

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

3RD DECEMBER 2020

**MODERNISATION OF THE COUNCIL'S RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME SERVICE
FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

**REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S
SERVICES, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER,
COUNCILLOR G HOPKINS**

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to consider the outcome of the consultation on the preferred options for the future of the Council's eleven residential care homes for older people and to make further recommendations that, if agreed, will increase the number of retained Council residential care homes to **nine**, including Garth Olwg and Ystradfechan and redevelop Danymynydd and Bronllwyn to meet identified need for additional accommodation with care and support, including extra care housing.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

2.1 Considers:

- the responses to the consultation on the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes;
- the information provided in this report;
- the Equality Impact Assessment;
- the comments, observations and/or recommendations arising from the pre-scrutiny undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the 1st December 2020.

2.2 Determines whether to proceed with the preferred option to retain residential care home provision, at the seven Council residential care homes detailed below, which would be refocussed on complex needs (including dementia), residential reablement and respite care:

- Clydach Court, Trealaw
- Ferndale House, Ferndale
- Pentre House, Pentre
- Tegfan, Trecynon
- Troedyrhiw, Mountain Ash
- Cae Glas, Hawthorn

- Parc Newydd, Talbot Green
- 2.3 Determines whether the Council should retain the two residential care homes at Garth Olwg, Church Village and Ystradfechan, Treorchy, which would be refocussed on complex needs (including dementia), residential reablement and respite care. NOTE: This would be an amendment to the preferred option consulted upon which was to decommission these two residential care homes and would increase the number of retained care homes to nine.
 - 2.4 Determines whether the Council should proceed with the preferred option to decommission Danymynydd, Porth as a residential care home for 30 beds and at the same time considers a further proposal to redevelop the site to provide for a new 60 bed extra care housing scheme in line with the Council's Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing, as outlined in paragraph 6.4 of the report. Danymynydd residential care home currently has no residents living there.
 - 2.5 Subject to 2.4 above, agrees to a further report being presented to Cabinet setting out a costed redevelopment proposal for Danymynydd at the January 2021 Cabinet meeting.
 - 2.6 Determines whether the Council should proceed with the preferred option to decommission Bronllwyn, Gelli as a residential care home for 12 beds and considers the redevelopment of the site to provide specialist accommodation with care to support people with learning disabilities in adulthood and older age to meet changes in need and demand, as outlined in paragraph 5.16 of the report. Bronllwyn residential care home currently has no residents living there.
 - 2.7 Subject to 2.6 above, agrees to a further report being presented to Cabinet setting out a costed redevelopment proposal for Bronllwyn at the February 2021 Cabinet meeting.
 - 2.8 Subject to 2.1 – 2.7 above, agrees to a further report being presented to Cabinet setting out a comprehensive modernisation programme for the Council's **nine** residential care homes proposed to be retained.
 - 2.9 Subject to 2.1 – 2.7 above, agrees to immediately recommence permanent admissions to the Council's **nine** residential care homes proposed to be retained.
 - 2.10 Subject to 2.4 above, agrees to a further report being presented to Cabinet at its January 2021 meeting setting out the proposal for the re-provision of learning disability and autism day services currently delivered at Danymynydd in line with service models and need.
 - 2.11 Subject to 2.6 above, agrees to a further report being presented to Cabinet at its February 2021 meeting setting out the proposal for the re-provision of older people day services currently delivered at Bronllwyn in line with the new service model agreed by Cabinet on 11th September 2019.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 imposes market shaping duties upon the Council and guidance provides that local authorities are required to ensure that there are sufficient, quality services available in the area and that these services are sustainable.
- 3.2 In line with these duties, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council continues to review the residential care home provision that it delivers internally and has consulted on preferred options for a future service delivery model. Officers consider that doing nothing is not a viable option and without re-designing the way that the service is provided, it will not be possible to meet people's changing expectations and needs within the resources available.
- 3.3 The consultation undertaken on the preferred options and the information provided in this report will assist Cabinet when considering the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes in accordance with recommendations set out above.
- 3.4 Previous reports to Cabinet have highlighted changing needs and expectations, including:
- people are living longer with more life limiting and complex conditions and want greater choice in how their care is provided. The Council is committed to developing a wider range of options for supporting individuals and in particular those with complex care, including dementia;
 - difficulty of existing care homes to accept the range of referrals and complexity of need being presented unless the current facilities are upgraded to the modern standards identified for dignified care delivery. To complete the required level of works, residents would need to temporarily relocate, potentially meaning two moves;
 - demand for adult social care is increasing, but the demand for traditional residential care is decreasing and less residential care will be needed in the future, as more people will receive care in their own homes, including extra care housing and other supported housing schemes;
 - an over-provision of residential care and sufficient alternative provision of the required type and quality in Rhondda Cynon Taf to meet current and forecast demands but retaining some residential care offer would ensure that the Council meets its commitment to maintaining an in-house offer of provision in the local residential care home market.
- 3.5 Whilst, the above continues to remain the case, increasing further the number of Council residential care homes, by a proposal outlined below to retain Garth Olwg and Ystradfechan, would ensure that the Council can offer medium term capacity and market sustainability as the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on care home provision remains uncertain. However, the proposal to

