

South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Care Home Sustainability

In response to the undernoted:

- Bield Housing Association have announced their intention to withdraw from the residential care sector by closing all twelve of their residential care homes in seven local authority areas.

Bield Housing Association do not have any care homes within South Ayrshire so their decision to withdraw from the residential care sector shall not have a detrimental impact to residential service provision in South Ayrshire.

Future population estimates suggest that the number of older people living in South Ayrshire area shall continue to grow year on year until 2037 with the 75+ population expected to increase in size quite significantly. Whilst this may impact on future requirements for care home capacity, policy initiatives aimed at supporting people in their own home, investment in community alarm services (technology enabled care) and the active progression of self-directed support shall provide a balance to the use of care homes and the alternatives to traditional care home arrangements.

The Partnership are due to embark on a commissioning plan for older people services and this shall enable the Partnership to engage with the market place and help identify if there are gaps in the policy initiatives.

The Partnership are involved in the national strategy in relation to the National Care Home Contract reform and the cost of care calculator. This participation shall enable the Partnership to contribute to the development of the national market facilitation strategy for care homes which shall have a direct focus on future care home sustainability