

Subject: Briefing note on Renfrewshire's investment in Older People Services
For: Johnstone and Villages Local Area Committee
From: Mandy Ferguson, Head of health and Social Care (West Renfrewshire)
Date: 15 February 2017

1. Background

- 1.1 The economic crash of 2008 resulted in significant funding cuts to the public sector in the UK. As a consequence, local authorities across the UK, in order to balance the books have taken hundreds of millions of pounds from their budgets. The consequence of this is that significant cuts have been made to social care budgets across the country.
- 1.2 Renfrewshire relative to other areas within Scotland, and indeed the UK has protected Older People services from cutbacks in responding to these budgetary constraints. There has in fact, been real investment within Renfrewshire in Older People Services during the last five years. This is in large part due to Renfrewshire's commitment to keep more people at home or in a homely setting to ensure better outcomes for our ageing population.

2. Renfrewshire Context

- 2.1 Renfrewshire has made a number of key and significant investments over the last five years at a time where other areas have closed day centres and care homes, and reduced packages of care.
- 2.2 The number of people supported by Care at Home Services has significantly increased over the last five years rising year on year from 1,264 service users in 2011/12 to 1,707 service users in 2015/16. In recognising the importance that Care at Home plays in allowing people to continue to live in their own homes, Renfrewshire has increased the number of hours of this service provision. During the last five years The number of hours of homecare supplied by Renfrewshire rose from 7,820 hours in 2011/12 to 13,530 hours in 2015/16 – an increase of 73%. Given the rise in the number of clients and hours delivered, this has mean to the total spend on Care at Home has also increased year on year, with spending totalling approximately £8.7 million in 2011/12 to just over £13.2 million in 2016. This represents an increase of 51% over this time.
- 2.3 Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership recognise the level of importance and value, Care at Home services represent to our service users, and as such are currently undertaking a major recruitment campaign to appoint an additional 50 Care at Home Workers to enable the service to continue to meet demand. This is a significant investment in the service, where other Health and Social Care Partnerships are outsourcing these services and indeed reducing service provision. There also been

investment in care at home staff development in relation to dementia and palliative care work.

- 2.4 Renfrewshire invested in an additional 5.4 Occupational Therapists in 2011/12 as part of commitment to Reablement.
- 2.5 The annual budget for adaptations has been increased by £200,000 per year for home owners and private sector tenants from this year onwards which will result in a number of physical adaptations to allow more service users to remain safely in their own home.
- 2.6 Additional capacity for spend on OT equipment has been achieved through our partnership with EquipU resulting in improved recycling, a robust tendering process and cost effective contracts for stairlifts and track hoists.
- 2.7 The Scottish Government Change Fund Programme, a four year programme which came to an end in 2015 was successfully used in Renfrewshire and resulted in an investment of £3-£4 million per year across health, social care and community/voluntary sector. The focus was on shifting the balance of care from hospitals to a more homely, and personal setting. This resulted in a number of new projects around preventative and anticipatory care, care and support at home, ensuring effective care at the time of transition from hospital to community.

Key elements of the programme have now become business as usual resulting in;

- maintained reduction in delayed discharges
 - increased telecare provision helping maintain people to live in their own homes for longer
 - maintained rapid response and out of hours provision to support the avoidance of unnecessary hospital admissions
 - enhanced reablement
 - implementation of Community Connectors Projects
 - well established multidisciplinary team working across Acute and HSCP
 - improved anticipatory care planning in care homes supported by Care Liaison Nurses
- 2.8 Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership are committed to working alongside those carers who support their loved ones at home. In 2016, Renfrewshire Council awarded a contract of £500k a year to Renfrewshire Carer's Centre to ensure that carers have access to training and support to continue in their caring role by providing local forums and advice. In addition to this, around £145k was awarded to the Carer's Centre via GGCNHS Carer's Information Strategy (CIS monies). Again, this is to enable Renfrewshire Carer's Centre to continue to provide training on issues such as caring for loved ones with challenging conditions such as Dementia and Alzheimers.

3. Neighbouring Areas Context

- 3.1 Whilst Renfrewshire has largely invested in services over the last five years, neighbouring areas have had to make incredibly difficult decisions to reduce budgets in critical areas of services to Older People such as Day Care Centres, Care Homes and Care at Home.

- 3.2 Glasgow City (including Health) over the last 4-5 years has taken around £40-50 million out of Older People Services. This includes a 25% reduction in staffing levels to all Social Work Services, reduction in the number of Care Home Placements, closure of around 3 Day Services Centres, as well as reductions in Care at Home and Purchased Care Home placements. The savings for target for both 2016/17 and 2017/18 are 5% each year. Glasgow are currently looking at taking £3-5million out of Sheltered Housing.
- 3.3 East Renfrewshire is making savings from 2015 – 2018 by cutting £92,000 from day services and £600,000 from care homes.
- 3.4 In South Lanarkshire, a host of savings were made in services for older people in 2011/12 with Day Care placements reduced by 62 places a week, resulting in the closure of one Day Care Centre, saving £0.150m; Home care packages for Reablement were reduced or withdrawn following re-assessment of need, saving £1.500m; the cost of Meals-on-wheels and Lunch Clubs was increased, saving £0.172m.

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