
FRAIL ELDERLY HOUSING

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 To receive comment and advice from key statutory organisations on the provision of housing and support services for frail older people.

2 STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

- 2.1 At the Committee meeting on 19 March, Members received a presentation from the Council's consultants, Housing and Support Partnership, on the results of their study of the housing and support needs of frail older people in the District.
- 2.2 It was subsequently resolved to retain the consultants to help guide the Committee in formulating a strategy for housing and support for frail, older people. They are currently producing a proposal for further work which will enable a strategy to be considered and it is hoped that this will be available for the Committee meeting.
- 2.3 All members of the Committee have received a full copy of the consultants' initial report, which outlines the key issues that are relevant to the debate.
- There is a projected sharp growth in the frail elderly population in the District.
 - There is under-provision of suitable accommodation with support for frail, older residents, including residential care.
 - There is generous provision of both local authority and housing association sheltered (Category II) accommodation, much of which is both designed and managed in ways which do not meet expectations or needs.
 - The Council has limited resources.
- 2.4 Some of the key questions that need to be considered by the Committee are:-
- How much housing for older people needs to be provided by the Council and other housing organisations?
 - What models of older person's housing are needed, and in what locations?
 - What support services are needed?

-
- What are the implications for existing sheltered housing schemes and their management?
 - What services are needed by private occupiers to enable them to remain in their own homes?
 - How can joint planning and integration of services be made to work effectively, with joint funding where appropriate?
- 2.5 The views of the Council's consultants and the other organisations giving evidence will be helpful in providing answers to these questions, and in strategy development.
- 2.6 In considering how to respond to the demographic changes and residents' needs and expectations, it is essential that housing and support provision is integrated with the services provided by other agencies and organisations involved in this area of work. This is particularly true with regard to the provision of health services and social care and Roger Sinden, Head of Independent Living and Older People's Services, Essex Social Services and Liz McGranahan, Director of Primary Care & Modernisation, Castle Point & Rochford Primary Care Trust (PCT), will be attending the meeting. Essex County Council has recently carried out a review of Older People's services and the PCT co-ordinates the Joint Investment Plan for older people.
- 2.7 It is important to first determine a strategic framework, which can then be used to guide policy and investment decisions relating to the use of buildings, staff and budgets.

3 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee:-

- (1) Considers the evidence submitted by Essex Social Services and Castle Point & Rochford PCT.
- (2) Considers any proposal submitted by the Housing and Support Partnership.
- (3) Identifies any further witnesses it wishes to hear evidence from.

G Woolhouse

Head of Housing Health & Community Care

Background Papers:

“Frail elderly needs in Rochford and the need for a frail elderly scheme in Rayleigh” – The Housing & Support Partnership.

For further information please contact G Woolhouse on:-

Tel:- 01702 318044

E-Mail:- graham.woolhouse@rochford.gov.uk