

UPDATE ON SUPPORTING PEOPLE/FLOATING SUPPORT

Report of the Director of Derby Homes

SUMMARY OF REPORT

1. This report shows the progress to date on developing floating support schemes with a range of parties. Many of these schemes are at a very early stage of development and more work is needed. Board members will recall that floating support must meet an identified need and fit in with agreed strategies.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That Derby Homes Board note the report and approve the continuing development of floating support schemes.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Consideration is being given to the development of floating support schemes for the following client groups:
 - **Older people**
 - predominantly through the sheltered housing service in conjunction with Care Link and Mobile Wardens
 - through Homeworks, a private sector company set up to support older people to remain in their own homes for longer, - this proposal is being discussed with Social Services as part of the Older Person's Strategy.
 - **Younger People** - have particular support needs and a range of provision is being developed by the Retained Housing Service - Derby Homes is looking to develop general support to younger people through generic tenancy support.
 - **Offenders** - many offenders are younger people and support for the following groups is being developed:
 - Prolific burglars
 - Sex offenders
 - Anti social behaviour
 - Criminal damage on estates

There are several specific providers and one specialised general offender provider who have expressed interest. It is proposed to develop floating support with the specialised general offender provider because of their proven track record of success and high quality services. But discussions will continue with both Action Housing, NACRO and Addaction. These discussions will also involve our partners such as Probation, Youth Offending Service and the Crime and Disorder Partnership.

- **Drug and Alcohol Misusers** - a floating support scheme is being developed to provide access to treatment and support for people of all ages through Addaction - this scheme will provide an alternative to possession proceedings as an automatic response to drug and alcohol issues. Drug and alcohol misuse is a factor in over 80% of crime. This crosscutting factor will feature in many floating support schemes.
- **Mental Health** - a floating support scheme is being developed to provide support in the community to people who have mental health problems. The proposed partner here is the National Schizophrenia Fellowship operating as rethink who have a successful track record of achievement.
- **BME Domestic Violence** - discussions are continuing with Refuge and Karma Nirvana to establish a floating support scheme for Asian women fleeing domestic violence.

3.2 There are a number of other vulnerable groups for whom floating support is being considered including refugees and Asylum Seekers.

3.3 Derby Homes will continue to work with all agencies to maximise support for vulnerable people in Derby.

CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS

4 Derby Homes will continue to consult with all relevant agencies and service users.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. Derby Homes will continue to work to ensure that both vulnerable tenants and those on the waiting list receive appropriate floating support via the Supporting People Fund.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. None arising from this report.



PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7 A temporary post of Supporting People Implementation Officer has been appointed to assist in the development of floating support schemes. A second temporary post is being advertised.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

8. None arising out of this report.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9. The Supporting People programme offers vulnerable people the opportunity to improve their quality of life through greater independence. It promotes housing-related services which are cost-effective and reliable, and which complement existing care services. Supporting People is a working partnership of local government, service users and support agencies.

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