



Western Health
and Social Care Trust

Adult Mental Health & Disability Services

Consultation Paper – Proposal to close Creamery House Residential Home, Kesh, Co. Fermanagh

June 2015

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1. About the Trust

The Western Trust's vision is **"To provide high quality patient and client-focused Health and Social Care services through well trained staff with high morale"** is supported by six core values underpinning the organisational culture and have been developed to help the Trust achieve its purpose:

- **High quality and safety:** The Trust is committed to excellence and accountability in its services to individuals, families and communities.
- **Enabling our staff:** The Trust strives for a safe working environment which promotes growth and development, teamwork, pride, creativity and trust.
- **Integrity:** The Trust believes integrity is the foundation for individual and corporate actions. It adheres to the values of honesty, openness and respect for all.
- **Equality:** The Trust promotes equality and fairness for patients, clients and staff.
- **Partnerships:** The Trust is committed to working in partnership with service users, policy makers, commissioners and other service providers.
- **Employing our resources efficiently and effectively:** The Trust is committed to ensuring the best possible use of all public funds.

2. Introduction

2.1. What we are consulting on?

This is a targeted consultation process which commenced on 13th May 2015 and closes on 1st July 2015 and relates to a proposal contained within the Trust Savings Plan 2015/16. A copy of the Trusts Savings Plan 2015/16 is available on the Western Trust Latest News section and also via the Involving You section of the Western Trust Website. However, you can also view a copy of the Savings Plans 2015/16 by just clicking on either one of the two links below;

<http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/about/3120.htm>

<http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/about/3119.htm>

The proposal which we are seeking your views on is in respect of the closure of Creamery House in Kesh, Co Fermanagh. This is an 11 bed registered residential home for adults with learning disability. The Trust first started to use this service in 1993.

The Assistant Director leading on this proposal is:

Rosaleen Harkin

Assistant Director for Adult Learning Disability Services

Lakeview Hospital

Londonderry

Tel 02871 353469

Email Rosaleen.Harkin@westerntrust.hscni.net

Stakeholders can make contact with Mrs Harkin in the event of any queries.

2.2. Why we need to change?

This proposal has been put forward for the following reasons:

- The home is an 11 bed facility but for the last 2 years there have been 4 vacancies which the Trust has been unable to fill on a permanent basis.
- The building itself has a number of environmental factors which have added to the ability of the Trust to reduce the vacancies. Corridors are long and narrow and do not lend themselves to wheelchair users or to residents who require assistance of staff when mobilising.
- The building is owned by Helm Housing Association and the Trust pays rent for the accommodation. The Trust is also mindful that more and more people are seeking supported living accommodation for adults with learning disability. The strategic direction is focussing on people with learning disability having their own tenancies in supported living environments. This promotes increased choice and independence for individuals.
- In addition the Trust spends £576,000 per annum on the running costs of the home and has an overspend of £93,353 at year end March 2015.

3. Our Proposal

3.1 Impacts of proposed changes will include the sensitive relocation based on the individually assessed needs of each of the current seven residents, the redeployment of the current workforce, 11.85WTE Trust staff (headcount = 15). This proposal is anticipated to also impact on the Kesh community, in terms of residents, neighbours and the local community.

3.2 Benefits of proposed changes will include the relocation of residents to accommodation which will better meet their assessed needs and future-proof their location in line with assessed need. The expertise of the current workforce will remain within learning disability services. The proposed closure of the home will reduce the current overspend and support the Trust meet its proposed savings plan.

4. Your Views

The Trust is committed to ensuring that everyone who needs to and wishes to be involved in the planning, development and evaluation of its services is facilitated to do so, therefore we really value your opinion and want you to have your say by participating in this targeted consultation.

The Trust has met with families, staff (20th and 21st May 2015) and keyworkers have informed residents of the proposal. The Trust will engage with an independent advocate service to support the residents through this consultation process. Trade Union

Consultation took place on 13th May 2015. In addition the Trust has informed the Patient Client Council of the proposals contained in the Savings Plan 2015/16 and has arranged to meet with the Commissioner for Older People Northern Ireland. Plans are in place to discuss the proposal with local MLAs and Councillors on the 8th June 2015.

The Trust will also seek input to this consultation from other organisations in the Kesh area who are likely to be interested and impacted by this proposal as part of the targeted consultation exercise. This will include provision of information by post/email on this proposal to those individuals, groups and organisations within the Kesh area and also key stakeholders.

Ms Margaret Dolan, Head of Service, is the named responsible officer and will be the person that all completed consultation questionnaires should be returned to. These should be submitted by post /email or in person **by 5pm on Wednesday 1st July 2015** to the following address;

Mrs Margaret Dolan
Head of Service
Strathdene House
Omagh
BT79 0NS

or by email to;

Margaret.Dolan@westerntrust.hscni.net.

The Consultation Feedback Questionnaire can be found at the following link:

[http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/pdf/Creamery_House -
Consultation Response Questionnaire S O D 04 06 15.doc](http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/pdf/Creamery_House_-_Consultation_Response_Questionnaire_S_O_D_04_06_15.doc)

5. Equality & Involvement Considerations

The Trust is committed to fulfilling its statutory equality duties as set out in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (the Act). In accordance with these duties an equality screening exercise has been undertaken to assess if the proposed change as outlined in this consultation document will have any impacts on the nine equality categories.

At this time it has been considered that this proposal will have minor impacts on one or more of the nine equality groupings, therefore a full EQIA is not required at this time.

Although this proposal is currently screened as having minor impacts, the Trust has decided to subject this proposal to ongoing screening until after the consultation exercise expires. Thereafter, if, as part of the consultation exercise, new information or adverse impacts are demonstrated then the Trust will reconsider the screening rating and, if then required, will undertake a full EQIA in accordance with guidance from the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

A copy of the draft equality screening assessment for this proposal is attached/is available by contacting the E&I office on: equality.admin@westerntrust.hscni.net

This document can also be made available in a range of alternative formats upon request.

6. Next Steps

This consultation will run for 8 weeks from 13th May 2015 and will close on **01 July 2015 at 5pm.**

Ms Margaret Dolan, Head of Service, will compile the consultation feedback report and share same with all who returned comments.

7. Commitment to Feedback

The Trust can confirm that any final decision/final proposal will not be approved until after the consultation exercise closes, and the Trust has considered carefully all feedback received and, where feasible, make changes to the final proposal to reflect this. Once the way forward is agreed, this will then be shared with all the residents and staff as well as anyone who participated in the consultation exercise.

All participants will receive a report detailing Consultation Feedback and where applicable this report will note changes to proposal as a result of their comments/involvement.