decommission residential care home provision at Danyrnynydd and Bronllwyn has led to a further option being developed following the consultation that would enable redevelopment of the sites to meet identified strategic priorities and need for extra care housing for older people and alternative accommodation with care for people with a learning disability.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The need to modernise and continually improve adult social care services is a key priority for Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 4.2 The Cwm Taf Joint Commissioning Statement for Older People's Services (2015-2025) (the 'Commissioning Statement') approved by the Cabinet in February 2016 acknowledged that care needs and expectations are changing and that there is a need to ensure that services are safe, appropriate and fit for purpose. The Commissioning Statement identifies the need to make very different choices and avoid over reliance on residential care settings and the development of extra care housing is identified as a key alternative model of community-based accommodation with care and support in order to enhance the health, wellbeing and independence of older people. Without modernising our offer increasing demand, changing expectations and financial pressures will challenge the ongoing viability and suitability of Rhondda Cynon Taf's model of adult social care provision.
- 4.3 In response, the Council developed its Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing in Rhondda Cynon Taf. This was approved by Cabinet in November 2016 and it gave a commitment to review and reshape the care market to increase the options available for people needing accommodation with care and support and deliver a viable alternative for people who are able to remain independent with support.
- 4.4 In September 2017, Cabinet approved a £50m investment plan to develop, in total, 300 extra care beds across Rhondda Cynon Taf and to deliver modern accommodation options to meet the needs and changing expectations of the growing older population. At this meeting, Cabinet also approved a comprehensive review of residential care homes (and day care services) for older people in order to determine future improvement opportunities for service delivery in line with the Council's strategy for accommodation for older people.
- 4.5 In November 2018, Cabinet considered the results of an independent review (by Practice Solutions Ltd) in respect of the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes (and day care services) and approved consultation on the proposal to retain a level of residential care home provision focussed on providing complex care and respite and based on the market share and need required in each of the Rhondda, Cynon and Taf geographical areas.
- 4.6 In September 2019, Cabinet considered the outcome of the consultation on the proposal to retain a level of residential care home provision and approved a further consultation on the preferred option to retain a level of residential care

home provision focussed on complex needs (including dementia), residential reablement and respite care, as follows:

Proposed seven Council residential care homes to be retained:

- Clydach Court, Trealaw
- Ferndale House, Ferndale
- Pentre House, Pentre
- Tegfan, Trecynon
- Troedyrhiw, Mountain Ash
- Cae Glas, Hawthorn
- Parc Newydd, Talbot Green

Proposed four Council residential care homes to be decommissioned:

- Bronllwyn, Gelli
- Ystradfechan, Treorchy
- Danymynydd, Porth
- Garth Olwg, Church Village

and to receive a further report on conclusion of the consultation.

4.7 The rationale and drivers shaping the preferred options approved in previous reports to Cabinet relating to the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes are summarised as follows:

- Council's residential care homes have served their communities well and are popular homes with good standards of care, provided by committed staff.
- Aspiration for and of older people to have a wider choice of appropriate accommodation and support options with, as much as possible, support being delivered in their own homes or in care environments like extra care housing and other supported accommodation with care.
- Positive impact that high quality modern care environments can have both on the ability of staff to deliver the best possible care and the experience of older people in receipt of care, especially for people who require specialist dementia care.
- Need for the most efficient and effective model of services.
- Council's residential care home buildings that are becoming less suitable for the level of frailty and complexity of support needed that we now see in our care home population.
- Current and forecast need is for more complex care (including dementia care), reablement, respite care or short breaks for carers and nursing care.

