

COMMITTEE:	Cabinet
DATE:	5 September 2002
SUBJECT:	Review of East Sussex County Council Residential Care Homes for Older People
REPORT OF:	Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance
Ward(s):	All
Purpose:	<p>a) To update Cabinet in relation to the current ESCC Review of Residential Care Homes for Older People.</p> <p>b) To specifically update Cabinet in relation to proposals for the future use of St Anthony's Court.</p>
Contact:	Neil Fuller, Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance, Telephone 01323 415301 or internally on extension 5301.
Recommendations:	That Cabinet note the recent outcome of the review of St Anthony's Court.

1.0	<u>Background / Introduction</u>
1.1	In October 2001, formal notification was received from the Director of Social Services of a review of County Council Homes for Older People. Three Homes within Eastbourne were to form part of this review. They are Parker House, St Anthony's and Milton Court.
1.2	The County Council's Cabinet agreed a two-year timetable for the reviews on the 16 October.

1.3	The review of Parker House commenced in July last year and was completed in January 2002. A report was considered by the County Council Cabinet on the 31 January 2002. As a result it was agreed that Parker House should cease operating as a residential care home, be declared surplus to the County Council's requirements and that the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to dispose of the site.
1.4	This followed the attendance of John Windebank, Project Director for the County Council Homes Review, at Cabinet on the 9 January 2002, and letter sent by the Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance confirming Cabinet's decision.
1.5	Cabinet considered a report on the 1st July concerning progress of the review of St Anthony's Court. Cabinet recommendations were subsequently confirmed to the ESCC's Project Director in advance of the County Council Cabinet consideration of review findings (30 th July 2002).
2.0	<u>Review of Residential Care Homes</u>
2.1	<p>The Director of Social Services has described the overall purpose of the reviews as ensuring that there is good quality and cost effective residential care provision in East Sussex. As well as taking into account the needs and views of residents, their relatives and close friends, staff and other interested parties, it has been confirmed that individual reviews will specifically take into account the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The cost of implementing the Government's new standards which will be applied from 1 April 2002 alongside the ongoing costs of maintaining the homes. · The County Council's duty to achieve Best Value when comparing the costs of running its own homes to similar establishments in the independent sector. · Any unique services offered in a Council Home, which cannot be replicated in the independent sector. · The location, suitability and availability of alternative accommodation in the independent sector.

3.0	<u>Outcome of Review of St Anthony's Court</u>
3.1	Members were made aware of proposed ESCC recommendations to cease operating St Anthony's Court as a residential care home for long stay residents and for its subsequent exclusive use for an expanded 'living at home' programme and for respite care in advance of the County Council Cabinet meeting. These proposals were discussed at a meeting of Eastbourne's full Council on 17 th July.
3.2	ESCC have subsequently confirmed their Cabinet decision of the 30 th July indicating that the proposed change of use will take effect from the beginning of October 2002. It should be noted that the Project Director has provided specific information concerning the proposed re-location of existing residents and confirmed the intention to ensure that such moves will be carried out with sensitivity and the least possible disruption to such residents.
3.2	Copies of correspondence received regarding the outcome of the review are attached as <u>Appendix 1</u> for information.
4.0	<u>Consultations</u>
4.1	The review is understood to have taken account of the views of residents, their relatives and close friends, staff and other interested parties.
5.0	<u>Financial Implications</u>
5.1	An element of the overall review of ESCC Care Homes relates to the financial implications of the National Minimum Standards for Care Homes regulated by the National Care Standards Commission (NCSC) from April 2002.
6.0	<u>Human Rights Implications</u>

6.1	In reviewing the future of each of the homes, the County Council has confirmed that they will fully consider the rights of individuals in accordance with the Human Rights Act.
7.0	<u>Recommendations</u>
	That Cabinet note the recent outcome of the review of St Anthony's Court.
Neil Fuller Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance	
Background Papers: The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows: Area Committee Report of Director of Social Services (24 October 2001): Residential Care & Nursing Homes for Adults – Discussion regarding Regulation and Planning issues. ESCC Cabinet Report of Director of Social Services (16 October 2001 & 31 January 2002): Review of Directly Provided Homes for Older People.	
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