

Branch Committee Report: WCL (Adults) – July 2015

Care Act

The next meeting of the Social Care Direct Staff Focus Group is on 24/06/2015. We received some queries relating to the holiday rotas for staff, but following positive discussions with management this has now been resolved.

Care Services Review

Consultation on this proposal is still ongoing. As you'll be aware, we set up working groups consisting of N8 and N6 representatives from across the various sites to go through the job evaluation process. We then asked these representatives to provide examples to help strengthen our argument that the current grades should be maintained.

Paul Gilroy and I presented our case in meetings held on Monday 8th and Wednesday 10th June. These meetings were chaired by Cathy Bull, with Chris Dugdale and HR representatives present. Cathy is now considering our arguments over the next week and we will reconvene members' meetings to discuss the outcome.

Here is a summary of the proposals for reference:

These services are: Care at Home, Recovery Support, Byker Lodge, Connie Lewcock, Welford and Castle Dene.

The following has been proposed for the 2015-2016 budget (est. £610,000 saving):

- *A single 'direct care delivery' job description (Health and Social Care Assistant) across these services replacing: Care Officer (N6), Night Care Officer (N6), Care Support Assistant (N4) and Care at Home Assistant (N4).*
 - *An additional 14.5fte of these posts will be created and deployed in Byker Lodge and Connie Lewcock.*
- *A single 'senior' role (Health and Social Care Coordinator) replacing: Senior Worker (N8), Care Service Officer (N7) and Community Mental Health Worker (N7).*
 - *A reduction of 7fte at this level – 2 each from Connie Lewcock, Byker Lodge and Care at Home. There is also one vacancy in Care at Home which will be deleted.*
- *In order to reflect previous reductions in Care at Home Assistants, Team Leaders in Care at Home would reduce by 2fte. There are however 2 Team Leader vacancies elsewhere in Care Services.*
- *All vacancies in Care at Home will be deleted (12fte).*
- *Continue to reduce free time in Care at Home.*

Directorate Joint Committee Meeting

The next DJC for WCL (Adults) is 16/07/2015.

Conor McArdle, Branch Officer