- Impact of older people exercising choice now on the occupancy levels in our care homes.
- Over-provision of residential care beds – the current capacity is not required in its current form and forecasts show that less residential care will be needed in the future geographical market share across Rhondda, Cynon and Taf areas.

5. CURRENT RESIDENTIAL CARE PROVISION IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

- 5.1 As previously reported, longer term trends show a decline in the total number of placements in care homes, with a drop in local use since 2010/11, in Rhondda Cynon Taf, reflecting people’s choice to remain independent and living at home for as long as possible. This is consistent with national and regional priorities and the Council’s aim of providing care and support to people in their own homes wherever possible.
- 5.2 There are currently 37 care homes with a total of 1,449 registered beds for older people in Rhondda Cynon Taf. This is an increase on the previously reported figure in September 2019 (36 care homes and 1,429 registered beds), which is primarily attributable to the recent opening in June 2020 of Fairfields Care Home in Trealaw, which is registered for 19 residential and residential dementia beds.
- 5.3 The Council operates 11 residential care homes with 333 registered beds, of which 145 beds are for people with dementia. The external market provides circa. 486 residential beds (including approximately 219 residential dementia beds) and circa. 630 nursing beds (including approximately 125 nursing dementia beds) in a total of 26 residential and nursing care homes.
- 5.4 In the report to Cabinet in September 2019, the average occupancy of the Council’s residential care homes in August 2019 was 77% (71 vacancies) and external care homes was 96% (46 vacancies). Occupancy levels across the care home sector have continued to reduce as shown in the table below:

	Council Beds		External Beds	
Month	% Occupied	Vacancies	% Occupied	Vacancies
September 2020	53%	157	79%	206
February 2020	69%	102	94%	63
August 2019	77%	71	96%	46
March 2019	79%	76	93%	81
March 2018	83%	57	88%	135
March 2017	89%	27	88%	67
March 2016	98%	8	92%	75

- 5.5 Occupancy levels have reduced significantly since the last report to Cabinet. Whilst this will be attributable to less people being admitted to residential care

homes across the sector, occupancy will have also been affected by previous Cabinet decisions to restrict permanent admissions in Council care homes pending the outcome of the ongoing consultation and more recently the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

- 5.6 As Cabinet will be aware, in March 2020, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board asked the Council to create additional temporary step-down recovery beds to support an anticipated surge in patients that would be admitted to hospitals as a result of COVID-19 and need to be discharged from a hospital setting. In response the Council used Danymynydd and Bronllwyn to create dedicated additional bed capacity. Both these homes had the lowest number of residents, which therefore minimised the change required for the smallest number of residents. All residents were moved safely following discussion with their families and carers.
- 5.7 However, the anticipated surge in demand for additional bed capacity did not materialise and only a very small number of admissions were made to both Danymynydd and Bronllwyn during the height of the pandemic. It was therefore decided that due to the reduced demand/need, and in the best interest of the residents and staff, to relocate the temporary residents living there at the time to other residential care home settings. This was deemed to be the best course of action and enabled the service to utilise resources more effectively and provide further additional support to other Council residential care homes. This decision was made in consultation with residents and families and they were supportive of the relocation.
- 5.8 Both Danymynydd and Bronllwyn continue to remain available and are considered for new patient admission based on need and in line with existing policy and guidance and could provide contingency for any additional surge capacity that may be required as part of ongoing winter pressures.
- 5.9 While occupancy levels are currently adversely impacted by the COVID-19 and notwithstanding the potential impact on care homes in both the short and medium term in terms of need and demand and ongoing sustainability, which is uncertain currently, there is clear evidence that there remains an over-provision of care home beds in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Physical Care Home Environment

- 5.10 As Cabinet will be aware from previous reports, whilst the Council's residential care homes are in dated buildings, the quality of the care provided by our staff is very good. The homes were built over 40 years ago and were not designed to meet the current expectations of accommodation. This has become even more important an issue in managing infection control in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, making isolation more difficult, particularly in dementia care units due to the layout, room sizes and shared toilet facilities.
- 5.11 Modern purpose-built care homes are designed to be dementia-friendly and have a bigger space standard to support mobility/hoisting needs. They also have en-suite facilities, so people are more able to toilet themselves or with

support. This is clearly a very important part of maintaining someone's sense of dignity and independence.

