

11. NEW SUPPORTED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

A report had been circulated by the Head of Social Policy providing an overview of the development of Rosemount Gardens in Bathgate, a new supported housing facility for older people.

The Head of Social Policy informed the Board that Rosemount Gardens was a new build supported housing complex in Mid Street, Bathgate, situated close to the existing sheltered housing complex in Rosemount Court. Upon completion it would offer 30 new tenancies for older people in an ideal location close to Bathgate Town Centre. The building was designed to be fully accessible and dementia friendly offering ideal opportunities to promote independent living.

Although there had been some slippage in the completion date, the building contract had now indicated that Rosemount Gardens would be handed over to the Council during spring of 2016. The existing sheltered housing complex in Rosemount Court required extensive refurbishment and this could only be achieved by decanting tenants while the work was ongoing. Once the new build was complete, it would be available as temporary accommodation while Rosemount Court was refurbished.

The report went on to advise that tenancies would be allocated on the basis of the council's sheltered housing criteria. Tenants who were decanted from Rosemount Court would have the opportunity to apply for tenancies in the new build should they decide not to return to Rosemount Court.

Finally, it was noted that the team responsible for the project would invite all the members of the IJB for an introductory visit prior to the official opening.

The Board was asked note the investment in supported housing for older people and support the approach to care which aimed to maximise independence and choice.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.