

REVIEW OF HILLINGDON'S SHARED LIVES SCHEME UPDATE ON REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS.

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REASON FOR ITEM

During 2014/15, the Committee conducted a review on the '*Hillingdon's Shared Lives Scheme*'. This report provides a brief overview of the Shared Lives Scheme and an update on the status of the five recommendations made by the Committee which were considered by Cabinet on 12 February 2015.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

1. To note the progress made by officers on the Committee's recommendations.
2. To question officers on its content.

INFORMATION

The Shared Lives Scheme

The aim of the Shared Lives scheme is to provide accommodation, care and support for a vulnerable adult in a safe, appropriate manner in a family setting.

Within the placement service, users are able to achieve a positive outcome from Shared Lives, by way of their involvement and participation in family life, promoting a full and active life within the range that their physical and mental health and / or ability will allow. The scheme extends the range of housing and support options available to residents in Hillingdon, by providing a more personal form of care in family homes.

The scheme is open to adults aged 18 years or over with a learning disability, recovering mental problem, physical or sensory disability or someone who needs support because they are an older person.

Shared Lives: The Review

The Terms of Reference of the review were as follows:

Social Services, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee
6 October 2015

1. To review how Shared Lives is developing in Hillingdon and other local authorities and to review current best practice.
2. To examine the opportunities presented by Shared Lives to prevent avoidable admission into residential and/or hospital, including assisting carers in their caring role.
3. To make recommendations that will help officers and partners address any identified gaps in the role and function of Shared Lives to support Hillingdon residents to remain independent and assist the Council in achieving cost savings.
4. To make any recommendations, with full costings to Cabinet to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the service as appropriate based upon the findings of this review.

The review examined the effectiveness of the current arrangements for The Shared Lives Scheme and proposed improvements which could be made to enhance this important aspect of independent living to the Borough's residents.

Update Response to POC - recommendations

The Report of the Social Services, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee 2014/15 on 'Hillingdon's Shared Lives Scheme' was considered by Cabinet on 12 February 2015. Cabinet welcomed the report and endorsed the recommendations made.

That Cabinet:

- A) Welcomes the report from the Social Services, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee (as in Appendix 1) on the review into Hillingdon's Shared Lives Scheme and;**
- B) Endorses the recommendations of the Policy Overview Committee as set out below:-**
 - 1. That the Committee commend the Shared Lives scheme to Cabinet and recognise the good work undertaken by Officers to develop a successful scheme that delivers much improved quality of life to the participants and has the capacity to deliver modest financial savings.**

During the past nine months the scheme has reviewed how it recruits carers and offers placements with a proactive approach to increasing the size of the scheme. As identified during the major review, this can at times prove challenging predominantly due to the appropriateness of the available accommodation. However, the scheme has managed to increase the number of registered carers to 36, this is inclusive of carers who provide respite. This is an increase of 3 people who are fully registered and able to provide a service.

Social Services, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee
6 October 2015

There are currently 7 further applications in progress that will give the scheme 43 registered carers.

Referrals:

In this period the Council received 28 referrals which it was able to match eight placements, this is broken down to one long, two short term and five respite placements, this includes two service users who were previously accessing Merrimans House buildings based respite.

This brings the current total number of people using the scheme to 33, an increase of 5 people.

Some of the reasons that a referral was declined over this period are that -

- History of violence and aggression and substance misuse
- Availability of ground floor accommodation
- Availability of stay at home carers during the day
- Level of care needs i.e. waking nights, two to transfer and mobilise
- Declined by service users to consider the scheme for placement

2. That there are potential challenges in the scheme, including safeguarding, and that any proposal to develop the scheme should ensure robust management such as is currently in place.

During the development of the scheme the level of support given to both carers and service users has not been compromised. Systems are in place to recruit new carers, assess any potential service users and ensure the matching process and monitoring of placements are completed to the highest standards. The Council are committed and feel confident that the increase to 40 service users using the scheme for placements with our current level of staffing remains achievable.

HSL is a CQC registered scheme and as such adheres to robust quality auditing and monitoring standards to ensure compliance. A full compliance inspection is due during 2015/16 and the registered manager reports that she is satisfied that the standards will be met. The Management oversight of this service via a QA monthly report indicates that the service is meeting standards and has robust safeguarding and QA checks in place.

- 3. That the Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Housing and Leader of the Council, consider extending the scheme, as identified in the review, in the first instance by 100% (i.e. to total 40 Service Users) and that potential savings arising from this be investigated for inclusion in the MTFF from 2016/17.**

There are currently 33 service users in either short, long term or respite placements within the scheme. The scheme has the capacity to increase the placements to 40 as identified in the major review and this work is ongoing.

Savings to date are identified below. You will note that these are predominantly around cost avoidance, whereby, Shared Lives is delivering a service for less that would have been purchased otherwise for that person. The table below shows part year effect.

Placement Type	Head Count	Saving To 30/09/2015	15/16 Estimate	Full Year Saving
Permanent Saving	2	-272	-421	-297
Permanent Cost Avoidance	1	-9,243	-20,672	-22,794
Respite Saving	4	-2,830	-6,793	-6,793

Total		-12,345	-27,886	-29,884
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- 4. That consideration be given to further development up to the optimal size (80 service users) once the initial extension has been successfully undertaken.**

As part of the scaling up of the scheme, Hillingdon Shared Lives has commenced work with Shared Lives Plus to expand the scheme to 16+ young adults.

By expanding the scheme to provide placements to service users with a learning disability from 16+ this will give opportunities in accommodation to a younger group in order to relieve the pressure on the current building based residential services and to encourage young adults to receive respite care within a family environment whilst focusing upon building semi independent skills to assist them to become independent in the future or consider the scheme for placement as opposed to residential care or supported living in the future.

Some consideration was given to joining the West London Alliance shared lives working group to establish if collaboration was possible, however, this work has

yet to be completed and at this stage, it would not be in the interest of our scheme to move to this model.

Advertising & recruitment:

The team are working with Hillingdon Corporate Communications to explore further promotional and marketing ideas to raise awareness of the scheme and recruit carers as well as highlight the scheme as an attractive option for placement. Some of the ongoing work includes

- Adding HSL Advertisement to LBH Facebook Page and using social media
- Having a Full Length Banner in Reception Area at Civic Centre
- Revision of HSL Poster to include 16+ Placements
- Update and Enhance Shared Lives Website to include separate Log In area for Registered Carers to give them online access to Forms and Policies. Make Website more user friendly
- Testimonies from our current carers and service users to utilise within advertising.

5. That any extension of the scheme is dependent upon appropriate matches being found in the community and that consequently the time frame needs to be flexible.

To increase the numbers of carers that could provide placements for service users depends on the response the Council receives from its future marketing plan. The Council would like to attract people who would see this role as their main job, possibly after early retirement or similar, being flexible with the support that could be provided during the placement. The Council will be targeting people who have or are used to caring for young people for the 16+ group. Ground floor accommodation is also a key factor in accepting a carer as this is predominantly where our demand sits.