units across the County by 2030. We are making good progress delivering this ambition and already have plans in place with development and housing management partners to deliver circa 350 units. We already secured full planning approval at one site and outline planning approval at a further two sites. This means construction will commence in 2024 on the first site and two other sites, subject to full Planning Permission, will follow throughout 2025.

Circa 200 units are planned to be delivered in North West Surrey, which might be suitable for residents that live in Woking with eligible care and housing needs. This demonstrates our commitment to provide equitable access to services for Surrey's residents now and into the future. We also remain confident in our ability to continue delivering statutory services in the Woking area in line with Care Act Assessments of need and corresponding support plans.

Our Land and Property Department continue to undertake a strategic review of the County Council's assets to identify sites that might be used to deliver services. The Heathside site is being considered as part of this review and colleagues will be exploring the art of the possible in terms of location and footprint. A decision on future use with business case will be presented to Cabinet at an appropriate time.

In relation to Brockhill, we (Adult Social Care and Land and Property colleagues) worked closely with Woking Borough Council who have taken the decision to consult on the potential closure of the site.

In addition to our affordable Extra Care Housing programme, we are delivering the following programmes to increase the availability of specialist accommodation through our Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy:

1. At least 500 units of Supported Independent Living for working age adults with learning disabilities and/or autism
2. Between 185-210 units of Supported Independent Living for working age adults with mental health needs
3. Short Breaks for working age adults with learning disabilities and/or autism

Our progress delivering the Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy demonstrates our commitment to provide Surrey's residents the opportunity to live as independently as possible in the 'Right Homes, with the Right Support'.

For further information relating to our ambitious change and transformation agenda across Surrey which seeks to ensure 'nobody is left behind':

- [Living Well in Later Life Older People's Commissioning Strategy 2021 to 2030 - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Older People Residential and Nursing Care - Market Positioning Statement \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

Sinead Mooney
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
30 January 2024