



To:
Councillor Mark Child
Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing

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Date 18 April 2018
Dyddiad:

Summary: This is a letter from the Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing following the meeting of the Panel on 17 April 2018. It covers the Outcome of Residential Care and Day Services for Older People Commissioning Reviews.

Dear Cllr Child

The Panel would like to thank you, Dave Howes and Alex Williams for providing the report and attending our meeting to discuss the Outcome of Residential Care and Day Services for Older People Commissioning Reviews.

We are writing to you to share the views of the Panel, and where necessary, raise any issues or recommendations for your consideration and response. Find below the issues the Panel would like to highlight to you and Cabinet on 19 April arising from the discussion.

1. Concerned the commissioning review took too long to complete and felt residential care and day care should have been separated as it was very confusing for people.
2. Panel felt the original consultation in 2016 was overly complicated and did not reach the people it was going to affect.
3. There was no information in the proposals or any long term vision regarding shifts over time for people moving to different care settings and changes in long-term needs and what this means for the proposals.
4. Concerned that the reviews for defining individuals as having complex needs would be undertaken almost entirely in house in the proposed new model. Panel feels strongly that Health needs to be involved as there is a grey area between social care and nursing care, and Council staff are not really qualified to undertake the reviews on their own. The needs of some residents may need to draw on the

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assessment and care skills of both health and social care staff. Furthermore, being at the high end of care, some residents may become more dependent on health care sooner rather than later which implies either that health skills will need to come to the home or the resident will need to move. It was not clear that the benefits of a flexible and jointly conceived and operated facility had been explored between ABMU and The City and County of Swansea, but if they have, and been rejected, the rationale should be explained. There was also strong concern amongst all Panel members regarding the definition of complex care, which it was felt strayed into the realm of nursing care and would involve medically trained and qualified staff to deliver.

5. Despite the confidence that staff can be upskilled to take on complex needs, the Panel is sceptical and would like reassurance on the level of training, validation and supervision of staff being asked to provide care at this level.
6. The Panel notes that the Council's long term vision is to rely on the private sector to deliver standard residential care and is concerned that the council will not be offering a public sector option. We feel that this needs to be acknowledged and made clear to clients.
7. Panel would like to see some of the capacity for complex needs provision shared with other providers.
8. In relation to the proposed closure of the Parkway site, the Panel felt there was no clarity about what will happen to the site if it does close. It is noted that the value of this site was taken into account in assessing the decision to close it but witnesses were unable to provide any detail as to what that valuation was based on, and whether it was consistent with proposals in the report to retain it for private residential care nor who and how that ambition would be delivered.
9. The Panel felt there was a possibility of strong opposition to the proposals from residents of Parkway and would like to know how the Authority will then proceed if a resident refused to leave.
10. Panel felt that third party top up fees for private residential care is an issue which needs to be addressed. We felt that it could be a factor for some residents in choosing where they are to be rehoused but that this was not taken seriously enough in the responses to questions on the matter.
11. Panel would like confirmation that there will be an annual review of all residents of residential care by competent people to assess their ongoing needs.
12. The Panel would like more detail on alternative day care provision for non-complex clients who will no longer be able to access the remaining three day centres for elderly people.
13. Of the two day centres which are due to close, one is in a very small and distant community from the city. The Panel would therefore like to know what provision is being made for Pontarddulais.

Your response

We recognise that our comments will be discussed at Cabinet on the 19 April but would also ask for you to provide us with a written response to the issues we have raised by 9 May 2018.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Black', with a stylized, cursive script.

PETER BLACK
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