- 5.12 Any significant redevelopment of the existing buildings would require significant investment. Further reports would need to be prepared setting out costed refurbishment programmes for the retained care homes. It could mean fewer people would be supported in the Council's residential care homes and some people currently living there would have to move into alternative accommodation, whilst others could experience disruption whilst any works were being completed requiring the temporary relocating of residents as the nature and extent of the remodelling work may require temporary closure.

Needs and Demand

- 5.13 For those people who are no longer able to stay at home and may require accommodation with care, which includes people with complex health needs (including dementia), the Council wants to provide excellent services in modern buildings that meet people's expectations and allow our staff to provide the best possible care.
- 5.14 The Council is aware that there are increasing levels of dependency and frailty of older people now entering residential care meaning that we need to have an appropriate environment to meet their needs. Many people are requiring more complex nursing care rather than residential care and the Council is also needing to respond to those changing demands.
- 5.15 As previously reported to Cabinet on 11th September 2019, analysis was completed to gain a better understanding of the forecast demand for extra care housing and care home provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf and compare this to the existing provision. To do this, the "More Choice, Greater Voice" forecast model was used as the baseline model for predicting demand and it was concluded that:

"The Council's drive to increase extra care housing will be key to shifting the balance away from institutional residential care and allow some of the existing Council residential care homes to be replaced due to projected residential care home surplus capacity. However, there was a need to continue to stimulate the market to provide additional extra care housing and nursing care home provision if overall projected shortfalls in provision are to be avoided into the future to meet the needs of the rising older population."

- 5.16 In addition, analysis undertaken to inform the development of an accommodation with care and support strategy for people with learning disability, which is due to be presented to Cabinet in February 2021, identified an increased need for dedicated specialist care accommodation and older people accommodation with care and support to meet the specific needs of people who have both a learning disability and an age-related condition. Initial analysis also identified need for:

- Bespoke specialist accommodation that meets the specific needs now and in the future of people with learning disabilities that live in specialist hospital settings who could be supported to live within the community, where there is the assessed need;
- Accommodation with care and support that meets specific needs of young people with a learning disability each year who transition into adulthood;
- Accommodation with care and support that provides opportunity for people who are in residential care settings, (many out of county) who could be live more independently in the Community, where there is the assessed need;
- Larger units of supported accommodation for people with a learning disability replacing smaller units where there is the need and demand.

The accommodation with care and support strategy would provide for a number of potential scheme options for the proposed redevelopment at the Bronllwyn, subject to Cabinet approval of recommendations set out in paragraphs 2.6 & 2.7 above.

Local Provision and Choice

- 5.17 As Cabinet will be aware, it is important that there is choice locally for those who want to stay in the area and therefore an assessment of the market had been completed, based on the availability of care home provision within 5 miles of each of the Council's residential care homes and included in the 11th September 2019 Cabinet report. The analysis indicates that overall there are other care home providers locally within a 5 mile radius of the Council's residential care homes who are able to support people who need good quality residential care. It is also worth noting that with the exception of Ferndale House (5.2 miles) all other Council residential care homes are within a 5 mile radius of an existing or proposed future extra care scheme. The analysis is summarised again for Cabinet's information at Appendix A.

6. EXTRA CARE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

- 6.1 The Council's Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing, approved by Cabinet in November 2016, seeks to increase the housing and care options available to people living in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Through the implementation of the Council's strategy and providing an increased range of provision, the Council would reduce its reliance on longer term residential placements. The Strategy initially set out to provide 300 extra care units for older people by 2025, although more recent analysis included in the 11th September 2019 report to Cabinet forecasted an updated need of 650 units by this date.
- 6.2 The table below provides information of the extra schemes open in Rhondda Cynon and those planned for development together with some additional progress commentary:

