

NORTH ARGYLL EVENTIDE HOME ASSOCIATION

1. SUMMARY

The attached appendix is a report by on the background to the North Argyll Eventide Home Association which is presented to the Community Planning Group.

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North Argyll Eventide Home Association's background

Background:

North Argyll Eventide Home Association (locally known as North Argyll House) is the charity which runs the North Argyll House Residential Home. Its aim is to provide the highest standard of care for elderly people in a comfortable and secure environment, with residents' dignity and independence from first arrival to final departure of paramount importance. The North Argyll House Residential Home currently caters for 26 residents and employs 32 staff. The charity is registered with OSCR and has 5 members on its board of directors, all of whom are drawn from the local community. The House itself has a long association with the surrounding community, having been established in 1955 by local people for the benefit of the elderly in the area. The manager has the overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Home and for resident's welfare. She reports to the Board Executive (chair, secretary and treasurer) at monthly meetings, and there are also quarterly meetings to which are invited: all 5 members of the board, a resident, the manager, and the two depute managers.

Key to the charity's success is the care and respect shown to both clients and staff. The Home is recognised as a Centre for Excellence and has a proven track record of community involvement and staff training. This can be evidenced by the low level of staff turnover, particularly remarkable in the care sector.

North Argyll House has a history of adapting to change. In the early 90's the political agenda for care of the elderly was under review and culminated in the Community Care Act 1993. On the ground, this meant not only an increased need for residential beds, but a revolution in how Care Homes were to be organised. North Argyll House embraced these changes through restructuring of the relationship between the committee and the manager (then matron) and by running a fundraising campaign in order to build an extension and upgrade all existing rooms to en suite facilities. This project and previous refurbishment projects have all been managed in house and have attracted support from many trusts and charities, including North British Trust (now Crerar Hotels Group) a locally based trust who funded refurbishment in the 1980's and then again, in 1992 with a donation of £35,000 for a lift. In 1999 the

charity managed the project to build the gardens and car park, which was funded through a legacy from a resident. The North Argyll House Ladies Committee regularly holds fundraising events in order to celebrate Christmas and birthdays with the residents and to pay for entertainment such as weekly art classes.

Project Definition

The charity's long term goal is to continue to provide the highest standard of care for elderly people in a comfortable and secure environment, with residents' dignity and independence of paramount importance. The charity recognises that the government strategy for care for the elderly is changing. There is a move away from longer term use of residential homes towards increased care in the community and new models of care homes that "bridge traditional care homes and extra care housing to provide homes for residents with particular requirements". (*Re-shaping Care for Older People*, authors: Scottish Govt, NHS, COSLA.)

Crucial to the charity's aspiration of continuing to provide a service is therefore a need to create a space suitable as a Nursing Care Home in order to provide:

- Increased nursing provision (to Nursing Home standards)
- Palliative care to end of life for an increased number of people
- Care for dementia sufferers
- Extra care housing (as a second phase of development)

The charity is in the fortunate position of having acquired 0.7 acres of land adjacent to the current property upon which they plan to build a new model care home and extra care housing.

Project Objective:

- To provide Nursing Home based on new model of provision, with a minimum of 40 beds (note this includes provision of some beds in residential home)
- To provide extra care housing (as a second phase of development)
- To refurbish car park wing in order to generate income
- To upgrade the original building to current standards of Care Inspectorate and to ensure both buildings work well together

Three key Issues:

- Philosophy of co-production in development of project
- Long term sustainability of service
- Capital costs of project