



COUNCIL CABINET
20 FEBRUARY 2007

Report of the Community Commission

Let's Talk Budget – Capital Programme for Housing and Social Care 2007/08

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council Cabinet
 - a) note that the Community Commission welcomed the Council's continuing support for Disabled Facilities Grants
 - b) note the Commission was concerned that some of the people most in need of the housing renewal grants and other schemes of assistance would not know to apply and *recommend* that more sophisticated, targeted information be produced
 - c) be asked to *agree* i) that a key policy aim should be to develop an Extra Care Village in the City and ii) to take steps to identify an appropriate site.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Regarding 1 a) above the Commission had given full consideration to the housing renewal policy at its December meeting. At the time of its January meeting, the 2007/08 to 2008/09 proposed expenditure figures showed the continuing augmentation from the Council's own resources of the DFG budget by £483,000 above the Government-supported level. [Please note: the figures shown in the Cabinet papers for 20 February are different due to more generous government grant than anticipated].
- 2.2 Regarding 1 b) it is also the case that resident demand for many of the schemes is likely to outstrip the budget available. This runs the risk that more socially isolated residents, or those with literacy problems, may not know they could be eligible for the help available.
- 2.3 c) Extra Care 'villages' provide a permanent home for people from late middle age and, as it becomes needed through ageing, a continuum of on-site care. Communal facilities (example below) can promote a 'village' sense of belonging and sport and gym facilities can help keep residents physically fit and healthy.

Promotional material for an extra care site:

Residents will have a 'home for life'. All properties will be fully accessible with up to 24-hour support available for those who require it.

Communal Facilities

Properties will surround a number of communal facilities including the following:

Fitness Gym
Spa Pool
Arts and Crafts Centre
IT /Technology Suite
Library
Woodwork Shop

Restaurant and Bar
Village Shop
Village Hall
Hair Dressing Salon
Greenhouse
Well-being centre

Traditionally older people reach a point where they have to leave their family home to enter residential or nursing care. Extra Care is a 21st century response to the inevitability of age-related frailty as the services come to the resident.

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Background papers: None
List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1 As in the main report.

Legal

- 2 There are no direct legal implications.

Personnel

- 3 As in the main report.

Equalities impact

- 4 As in the main report. Recommendation 1 c) seeks to increase awareness of the schemes among hard-to-reach groups.

Corporate Priorities

- 5 The expenditure will help to **improve the quality of life in Derby's neighbourhoods, build healthy and independent communities** plus **deliver excellent services, performance and value for money.**