Scheme	Units	Comments
Ty Heulog, Talbot Green	40	Opened in June 2016. Scheme full and with waiting list.
Maesyffynnon, Aberaman	40	Opened in May 2020. Currently 22 tenants living there - allocation list being assessed and carefully managed during Covid-19 pandemic.
Cwrt yr Orsaf, Pontypridd	60	Construction of the new state-of-the-art facility began during summer 2019 and has remained ongoing during the whole of the COVID-19 pandemic and whilst experiencing some impacts and delays, the works have progressed well. The majority of the work to be completed is now internal and is where the biggest impact of the current COVID-19 measures will be experienced and it is with some caution that we are reporting an anticipated completion date of August 2021.
Porth Development	60	Initial development options for the Council's Bronwydd site are not feasible due to planning restrictions. Other options have been explored with the preferred option being the redevelopment of the Danymynydd care home site – further detail is provided below.
Treorchy Development	60	Development options continue to be considered with Linc Cymru and the Health Board, although progress has been delayed due to COVID-19 and prioritisation of the above schemes. Development discussions with partners will restart in 2021/22 and reports to Cabinet will follow once options for development have been fully developed.
Mountain Ash Development	40	Initial development options on land near Miskin Road are not feasible. Progress has been delayed due to COVID-19 and prioritisation of above schemes. Development discussions with partners will restart in 2021/22 and reports to Cabinet will follow once options for development have been fully developed.

6.3 In the context of the Council's Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing, and the review of the Council's residential care home provision, officers working closely with Linc Cymru have considered potential options for the redevelopment of Danymynydd in Porth.

6.4 An initial proposal for the redevelopment of Danymynydd is summarised below:

- Phase 1 - demolish the empty care home and construct brand new state of art 60 bed extra care home. Facilities will include dining areas, a communal kitchen, lounge areas, a hair salon/SPA, communal landscaped gardens and an integrated day care unit.
- Phase 2 - build supported housing for people with social care needs on the Bronwydd Office car park behind Danymynydd.

Draft drawings of the redevelopment proposals are included as Appendix D to this report.

- 6.5 Subject to Cabinet approval of the recommendation set out in paragraph 2.4 above regarding the redevelopment of Danymynydd, officers will continue to work with Linc Cymru to develop these proposals further, complete all relevant site investigations and prepare a business case for the redevelopment proposal. A further report will be presented to Cabinet before 31st January 2021.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Practice Solutions Ltd, Abercynon, were recommissioned to undertake an independent consultation on the preferred option to retain a level of Council residential care home provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf as agreed by Cabinet in September 2019.
- 7.2 The consultation took place over a period from 30th September 2019 to 20th December 2019 in order obtain as many views as possible from interested stakeholders to inform the Cabinet in its decision making regarding its preferred option.
- 7.3 In addition to the consultation events, questionnaires were used to obtain people's views regarding the preferred options for the future of the Council's residential care homes. In total 310 questionnaire responses were received together with 13 letters, 8 emails and a petition signed by 1020 people to keep Garth Olwg open. In summary:
- 47% of respondents to the questionnaire were members of the public, 23% were relatives of the residents, 18% were staff and 7% were residents.
 - 53.4% of respondents disagreed with the Council's preferred option, with 41% agreeing with the preferred option and the others stating, "don't know".
 - 57.3% of respondents said that the preferred option would impact on them or their family whilst 42.7% said they would not be impacted by the preferred option.
 - 40.5% of respondents agreed with the criteria that the Council used to inform the preferred option whilst 42.9% said 'No'. 16.6% of respondents selected 'Don't Know'.
- 7.4 Detailed consultation reports were compiled and a summary of the main themes that emerged in the consultation, including a Council response are provided and are available as Appendix B.
- 7.5 Overall, there is no majority support for Cabinet's preferred option for the future of the Council's residential care homes and to retain a level of residential care home provision, as set out in paragraph 4.6 of this report. The overwhelming message from older people and their families can be simply summarised as

wanting all Council residential care homes to remain open. A consistent range of reasons were given for opposition to decommission:

- The importance of retaining a local service to meet local need, allowing people now and in the future to maintain social connections with local friends and family. The impact on families in having to travel further to visit their relatives has been mentioned in respect of all of the homes.
- Belief that demand for residential care is higher than is claimed, and likely to grow in future, meaning the proposal to close is misguided.
- The negative impact closure would have on the health and wellbeing of current residents.
- Concerns that extra care is unable to meet the needs of people living in residential care homes and that a focus on providing care at home leads to isolation for older people.
- Staff and the Council's services received high praise for the quality of care delivered, and respondents expressed concerns that they would not receive a similar quality of care from an independent provider.
- Some adverse comments about the physical facilities within the homes were made, but generally the view was that the quality of the staff was paramount.
- Some family members expressed concern about the stress of moving their relatives and how frail they were to be moved so late in life, and others felt that older people should have a choice about where to live (and die) that were very specific to their locality.

