

Report

Report to:	Social Work Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	7 September 2022
Report by:	Director, Health and Social Care

Subject:	Blantyre Care Development – Progress Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:

- ◆ further update members on the progress of the new state-of-the-art care facility and technology enabled housing in Blantyre
- ◆ seek approval for the name of the new facility

2. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):

- (1) that the progress made to date on the development be noted; and
- (2) that Blantyre LIFE be approved as the name for the new facility.

3. Background

- 3.1. As part of South Lanarkshire Council's and South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board's (IJB) long-standing commitment to improve later life for adults and older people and to meet the future needs and wishes of the people, work has been ongoing to develop technology enabled houses and a new care facility based within Blantyre.
- 3.2. The overall development champions the 'home for life' principle, seeking to reduce reliance on long-stay nursing and residential care and instead enhancing access to intermediate care. Intermediate care provides further assessment, rehabilitation, and support for a short time to individuals (usually older people) after leaving hospital, or when they are at risk of being sent to hospital – the aims being to either help them avoid going into hospital unnecessarily or help them to be as independent as possible after a stay in hospital.
- 3.3. All approval processes were concluded by the end of 2019, with construction continuing in a manner compliant with Covid-safe requirements throughout the pandemic.

4. Current Situation

- 4.1. All of the technology enabled homes have been allocated to service users throughout the first half of this year. It is anticipated that the care facility will be fully operational by January 2023.

Technology Enabled Homes

- 4.2. Over the course of the 2022 to-date, all twenty technology enabled homes have been allocated to service users from across South Lanarkshire: 8 one-bedroom bungalows and 12 one- and two-bedroom flats. Allocations are based on assessed need and defined eligibility criteria. The homes are designed to be fully accessible and embrace modern technology solutions for independent living. These solutions range from simple ideas that you would find in any smart home (such as voice activated lights) to more advanced and specialised equipment (such as for fall detection).
- 4.3. Feedback from the tenants is very favourable and they have quickly adapted to the use of the technology. An example of the feedback is provided as follows.

Ms McG, the first resident to move into a tech enabled home on South Lanarkshire's new care campus said she loves it but couldn't believe it was just for her.

The first tenant of the tech enabled homes, Ms McG, gave the development a ringing endorsement.

A double amputee, who due to her disability requires a wheelchair, said; "It is the most beautiful wee house that I have moved into. The kitchen is massive I thought they had made a mistake and given me a home like this, but it was for me.

"I really love it, I feel a lot of contentment in here."

"I have had loads of visitors, and I am really grateful to all the friends who helped make my move so easy."

Care Facility – Intermediate Care

- 4.4. The new state-of-the-art care facility incorporates twenty intermediate care beds aimed at supporting people to return home or to a setting which best meets their needs. This will replace the provision currently provided at Canderavon.
- 4.5. The new facility will provide short-term strength and asset-based supports focusing on rehabilitation and self-care which will be available for a maximum of 42 days. A multi-disciplinary team will work with service users to identify their strengths, assets, and opportunities for self-care – and in doing so, (re)build their capabilities and confidence to maximise their potential and support their goal to return home. As part of this, work is ongoing to secure registered medical officer input for the new facility.
- 4.6. The current Intermediate Care (IC) Unit at Canderavon has demonstrated the impact that such an approach can have, with 73% of service users successfully completing a reablement programme and returning safely home as they wished. An example is detailed below.

Mrs B is 78 years old and was admitted to Canderavon IC unit in late December 2021, following an above-the-knee amputation. At the time of assessment, she required a package of care which was 7 hours of support per week, carried out over 7 days with 2 visits per day, to enable her to live independently at home.

Mrs B received rehabilitation and care from the multi-disciplinary team to enhance her independence and confidence (for example in relation to independent transferring, and activities of daily living). Consequently and prior to her returning to her own home, Mrs B was reassessed as requiring only 1 hour 45 minutes of care per week, over 7 days, with one visit per day.

Care Facility – Centre of Excellence

- 4.7. The facility has also been designed to provide a Centre of Excellence to promote the delivery of health and care - not only to the service users within the facility and technology enabled homes but extend to the people of South Lanarkshire. In the first instance this will be by providing facilities for staff training (in person and online); and through the Technology Enabled Care (TEC) zone.
- 4.8. The TEC zone has been designed in collaboration with the Glasgow Science Centre to showcase how technology enabled care can be used to support people to live well, safely, and independently at home. This is the first such collaboration between the Glasgow Science Centre and any Health and Social Care Partnership in Scotland.
- 4.9. In a similar vein, exploratory discussions are underway with the University of Strathclyde in relation to potential opportunities for education, learning, research and innovation.

Care Facility – Name

- 4.10. As we move to the final stages of this development, we are keen to ensure that the name of the new facility reflects the 'home for life' principle and the ongoing commitment to innovation. We have also been mindful of a name with clear positive connotations and one which future-proofs the facility in terms of public perception (particularly given recent examples of the pitfalls of naming developments after prominent individuals).
- 4.11. Given the significant investment in technology we have sought to identify a name that reinforces the fact that this is an innovative facility, which will deliver support to enable people to live well and independently; and that has been designed not only for now but also for well into the future.
- 4.12. Consequently, *Blantyre LiFE* is proposed as the name of the new facility.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.
- 5.2. Trade Unions have been engaged in respect of the staffing model to support this development.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no Climate Change, Sustainability or environmental implications associated with this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There are no risk implications associated with this report.
- 8.2. This work has strategic fit with other transformational change workstreams currently being progressed.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. A full equality impact assessment has been developed as part of the Investing to Modernise Programme.

Soumen Sengupta
Director, Health and Social Care

7 September 2022

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ caring, connected, sustainable communities
- ◆ people live the healthiest lives possible
- ◆ focused on people and their needs

Previous References

- ◆ none

List of Background Papers

- ◆ none

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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