

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

21 November 2024

Adult Social Care Housing Delivery

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise how appropriate homes are delivered to support adults with social care needs in living independently, following the outcomes of the Care Quality Commission's (CQC's) pilot Care Act Assessment of the Council's Adult Social Care Service in May 2023, which identified several challenges relating to housing and accommodation for individuals with complex needs.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- 1) to make any comments or recommendations in response to the report of the Executive Member for Housing and Planning on how the Council is working strategically to address the housing and accommodation needs for adults requiring social care; and
- 2) to consider whether any further scrutiny of the issue is required (and, if so, to identify the focus and timescales).

3 Background information

- 3.1 The CQC, as an independent regulator, was given new responsibilities to assess how well Local Authorities are performing against their duties under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. The CQC developed an associated assessment framework through co-production with partners, agencies and people with direct experience of using care and support services, which was piloted at five Local Authorities (including Nottingham City Council) to test its methodology and processes, and to identify any refinements required.
- 3.2 The Council's assessment was carried out from 11 May 2023, reviewing the 2022/23 period. Approximately 5,900 adults in Nottingham were accessing long-term social care support during this time, with around 1,320 using short-term support. The assessment results were published on 17 November 2023, with the CQC's indicative findings being that the Council's Adult Social Care services required improvement. The Committee reviewed the assessment outcomes as a whole at its meeting on 15 February 2024 and, following these discussions, considered that the Council's response to the challenges identified by the CQC relating specifically to housing and accommodation for individuals with complex needs should be considered further. These challenges included

housing shortages impacting care delivery, an over-reliance on residential care and fragmented system pathways.

- 3.3 In response to the CQC's findings in this area, the Council implemented an Action Plan to address the main challenges, with key focuses on expanding supported housing options, developing a new Extra Care framework and creating a multi-disciplinary panel to improve coordination across services. The Action Plan is structured to reflect the CQC Assessment Framework, which comprises nine quality statements across four overall themes:
- working with people;
 - providing support;
 - how the Local Authority ensures safety within the system; and
 - leadership.
- 3.4 The Council is seeking to take steps to address the housing and accommodation needs of adults who require social care through joint work and collaboration to expand supported living options, enhance Extra Care services and improve coordination across Council departments. As a result, the Council is aiming to promote independence and reduce the reliance on residential care. Ongoing improvements, including an All-Age Accommodation Strategy, are intended to ensure that Nottingham's housing options are responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable residents, aligning with the recommendations of the CQC.
- 3.5 At its meeting on 24 October 2024, the Committee discussed with the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health the social care approaches to ensuring that the right pathways are in place so that the most vulnerable people reach appropriate and sustainable accommodation where person-centred, wrap-around care can be delivered effectively; how meeting growing levels of complex needs is being planned for; developing provision in the wider market and how commissioned providers of Supported Living accommodation are managed; ensuring early intervention; achieving best value; and how effective leadership is being used to drive improvement and change.
- 3.6 Following this, the Committee considered that, to achieve full scrutiny of this issue, it should also review the strategic approach being taken within the Council's Housing remit in terms of how the Council invests in and develops properties and the wider market for meeting the current and future social care needs of adults in the city – particularly in the context of the new 'Homes fit for the Future' Housing Strategy and the development of a new Homelessness Prevention Strategy. As a result, the Committee requested that the Executive Member for Housing and Planning presented a follow-up item to set out the Council's strategic approach to investing in and delivering housing in the city that is suitable for meeting the growing care needs for adults, with a particular focus on delivering supported accommodation and helping people who are homeless and rough sleeping.
- 3.7 This item is directly relevant to the delivery of the 'Living Well in Our Communities', 'Better Housing' and 'Serving People Well' outcomes of the Strategic Council Plan and, in the context of the Council Improvement Plan, has

impacts on all three aims to ensure a Council that delivers for Nottingham with a clear direction and purpose, a Council that is financially sustainable and a Council that is well run with effective people, processes and systems.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Appendix 1: CQC Pilot Assessment Report and Rating to the Committee meeting on 24 October 2024

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 [CQC Pilot Care Act Assessment](#)

- 6.2 Report to, and Minutes of, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny meetings held on:

- [15 February 2024](#)
- [24 October 2024](#)

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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