7.6 Officers have addressed the key themes and concerns collated from the consultation feedback and provided mitigation where possible. There were no concerns put forward that could not be mitigated. The Equality Impact Assessment, appended at Appendix C to the report, should also be taken into consideration by Members when considering the above themes arising from the consultation exercise.

8. PREFERRED OPTION - FUTURE SERVICE MODEL FOR THE COUNCIL'S RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES

8.1 At its meeting on 11th September 2019, Cabinet agreed to:

- retain a level of provision for residential care homes which were focused on providing complex care, short term residential reablement and respite; and
- base the level of provision retained on a determination of the market share and need required in each of the Rhondda, Cynon and Taf geographical areas.

8.2 As Cabinet will be aware, an evaluation was undertaken to determine the Council residential care homes to be proposed for decommissioning or retaining and an evaluation matrix used to assess each home against the following themes and criteria:

<p>Building suitability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current building compliance assessment • Redevelopment potential of existing home to meet Care Inspectorate Wales new build standards 	<p>Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of internal residential provision in area • Availability of alternative residential provision in area • Availability of extra care housing provision in area
<p>Current cost of placement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual Council cost per occupied bed per week 	<p>Current level of use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current occupancy levels • How well the care home already meets the requirements of the proposed future service

8.3 Each element of the established criteria was given a weighting based on its perceived overall significance to the proposal. Each care home was then awarded a score of up to 5 against the individual criteria elements and that score weighted appropriately. Each home could attract a maximum weighted score of 190. The higher the overall weighted score achieved by a particular care home the more likely it would be to deliver the proposed model.

8.4 The outcome of the evaluation and the recommended preferred option agreed by Cabinet for consultation on 11st September 2019 is shown below:

Care Home & Evaluation Score	Recommended Preferred Option - (pre-consultation)	Recommended Preferred Option - (post-consultation)
<p>Bronllwyn Score = 86.0</p>	<p>Decommission home when suitable alternative placements are available in area - est. Summer 2020</p>	<p>Decommission Bronllwyn, Gelli and redevelop the site to provide alternative accommodation with care to support people with learning disabilities in adulthood and older age to meet changes in need and demand. Cabinet to receive a report setting out a costed redevelopment proposal by 28th February 2021. Please note that Bronllwyn is currently empty as per reasons outlined in Section 5 above.</p>
<p>Garth Olwg Score = 106.0</p>	<p>Decommission home when Pontypridd extra care scheme is opened - est. Summer 2021</p>	<p>Amend preferred option to decommission Garth Olwg, Church Village and retain residential care home, refocussed on complex needs</p>

		(including dementia), residential reablement and respite care.
Ystradfechan Score = 110.0	Decommission when Treorchy extra care scheme is opened - est. early 2023	Amend preferred option to decommission Ystradfechan, Treorchy and retain residential care home, refocussed on complex needs (including dementia), residential reablement and respite care.
Danymynydd Score = 110.5	Decommission home when Porth extra care scheme is opened - est. late 2022	Decommission Danymynydd, Porth and redevelop the site to provide a new extra care housing scheme in line with the Council's Strategy to modernise accommodation options for older people and deliver extra care housing. Cabinet to receive a report setting out a costed redevelopment proposal by 31 st January 2021. Please note that Danymynydd is currently empty as per reasons outlined in Section 5 above.
Clydach Court Score = 112.0	Retain	Retain
Troedyrhiw Score = 115.0	Retain	Retain
Pentre House Score = 117.0	Retain	Retain
Cae Glas Score = 125.0	Retain	Retain
Parc Newydd Score = 125.0	Retain	Retain
Tegfan Score = 139.0	Retain	Retain
Ferndale House Score = 148.5	Retain	Retain

