

Blenheim Consultation Meeting

13th October 2010

Sean McEneaney (Head of Adult Operational Services) gave an overview of the EIT process and the recommendations approved by Cabinet on 30 September 2010

SMc informed the group of the next steps

- Client reviews and one to one meetings
- Staff consultation and one to one meetings
- Report to cabinet 25th November 2010 with outcome of consultation and further recommendations

SMc introduced the group to Paul Thompson and Sue Mylan – Davidson, Social Workers who would be completing the client reviews and Simon Wall who was attending on behalf of Middlesbrough BC.

SMc gave an insight into some of the information that had been provided for the EIT and the process used.

Client consultation has taken place from June 2010 and will continue throughout October and November.

Staff consultation throughout October 2010

All views will be collated ready for cabinet for 25th November 2010

Hazel Grant (Adult Operations Project Manager) explained the background to the planned moves to independent living for long term clients.

Discussed assessed need and that Stockton Borough Council has a good track record of moving people into or out of services

Explained that since long term clients are planning to move out we need to focus on service provision for respite clients.

Advised that there are now different ways of providing services and it is time to explore these with each client/carer to find what suits them

Advised we have been managing a diminishing service for some time and income from other authorities was essential for the service to survive. Other authorities are facing the same economic difficulties as ourselves and as such they need to ensure they are spending their budgets the best way. This may mean repatriating clients back to their home town.

Questions/Answers

Q What provision will there be for Middlesbrough clients

Simon Wall addressed this issue with clients and carers of Middlesbrough. Options were discussed and a commitment to work with families to identify the most appropriate way forward.

Q What will be available in Thornaby

There may not be specific facilities in Thornaby but Willow View at Norton has recently opened a detached unit for younger adults with Physical Disabilities who's carers require respite breaks.

Q What are the plans for the old Parkview site

It is to be developed as a new extra care scheme for mixed client needs. Some for people with either learning disabilities and physical disabilities. This scheme should be ready in 2012/13

Q Can units be given for respite

This referred to units in care homes. Some independent care home managers are looking to diversify into the care of people with disabilities and often this is provided in a wing or unit of an existing care home.

Q When will respite stop at Blenheim

This has not been decided yet as we first need to return to Cabinet with the outcome of the consultation. We are still taking bookings as usual. Should that change you will be notified at once.

Comment: I have lived at Blenheim for many years but I am so excited about moving.

Comment: We all want to say a big thank you to Angela for all her hard work and support

Thanks to all that attended and for being so positive