

West Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership
Care Home Sustainability

Please find below the response to your questions.

- What impact does the recent announcement of the closer of 12 residential care homes have on your area?
In West Lothian Bield has 2 residential care homes due for closure by 31 March 2018, an 8 bed unit in Uphall and a 14 bed unit in Linlithgow. Although this represents only 2.5% of the total sector capacity, because there is currently no spare capacity, in the short term the closures are likely to add further pressure to delayed discharge where there is already a waiting list for care home provision. This current lack of capacity may also present challenges in respect of relocating the service users of the 2 homes due to be closed.

- Are there concerns regarding the sustainability of residential service provision (in your area)? and if so, how could they be addressed?
West Lothian has no particular concerns regarding the sustainability of residential care provision beyond the concerns that have been expressed by providers and their representatives as part of the national care homes contract negotiations. We have had representation from one provider in respect of one care home where the provider considers the specific design of the care home to present challenges in terms of ongoing financial viability. However we are also aware of a new 60 bed unit scheduled for opening near the end of 2018.