



SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Written	July 2018
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Service Area	Adult Services
Committee Date	24 th July 2018

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

Update on Residential Care Home Accommodation

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report seeks to update on the current occupancy and developments around the two residential care homes.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Members note the progress and provide support for the ongoing developments around the implementation of the Dementia Care Matters programme within the homes and the future proposals regarding changes to rotas within Ty Gurnos Newydd.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council currently own and operate two residential care homes, one 32 bed (Ty Bargoed Newydd) and one 24 bed, on a temporary basis (Ty Gurnos Newydd).
- 3.2 Both homes provide care and support for individuals over the age of 65 years, male and female, and provide personal care on a long term, short term and respite basis. Both homes have a number of spaces for individuals with dementia in a specialised wing of the home (13 in Ty Bargoed Newydd and 8 in Ty Gurnos Newydd).
- 3.3 Both homes are monitored and reviewed by an internal contract monitoring team. Care Inspectorate Wales continue to regulate and inspect both homes under their remit.

4.0 WHERE WE WERE

- 4.1 Members will be aware of discussions regarding void levels and the associated projected overspend within Ty Gurnos Newydd which led to the agreed proposals for the temporary reduction in available beds within the home.
- 4.2 Following this decision a proposal was made to make a change to the operating rotas at Ty Gurnos Newydd as a pilot project. This did not involve any reductions in staffing levels or any redundancies.
- 4.3 The Management Team of Care Home Managers, Principle Manager and Head of Adult Services reviewed service provision with the aim of operating within budget during 2018/19 including reducing bed spaces in Ty Gurnos Newydd from 32 beds to 24 beds on a temporary basis.
- 4.4 Occupancy levels were within acceptable ranges in Ty Bargoed Newydd and as a result no changes were proposed within this home.

5.0 WHERE WE ARE NOW

- 5.1 Current occupancy levels within Ty Gurnos Newydd have greatly improved with no current vacancies reported. Within Ty Bargoed Newydd there are 4 elderly frail vacancies. In comparison across the independent sector there are 20 residential EMI vacancies, 10 residential vacancies and 8 nursing vacancies.
- 5.2 Both homes have recently been re-registered to comply with the Registration and Inspection Social Care Act (RISCA)

6.0 WHERE WE WANT TO BE

- 6.1 Opportunities to improve occupancy levels and improve the offer to people with dementia within our local authority homes are being actively pursued. In order to do this we are working closely with Dementia Care Matters to implement the Butterfly Approach across each home. This has also been rolled out into our in-house monitoring service to ensure that these positive steps are maintained and built upon.

7.0 WHAT WE NEED TO DO NEXT

- 7.1 Within Ty Gurnos Newydd a proposal has been made to change staff rotas to reduce the reliance on agency staff and overtime. Consultation is currently ongoing with Staff and Unions on the different shift patterns which could achieve this aim. Consultation is ongoing to enable Staff and Unions to reflect on proposals and make suggestions or improvements.
- 7.2 Quality audits have been undertaken in relation to our current quality of service against the objectives set out in the butterfly approach across both homes. We are currently preparing an action plan to take this forward across each home.

8.0 CONTRIBUTION TO WELLBEING OBJECTIVES

- 8.1 Successfully implementing and running the homes, in particular under the Butterfly Approach would meet the Living Well objective under the Statement of Wellbeing.

LISA CURTIS JONES
CHIEF OFFICER (SOCIAL SERVICES)

COUNCILLOR DAVID HUGHES
CABINET MEMBER FOR
SOCIAL SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No