- 8.5 Taking into account the outcome of the consultation, previous rationale to support reported preferred options and the supporting information included in this report, it is recommended that the Cabinet agree the revised preferred model for the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes, as outlined in the table in paragraph 8.4 above, and in particular the redevelopment proposals for Danymynydd and Bronllwyn, which are currently empty and would not require the transfer of any residents. However, the redevelopment of Danymynydd and Bronllwyn sites would require the re-provision of learning disability/autism day services and older people day services currently being delivered at these sites respectively and the Cabinet will receive further reports setting out proposals for revised day service offers as recommended in paragraphs 2.10 & 2.11 above.
- 8.6 This preferred option would allow the Council to deliver a model that is sustainable for the future and enables people to maximise their independence, remain in their own home for longer and effectively meet the needs of an ageing

population with more complex needs and the need of vulnerable adults, are consistent with the priorities set out in the Statement of Commissioning Intent for Older People; Accommodation and Extra Care Strategy and Care Home Market Position Statement and in line with the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

- 8.7 There will be ongoing consultation and engagement with older people, carers, residents and all other key stakeholders, subject to Cabinet approval, on the redevelopment proposals outlined in Section 2 above.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 9.2 The Council's Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that due regard is paid to the above.

- 9.3 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), informed by the consultation feedback, has been completed and has informed the final recommendations set out in this report. A copy of the EqIA is included at Appendix C. Cabinet should have regard to the assessment when reaching its final decision.

- 9.4 It has been acknowledged in previous reports to Cabinet that proceeding with the preferred options for the future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes would impact on existing and future residential care home residents. Due to the nature of the people group, there would be a disproportionate impact on older people and people with a range of disabilities. The key potential impacts of the preferred options on people with protected characteristics particularly older people and carers are set out in the EqIA. Alongside these, a number of mitigating actions have been proposed.

- 9.5 Further EqIAs will be completed, subject to Cabinet approval, for the redevelopment proposals at Danymynydd and Bronllwyn and will be included as part of future reporting to Cabinet as outlined in Section 2 above.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The proposals set out in this report have the primary focus of delivering improved quality of care and support outcomes for Rhondda Cynon Taf residents. Whilst the financial implications are a secondary consideration, the proposals for change should provide more cost-effective solutions to the current arrangements and these would be explored post consultation and when

Cabinet takes a final decision on the future of the Council's residential care home provision.

- 10.2 Notwithstanding this, there is a growing demand for and pressure on adult social care services and any potential financial contribution these proposals would make to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan would be used to maintain these essential care and support services.
- 10.3 The capital funding to deliver the proposal for potential investment in new facilities at Danymynydd and Bronllwyn would be considered by Cabinet early in 2021 and will be included, if approved, in the Council's three year capital programme for 2021-2024. In doing so, the Council will continue to explore and maximise all available sources of finance to support the timely delivery of the strategy.

11. PRE-SCRUTINY & THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 11.1 Scrutiny has played a key role in considering these proposals, providing comment and observations in advance of Cabinet discussions. This process has provided the opportunity for scrutiny and non-executive members to engage in this key decision.
- 11.2 In 2018, Scrutiny committed to undertaking the pre-scrutiny of the consultation feedback prior to Cabinet's decision and further agreed to receive regular progress updates relating to the matter. It also proposed to involve the members of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee at every opportunity.
- 11.3 The comments arising from the pre-scrutiny exercise held on the 22nd July 2019 were provided to Cabinet for its consideration at its meeting on the 11th September 2019. Scrutiny raised a number of key issues that Cabinet should consider, such as recognising the importance of choice and independent living within the community, and the importance of residents being able to access care locally. Throughout these discussions, Scrutiny has sought confirmation that the Council is unable to meet the changing needs of our residents through the existing residential model and has also expressed the need to ensure that the assessment processes to access the respective care provision are consistent and simple to support individuals and their families.
- 11.4 On the 1st December 2020, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was provided with the opportunity to pre-scrutinise the recommendations and information contained within this report. Subject to the agreement of the Scrutiny Committee, feedback will be provided by the Service Director Democratic Services and Communications in advance of Cabinet's considerations of this report.

12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 12.1 There is a legal requirement to publicly consult and consult with staff affected by proposals resulting in changes to current and future provision of services.

