

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	12 month pilot contractual arrangement for four Adults Registered Nursing Care Home beds in the Leominster Nursing Home (BUPA)
Date of decision:	26 November 2018
Decision maker:	Director for Adults and Communities
Authority for delegated decision:	Approval to enter into a 12 month pilot for four nursing beds at Leominster Nursing Home (BUPA) under a block contract, to commence 10 December 2018. The chief executive's scheme of delegation
Ward:	Leominster East
Consultation:	A soft market test exercise with in county nursing homes. Three nursing care home providers responded. The first of these was above the Councils usual price for nursing care (currently £547.51 plus FNC @ £158.16), the second had a new 10 bed nursing wing but were experiencing real difficulties in recruitment to nurses, plus there are some quality concerns. The third bid from BUPA was at the council's usual rate (this is considerably lower than their spot purchase rate) and the home is currently rated as 'Good' by the CQC in all 5 outcomes
Decision made:	To award a small block contract to Leominster Nursing Home (BUPA) for the provision of four registered nursing care beds for a period of 12 months at a total annual cost of £115k (exclusive of the annual increase for 2019/20 under the unified contract terms) commencing on the 10 December 2018. This will be a pilot scheme in order that the council can scope the most effective way to secure affordable, quality nursing bed provision in line with actual demand.
Reasons for decision:	<p>Adult Social Care (ASC) currently spends £11.2m on nursing care provision for a total of 305 Herefordshire residents. Trend analysis shows that whilst numbers in this area are relatively static (as a result of the Herefordshire model for delivering ASC), care needs are however proportionately increasing in complexity.</p> <p>The securing of four quality nursing care home beds represents one part of the wider strategy for addressing this need ensuring we meet the Adults Wellbeing plan and corporate objectives including commissioning services that are value for money.</p> <p>This is set against a demand for nursing beds per month which can fluctuate from 6 – 19 placements needed a month (based on DASHBOARD data) and therefore capacity is needed to meet this demand.</p> <p>As part of the response to winter pressure, having block nursing beds will support swift discharge from hospital.</p> <p>The 12 month period will assist commissioners to scope and secure an accurate understanding of the current market position which is essential to carry out effective commissioning. This will assist commissioning</p>

	<p>decisions based on sound intelligence of both demand and the make-up and ability of the market to react positively to any strategic approaches.</p>
<p>Highlight any associated risks / finance/ legal / equality considerations:</p>	<p>Non take up of the service (Voids) - We will build a 3 month review mechanism into the contract in order that we could reset the number of block beds in the event of voids or increased demand. In addition, we will utilise a phased roll out of the 4 nursing beds to ensure a smooth admissions process.</p> <p>Delayed Assessments- BUPA aim to provide a pre-admission assessment within 24 hours of a referral this would facilitate a swift and appropriate transition. In addition, they are supportive of the implementation of a Trusted Assessor function and role.</p> <p>Referrals- BUPA would cater for all nursing and residential needs and their assessment would undertake a full review of health and social care requirements, including: co-morbidities, long term conditions, social interests, personality and behaviours, overriding nursing needs, mental health and wellbeing and all other factors such as risk of falls, eating preferences and abilities, type of equipment required and care need ratios.</p> <p>Although the service is not registered for Nursing Dementia and behaviours that challenge. BUPA will consider offering an end of life placement for palliative and end of life care, if dementia is present but is not the primary care need, and a resident's physical needs outweigh their dementia levels.</p> <p>Fee levels at conclusion of contract- In the event that the contract is not extended beyond the 12 month pilot, then in line with the existing cohort of resident's needs, BUPA will retain relevant contractual terms providing inflationary pressures (such as RPI and staff wages) were accommodated in line with those under the Unified Contract.</p> <p>Block contract bed availability- If the 4 nursing beds are not available for any reason then this will be managed through a contractual claw-back mechanism. This will be managed through the broker team as other block placements are managed.</p> <p>The council will utilise the Terms and Conditions of the agreement for the provision of care for adults in a care home and with or without nursing (Unified contract) as the basis for this arrangement.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Do nothing/maintain the current status quo- This will not allow the council opportunity to scope and consider the feasibility of utilising block contractual arrangements to secure affordable good quality services at our usual price which is essential to carry out effective commissioning.</p> <p>The anticipated quantifiable benefits of the proposal are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting future demand pressures for nursing care particularly though the winter pressures. • Controlling the costs of increasingly complex care • Improved market resilience

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue savings and cost avoidance for the ASC budget • Improving outcomes for people receiving nursing care in Herefordshire by providing a high quality provision. • Supporting timely discharge from hospitals. <p>The key risks of not doing the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of affordable nursing care provision • Increased numbers of DTOC • Not managing the market as per Care Act 2014 <p>This project will support the council corporate objectives and the adults wellbeing plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To enable residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives - Secure better services, quality of life and value for money
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed..... Date:/...../2018

