

**UPDATE ON ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY PROJECT**

*To:* **Adults Committee**

*Meeting Date:* **6<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

*From:* **Adrian Loades, Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults Services**

*Electoral division(s):* **All**

*Forward Plan ref:* **For key decisions** *Key decision:* **No**

*Purpose:* **For the Committee to be updated on work to provide specific services to meet the needs of the people with an Acquired Brain Injury.**

*Recommendation:* **For the Committee to consider the report and comment on service developments.**

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## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

1.1 This report is at the request of the Adults Committee who asked for an update on the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Project, which began three years ago after the parents of a young adult with an acquired brain injury highlighted the lack of specialist social service provision in Cambridgeshire. The project had two aims

- To establish a small supported living scheme (4-6 people) in the south of the county to support adults with an acquired brain injury.
- To develop a move on / transitions style unit similar to the Larksfield model in Wisbech for people with an ABI and people with other disabilities.

1.2 Individuals with an acquired brain injury form one of the biggest groups of service users supported by the Physical Disability Team, and this group is predominantly younger adults. The team currently supports 84 people with an ABI and many more people with ABI are privately funded through compensation / Trust funds or have moderate needs and are therefore not eligible for adult social care support.

## **2.0 Work Undertaken**

2.1 The project group consisted of family members, the specialist provider, Headway, various professionals from the Evelyn Project (an NHS resource for ABI), Housing and Social Care. In the early stages of the work visits were made to a number of services in neighbouring authorities to inform the work of the group. The need for both longer term supported living and the move on/transitions style unit was confirmed.

2.2 During the life of the project a number of potential properties were identified in Waterbeach, St Neots, Cambridge, and Sawston. Unfortunately for a variety of reasons these all fell through. However, there are now a number of options that are being pursued.

### **2.3 Long Term Accommodation**

MacFarlane Grieve

Papworth Trust are currently renovating the two housing blocks that form MacFarlane Grieve in Papworth Everard. This accommodation consists primarily of one bedroomed flats, with a few two bedroomed properties. The flats all vary in size and layout and consist of an open plan kitchen / living area, bedroom and adapted bathroom. The two bedroomed properties also have an additional toilet. Some of the properties will have kitchens and bathrooms ready adapted for use by people in a wheelchair.

It is currently anticipated that the building work will be completed in late January 2015 with tenancies becoming available in February.

A number of the one bedroom flats will be used for time limited residential rehabilitation training for individuals with an acquired brain injury, mainly funded with personal injury compensation from insurance claims. Following an accident some people are able to make a claim for compensation to pay for the support that they need.

- 2.4 An on site visit was undertaken on 10<sup>th</sup> November by members of the ABI group and some photos were taken of the work in progress to enable more informed discussions to be undertaken with people who are potentially interested in moving into one of the flats. Currently there are five people who have been identified as possible tenants and if interested the next stage will be to support them to make a formal application for the accommodation.

2.5 **Personal Care / Support**

The precise nature of any personal support required by the people who move into these flats will depend upon their needs. The use of Assistive Technology will be considered as part of the way to meet assessed needs.

- 2.6 Papworth Trust is already contracted with the County Council to provide personal care. As they are on site any double up calls needed should be offered in a timely manner. They will receive additional training to enhance their ability to understand and work with this group. Headway and the Evelyn Project have expressed a readiness to assist in training the staff to better understand the needs of those with an Acquired Brain Injury.

2.7 **Additional Support / Community Resource**

Headway, the voluntary organisation that supports individuals with an ABI and their families have also just started to run a group in Papworth Everard which the people who move into the flats could access. The local library which is based in the village centre (where there is a café and shops) also offers some community engagement and activities. People will also be able to access Housing Related Support if they need assistance with understanding correspondence or bills.

- 2.8 Papworth Trust are also considering how they could use the shared kitchen, that is linked to the rehabilitation flats in MacFarlane Grieve, for other people living on the site. They are also interested in exploring a Time Banking or Time Credit scheme.

2.9 **Additional Long Term Accommodation – Ferry Project**

Following discussions with the Ferry Project, Wisbech they have also offered to provide or find suitable accommodation and support for individuals with an acquired brain injury.

Their staff will be able to access training to support people with ABI and Headway are already providing groups and support in this area. Housing Related Support would also be available.

## **2.10 Move on/Transitions style Accommodation**

Larksfield in Wisbech already offers transitional / move on type accommodation to people with an acquired brain injury, as well as other conditions. The property consists of six individual tenancies where people can stay for up to two years while they regain independence skills and abilities. This model has proved very successful but the location has meant that people in the south of the county have not had the benefit of this type of service.

2.11 Cambridge Housing Group who run 82 Russell Street, Cambridge will now offer time limited tenancies for two – three years to people with an acquired brain injury to assist them to develop their independence skills prior to moving on to other accommodation. Housing Related Support is offered to all tenants and additional support can be commissioned if required. Personal care needs will be met through the Council's preferred providers.

2.13 This provision has met the aim to offer transitional accommodation in the south of the County.

## **2.14 Group Living**

For some people a model of group living in a shared property would be more attractive than the supported living model in individual flats because people with ABI can feel socially isolated. The possibility of providing this model on a small scale with three people sharing has been explored with the current service users with ABI but there has not been sufficient interest to take this forward but this option will be kept under review.

## **2.15 Those with More Complex Needs**

Those individuals with more complex needs will continue to be assessed and have support provided through the NHS Social Care or jointly. For example they may spend a period of time in Fen House, Ely in the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Centre, before moving to a placement with a specialist ABI provider e.g. the Christchurch Group or Richardson Trust.

# **3.0 ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

## **3.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all**

3.1.1 Accommodation has been developed to ensure greater consistency across the county.

## **3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives**

3.2.1 This project will help individuals with an acquired brain injury to live in the community and to have appropriate support available to live healthy and more independent lives

## **3.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people**

3.3.1 This project will support vulnerable people who have an acquired

brain injury with the aim of enhancing their independence and wellbeing.

#### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

##### **4.1 Resource Implications**

4.1.1 Support to increase independence will reduce demand for long term services. Any provision now or in the future will be within existing budgets

##### **4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications**

4.2.1 There is a duty to provide statutory services to people with an acquired brain injury who meet the eligibility criteria.

##### **4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications**

4.3.1 The project is aiming to deliver consistency and equal opportunities across the county.

##### **4.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications**

4.4.1 Over the life of the project staff have consulted with Adult Social Care service users on their housing need. A variety of individuals have participated as members of the Project Group.

##### **4.5 Public Health Implications**

4.5.1 Supporting individuals to live in the community and to access community resources is beneficial for people's long term health and wellbeing.

##### **4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement**

4.6.1 Councillors have previously expressed an interest in this project. The 3 schemes described in the report will enable people with ABI to be supported to take part in their local community and the development of Time Banking or a Time Credits scheme by Papworth Trust would reinforce the relationships with the wider community.

#### **SOURCE DOCUMENTS GUIDANCE**

*It is a legal requirement for the following box to be completed by the report author.*

<b>Source Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Physical and Learning disability through the Life course 2013	Public Health Website