

LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES
SERVICES PROVIDED AT No. 1 THE GRANGE - UPDATE

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 23 March 2009

This paper provides an update on the future short break provision of services for people with learning disabilities, which includes services which are currently provided at No. 1 the Grange. The information provided in this paper provides an update on the proposals for the future

1. Assessment of Service Users

The postponement of the re-provision of 1 The Grange until 31 March 2009 has allowed for the completion of the assessments for continuing care for all current users of LPT short break services, using a decision support tool.

In order to review these assessments and make the decisions regarding continuing care needs, a panel specific for this purpose was set up. In January 2009 the lead for continuing care for NHS Leicester City and NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland Primary Care Trusts became the Chair of this group and this work was progressed. By Friday 6 March 2009 the panel had reviewed all of the assessments and decisions were reached about future care needs for all current service users.

It has been agreed that Service Commissioners will inform carers of the decisions reached and the timescale and process for communicating this information is being discussed.

Now that the panel decisions are known, work has begun to analyse and formulate a plan for those service users who have 100% health needs or joint health and social care needs to be accommodated within the other existing 2 LPT short break homes. A plan is also being formulated for those service users who have 100% social care needs to access alternative provision provided by adult social care.

Based on all of the above and to ensure a smooth and safe transition for the service users to alternative provision **it is proposed that the complete reprovision of 1 The Grange is postponed for a further 3 months until 30 June 2009.**

2. Communications

The Health Short Breaks Group continues to meet and is a forum for involving families and carers and informing them of the current position. Carers, along with LPT have been involved in the development of all 3 short break strategies:

- Joint short break strategy (which includes all health and social care short break provision across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland)
- Leicester City short break strategy
- Leicestershire & Rutland short break strategy

It was agreed at the Short Breaks Executive Meeting on 10 March 2009 that LPT will work closely with all three Local Authorities in addressing any implications for health provision within these strategies and delivery plans.

A meeting also took place on 16 December 2008 for LPT to present an update to families and carers with commissioner representatives present. The meeting was facilitated by CLASP - The Carers Centre.

3. Project Plan

The membership for an LPT short breaks project team has been agreed. The purpose of this group is to provide overall direction and management of the project and to ensure that the correct process and reporting mechanisms are followed.

The team has compiled a project plan which determines actions and timescales around the 2 phases of the reprovision. The first phase being the re provision of services to the remaining 2 LPT short break homes. The second phase being the development of new models of health short breaks in line with the joint strategy. A multi agency task and finish group for considering new models is in existence and will regularly report to the short breaks review group to ensure carers are involved effectively in developing new models.

The Project Team has completed and submitted a risk assessment in relation to the re-provision of services from the 1 The Grange and the future of health short break models.

Assessed risks acknowledge the fact that moving towards a different short break facility may be challenging for some service users. Robust transition plans will be in place and agreed prior to any move.

There may also be an impact upon the current amount and pattern of short breaks for some individual carers and service users, but all individuals affected will be fully consulted prior to any changes taking place. All current service users at 1 The Grange will be re-provided for in one of the other 2 short break homes.

Geographical changes will potentially affect service users and carers and risks for individuals will be fully assessed and minimised as far as possible. Local Authority commissioners have agreed to be as supportive and flexible as possible with alternative transport arrangements where needed.

As a first step in the roll out of the developing future short breaks strategies Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust has agreed with Local Authority partners to work towards the appointment of several staff as an 'embryonic' community in/out-reach service, in line with the new models that are currently being discussed. This will assist in bringing forward the delivery of the new Community Health Short Breaks intervention as outlined in the Short Break Strategy. It will also inform the future progress of the strategy as well as ensure service users transferring from 1 The Grange to one of the other 2 short break homes are supported throughout the transition.

4. Financial Contributions from NHS and Local Authority Partners

The following contributions were received from partners in 2008/09 towards the cost of 1 The Grange for the 6 months up to 31 March 2009:

NHS Leicester City	£60,000
Leicester City Local Authority	£60,000
NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland	£60,000
Leicestershire County Local Authority	£36,000

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust absorbed an additional cost pressure of £241,000 associated with postponing the re-provision of 1 The Grange for the first 6 months of 2008/09 within its own budgets.

Providing the service for a further 3 months to 30 June 2009 is an additional cost pressure of £120,000 which is to be absorbed by Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust.

5. Conclusion

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust will continue to provide health short breaks for existing and new service users who are eligible for the service as contracted by the commissioners. As part of the implementation of the Short Breaks Strategies, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust is working with commissioners to develop health services that are flexible, responsive and high quality for service users who require health interventions in alternative short break services.