- 12.2 Where consultation is undertaken it should be done when proposals are at a formative stage; give sufficient reasons for any proposal so that respondents can make an informed response and allow adequate time for consideration and response. Cabinet would then be required to give consideration to the outcome of the consultation process prior to any decision(s) being made on any proposals.
- 12.3 Any future provision of services would need to be considered in accordance with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. Local Authorities have a general duty under the Act to promote wellbeing. This duty applies when considering decisions in respect of an individual but also when considering broader strategic issues that do not relate to an individual. In doing so, the overall purpose is to produce a sustainable and diverse range of care and support services to deliver better, innovative and cost-effective services and support and promote the wellbeing of every person, and carer, with the need of care and support. The recommendations made in Section 2 above and consideration of future options aims to deliver the highest standards of care and support and is consistent with the above duty.
- 12.4 In addition, the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and accompanying Part 4 Code of Practice sets out that where an Authority has carried out an assessment which has revealed that the person has needs for care and support then the local authority must decide if those needs meet the eligibility criteria, and if they do, it must meet those needs. The recommendations put forward in this report will allow the Council to ensure that going forward Rhondda Cynon Taf can meet all eligible needs.
- 12.5 Any employment issues that arise would need to be considered in conjunction with Human Resources and in accordance with the Council's Management of Change Policy when making changes that affect staff. As previously agreed by Cabinet, there will be no compulsory redundancies through implementation of these proposals.

13. LINKS TO CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 13.1 This report supports two of the Council's corporate priorities, namely:
- People - promoting independence and positive lives for everyone; and
 - Living within our means - where services are delivered efficiently to achieve value for money for the taxpayer.
- 13.2 The proposals in this report would allow the Council to meet the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. By providing a model of care that meets the needs of an ageing population, including those with more complex needs that is sustainable and increases focus on preventative services, which promote choice, wellbeing and independence, the wellbeing goals of a Wales of cohesive communities, a healthier Wales and more equal Wales are supported.

13.3 Due regard has also been made to the five ways of working, included in the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The following is a summary to show how the five ways of working to achieve the wellbeing goals have been considered in this report:

- Long Term – social services is demand led and there is a requirement to meet the needs of people in the longer term and, because of rising demographics and increasing complexity, the remodelling and transformation of services continues to be a priority as we seek to achieve long term sustainable change to our care and support offer;
- Prevention – the report highlights the work to date to address the needs of older people by reducing reliance on traditional services such as residential care home provision and move to a model focussing on the need to develop more prevention and early intervention services, including extra care housing and other alternative supported accommodation with care models;
- Integration – the implementation of the proposal requires the Council to work with partners, particularly within Health and Housing, to ensure care and support for people and support for carers is provided. The report evidences the work to date and the future plans to integrate service delivery for the benefit of residents;
- Collaboration – the models of care and support outlined in this report are developed with current and new partner organisations, including third sector organisations and wider communities;
- Involvement – the key stakeholders are the people who use social care. There has been considerable engagement and consultation with people in the development of strategies that have informed the proposed models outlined in this report. If these proposals are agreed by Cabinet then further involvement will be undertaken to ensure that all stakeholders have an opportunity to shape care and support provision to ensure benefits and wellbeing opportunities are maximised.

14. CONCLUSION

14.1 Officers consider that doing nothing in respect of each proposal is not a viable option. Without exploring the potential for re-designing the way that adult care is provided, it will not be possible to meet people's changing expectations and increasing demand within the resources available. It is imperative, within the context of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014, that the Council continues to reduce reliance on traditional services such as residential care homes and moves to a model that is sustainable for the future, and effectively meets the needs of an ageing population with more complex needs, whilst focusing on preventative services, which promote choice, independence and wellbeing.

- 14.2 The extensive consultation exercise undertaken by the Council has demonstrated the strength of feeling from a range of people. The Council's residential care homes are clearly highly significant for the people who live in them. There is no majority support for Cabinet's initial preferred option for the future of the Council's residential care homes and to retain a level of residential care home provision, as set out in paragraph 4.6 of this report. The overwhelming message from older people and their families can be simply summarised as wanting all Council residential care homes to remain open. However, it has been possible to respond to all concerns raised during the consultation and put forward appropriate mitigation, where possible.
- 14.3 Taking into account the outcome of the consultation, previous rationale to support reported preferred options and the supporting information included in this report, officers consider that the recommendations put forward in this report for the revised future service delivery model for the Council's residential care homes, as outlined in paragraph 8.4 above, and in particular the redevelopment proposals for Danymynydd and Bronllwyn, are in line with current policy direction and current and future need in Rhondda Cynon Taf.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

3RD DECEMBER 2020

**REPORT OF GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, IN
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR
HOPKINS**

**MODERNISATION OF THE COUNIC'S RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME SERVICE
FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

Background Papers:

Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014
Cabinet – 11th September 2019

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