

Appendix 1 Care Inspectorate Feedback on the Future Use of the Care Units

The floor plans at present show that we would not register the buildings in their current layout and design. We would be happy to look at any plans for redevelopment of the site if you assess that the redevelopment of facilities is viable within your budgets and in keeping with an identified population willing to make use of the service. From the floor plans given it would be unlikely that each building could maintain the number of bedrooms.

The proposal for the three buildings to accommodate and provide personal care to older people requiring a respite service/ short break service would require to be registered as a care home. Accommodation is linked to the provision of care and therefore meets legal definition of a care home. Those experiencing care within a short break could not be tenants. The aims and objectives document suggested that the Health and Social Care Department of the Local Authority would be the "tenant". This would mean that in effect that the Local Authority would be both tenant and landlord and therefore the people experiencing care would have neither tenant rights or the recourse to a care home's obligation to provide an environment fit for the purpose and for that environment to be inspected and assessed by the Care Inspectorate. Accommodation is linked to the provision of care and therefore meets legal definition of a care home which allows regulation and assessment of the setting.

The facilities would not be assessed as fit for the purpose as described in the aims and objectives. This would mean we would not register the services for respite without significant changes to the layout and facilities. To assist you to consider whether such changes would be viable, a summary for each building has been provided. The Health and Social Care Standards and the Care Inspectorate publication Building Better Care Homes (available on our web site) are taken into account in our comments. You should also consider any lighting and decor that assists people living with dementia or whose vision may be affected by ageing. We would also wish some garden space for each building that is accessible.

Crowlista - significant changes required.

- Bedrooms - sizes are not given but new registrations should have a bedroom size of at least 12.5m². While we may exercise some flexibility we would not consider bedrooms significantly smaller than this. This is because people experiencing the service should be able to sit comfortably within their bedroom if they wish and receive visitors. Those people seeking respite care are likely to have care needs that require the use of care equipment and beds that are designed to support care provision.
- Lounge/dining room sizes not available but there must be a minimum of 3.9m² per person, so for 3 places size would need to be a minimum of 11.7m². This is absolute minimum and usually more space than this is beneficial.
- Bathing and en-suite facilities - none of the bedrooms have en-suite facilities. Accessible toilet and wet floor showering facilities are promoted. At present there is only one shower and toilet which is not acceptable. Staff and people experiencing care only having access to one toilet means that when shower is in use no-one has access to toilet facilities. People should also be able to choose to have a shower or a bath. Therefore accessible bathing should also be available.
- A utility room is indicated on the floor plan but there is no information as to what the room is for and equipment within it. We would expect a utility room for the cleaning of sanitary ware and care equipment.
- A separate domestic room (for the filling of mop buckets and disposal of waste water) is needed.

- Staff Bedroom - this would not be required for staffing model proposed. A staff toilet would be required.
- Office space - A small private office space (telephone calls, care plans etc.) will be needed. Medicine storage could be in lockable cupboards in each person's bedroom.
- Kitchen – the partnership should take advice from Environmental Health regarding meal preparation. Please note laundry facilities must not be in the kitchen.
- Consider how laundry is to be done.

Garabost - significant changes required.

- Bedrooms - sizes are not given but new registration should have a bedroom size of at least 12.5m². While we may exercise some flexibility we would not consider bedrooms significantly smaller than this. This is because people experiencing the service should be able to sit comfortably within their bedroom if they wish and receive visitors. Those people seeking respite care are likely to have care needs that require the use of care equipment and beds that are designed to support care provision.
- Lounge/dining room sizes not available but there must be a minimum of 3.9m² per person, so for 4 places size would need to be a minimum of 15.6m².
- Bathing and En-suite facilities - none of the bedrooms have en-suite facilities. Accessible toilet and wet floor showering facilities are promoted. At present there a bathroom is indicated, size appears very small. If a bath it does not appear to be assisted design. Shower facilities should also be available. A second toilet is on the plans this is good but at present appears to be the laundry area. Laundry and toilet facilities must be separate.
- We would expect a utility room for the cleaning of sanitary ware and care equipment.
- A separate domestic room (for the filling of mop buckets and disposal of waste water) is needed.
- Staff office/bedroom - a bedroom would not be required for staffing model proposed. A staff toilet would be required. A small private office space (telephone calls, care plans etc.) will be needed. Medicine storage could be in lockable cupboards in each person's bedroom.

Carlway - significant changes required.

- Bedrooms - sizes are given showing bedrooms significantly below 12.5m² ranging from 8.8 - 9.45m². While we may exercise some flexibility we would not consider bedrooms of this size. This is because people experiencing the service should be able to sit comfortably within their bedroom if they wish and receive visitors. Those people seeking respite care are likely to have care needs that require the use of care equipment and beds that are designed to support care provision.
- Lounge/dining room sizes are listed as 18.7m² which would be sufficient for 4 people.
- Bathing and En-suite facilities - none of the bedrooms have en-suite facilities. Accessible toilet and wet floor showering facilities are promoted. At present there a bathroom is indicated. If a bath it does not appear to be assisted design and size appears. Shower facilities should also be available. A second toilet is on the plans this is good but at present appears to be the laundry area. Laundry and toilet facilities must be separate.
- We would expect a utility room for the cleaning of sanitary ware and care equipment.
- A separate domestic room (for the filling of mop buckets and disposal of waste water) is needed.
- Staff office/bedroom - a bedroom would not be required for staffing model proposed. A staff toilet would be required. A small private office space (telephone calls, care plans etc.) will be needed. Medicine storage could be in lockable cupboards in each person's bedroom.

Finally, since respite care means a changing population using the service, a range of facilities are needed. Infection control is important and should be incorporated (i.e. separate dirty utility from domestic cleaning). Consider what laundry service will be offered - whether it is on or off site. Good facilities are needed to be able to limit spread of infection as people on a short break return to their community so facilities need to support efficient housekeeping.