

Dear

Residential Care Provision at Parkway

We want you to have your say on our proposed new model for delivering residential care. In line with the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act, the Council agreed a model for Adult Services in 2017 which had the following key principles at its core:

- Better prevention
- Better early help
- A new approach to assessment
- Improved cost effectiveness
- Working together better
- Keeping people safe

We have to deliver things differently to deliver our new model and have undertaken a review of Residential Care for Older People in line with the above principles.

Social Services is also facing unprecedented challenges in terms of the numbers of people who need to access our services and the increasing costs of providing them. With an ageing population and better and earlier diagnosis and treatment of long-term complex conditions such as learning disabilities and physical disabilities, people are living for longer with more complex needs. This increases the number of people who at some point in their lives might need some form of formal support. Whilst the budget for Social Services has decreased slightly over the years, the costs have increased significantly due to the key pressures linked to the costs of for example paying the national living wage, increased national insurance and pension contributions.

The increase in people needing support and the costs of providing it will continue to increase, so we need to get smarter in terms of how we support people. In line with the Social Services and Well-being Act, we need to encourage people to be as independent and self-supporting as possible so we can concentrate our services on those who really need them.

The Proposal

We propose to re-shape the Councils internal provision to focus on complex care, residential respite and respite, and commission standard residential care and nursing care in the independent sector. In line with the key principle of better prevention, the Council will be able to designate more in-house beds as respite provision, which will allow carers greater certainty and planning surrounding respite arrangements helping them to keep their loved ones at home for longer by providing them with a much needed break.

Appendix 5b

The reablement provision will be developed to better support people when leaving hospital or when they are finding it difficult to stay at home without support. Again, in line with the key principles of better prevention and early intervention, providing people with support in this way allows them to regain skills and independence to return to their own homes in line with their desired personal outcomes.

By adopting the preferred options and developing its provision in relation to complex care, the Council will be able to provide better care for people with complex needs such as dementia. This is an area of need that the independent sector struggles to meet as typically it is more expensive to deliver because of the level of staff required to meet complex needs.

Refocussing internal provision in this way will allow the Council to provide better services and care for its residents. It will also provide market certainty for the independent sector surrounding the commissioning of standard residential care. The independent sector already provides the majority of standard residential care placements in Swansea and to an equivalent standard to that provided by the Council.

By concentrating its resources on these specialisms, the Council will ultimately provide a better service for residents in Swansea, but will need less in-house beds to provide these specialisms. If the proposal were to be approved Parkway Residential Home would consequently close.

We encourage you to have your say on the proposed new model in the enclosed survey, or you can complete the survey online at the following web address xxx if you wish. The consultation will run for 12 weeks closing on the xxx. If you require support to complete the survey please contact xxx.

We will be at Parkway on these dates xxxx and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our plans and listen to your views. We can also help you complete the survey if needed. We would also like to explain in more detail why it has been necessary to change the existing arrangements.

We hope one of these is convenient to you. If it is not please would you be kind enough to contact us to arrange a mutually convenient date and time.

Our contact number is 01792 (TBC). Should you wish to bring your family/carer with you please feel free to do so. We have written to your designated family member so they are aware.

If you feel you are unable to take part an advocate can be appointed to support you.

As a resident of Parkway Residential Home the proposal has a direct impact on you.

How does this proposal impact me

If the proposed model of new delivery is adopted following the consultation, this would mean that Parkway Residential Home would close.

In the instance of closure we would meet with you individually to plan and support a move to another home. This would either be another council run Residential Care home or a privately run home. We would work with you to determine the best possible outcome for your individual circumstances based on your needs.

We don't plan to change anything yet and we are proposing that you continue to live in Parkway Residential Home whilst consultations are being undertaken. All views will be taken into account.

Timescales

- End of April 2018; 12-week public and staff consultation to commence
- End of July 2018; Public and staff consultation to end
- August 2018; Consideration of final proposals by Cabinet.

If proposals agreed:

- September 2018; Commence reviews of all affected residents to determine move on plans
- Early 2019; Closure of Parkway Residential Home

No decisions have been made yet and we encourage you to take part in the consultation.

If you have any further questions please contact us.

Yours sincerely

Alex Williams