

Report of the Cabinet Member Adult Social Care and Health Services

I have been asked to report by Councillor Westlake on 'the £15 million allocation to Devon social care budget' and by Councillor Hook on the 'closure of nursing homes in Newton Abbot'.

Devon Social Care Budget

The County Council is currently awaiting detailed guidance and rules from Government however we do know that the money will be paid as a grant to the local authority and may only be used for the following purposes.

- Meeting adult social care needs;
- Reducing pressures on the NHS including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready; and
- Ensuring the local social care provider market is supported.

It will be a matter for any new administration to agree how the guidance etc will be applied. The allocation reduces each year and only lasts three years. Ensuring improved performance in reported delayed transfers of care (DTC) will be essential.

Nursing Homes in Newton Abbot

Councillor Hook asked me to report as follows.....

'on the closure of the last nursing home in Newton Abbot being a real concern for residents who have been displaced and relatives. I am aware that County made efforts to as help, but these were unsuccessful. This closure seems to be part of a worrying trend. Could the Cabinet Member state how he would advise residents of Newton Abbot and surrounding villages to cope without nursing homes in the vicinity? Coupled to the closure of numerous hospitals and the loss of hospital beds, nursing homes and care homes in the county, what advice can he give the sick, infirm and elderly who are in desperate need of these lost facilities'

The local authority is experienced in managing these difficult situations using national best practice guidelines from ADASS at all times. Local teams have worked hard with residents and their carers to find suitable alternative homes.

There are alternative providers in the area which the local operational team have utilised. Where possible residents are offered choices and in this case 14 different homes were used to accommodate the 26 residents who have moved from Forde Park to new accommodation.

Whilst there are pressures on supply in some areas, local teams are able to meet current demand. It is regretted when providers decide to close however new homes are also opening.

**Councillor Stuart Barker
Cabinet Member
Adult Social Care and Health Services**