

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Commission 13th June 2013
Update on the future of the City Council's Elderly Persons Homes (EPH's)

1. Consultation activities - residents

The current EPH consultation started on 9 April 2013 and is due to finish on 10 July 2013. All residents were sent a letter to notify them about the proposals.

New residents, who have moved into the homes since the original consultation ended in September 2011, have been sent a letter offering them a 1-1 meeting to enable them to give their view and discuss any concerns. Residents can choose to involve a relative or friend if they wish. Any new residents who declined the offer of a 1-1 meeting have been given the opportunity to fill in a questionnaire instead. Advocacy is being provided for a small number of residents who lack the mental capacity to give a view or have no relative or friend to represent them.

Residents who took part in the original consultation exercise have received a letter explaining that their views had already been recorded, but offering a further 1-1 meeting if they wished. To date no-one has requested a meeting.

1.2 Interviews

Of the 86 new residents, 50 have been interviewed and the remaining ones will be completed by the close of consultation. 15 new residents (or their next of kin) have declined an interview and have been sent a questionnaire instead.

1.3 Consultation feedback

Interested parties can get in touch with us via email, post or telephone helpline. We have received 13 emails to the generic email address, four letters and eight calls to the telephone helpline. Three questionnaires have been returned from next of kin.

1.4 Changes since start of consultation

Six people requiring an interview have died since the consultation started. There have been eight new admissions. New admissions are being recorded weekly and new residents will continue to be offered a 1 to 1 meeting until the consultation ends.

2. Consultation approach – staff

Collective consultation with the trade unions ran from 9th April to 10 May 2013. Three collective consultation meetings took place for the homes that are proposed for closure in Phase 1 – Herrick, Nuffield and Elizabeth. These were held on 25 April, 3 May and 16 May. HR have met with staff across all the homes to explain the legal position, redundancy and TUPE rights. Initial expressions of interest for voluntary redundancy have been sought. However, wherever possible staff will be moved and re-skilled if necessary to minimise job losses.

3. Informal Meetings – staff and families/carers

Councillor Patel has visited all the homes since the proposals were announced to explain the rationale for the changes.

4. Next steps

Once all the consultation feedback is collated a report will be presented to the Executive for consideration. This is likely to be in early August 2013.