

UNISON

Future of our Care home provision

What we are Campaigning for

EH&SCP and the IJB are considering the closure of 5 Council care homes and changing the remaining 3 to Nursing homes with the addition of nurses.

This will end the Council provision of Residential Care in Edinburgh, leaving it completely in the hands of the private and the third sector.

This decision leaves residents and staff in the existing homes facing heart breaking disruption, so we promised to resist the closures as no replacement homes were proposed.

Here is what we are calling for

- A replacement 60 bed Council Care home following the closure of Drumbrae care home and its transfer to the NHS. If the Council are paying the NHS £16 million for Liberton hospital grounds, Unison are calling for a replacement for Drumbrae. If Drumbrae has to transfer to the NHS for urgent clinical reasons, the “low” number of staff and residents should be accommodated until the replacement unit is built.**
- The £15 million earmarked for a replacement 60 bed care home, that was deleted from the Council budget as a saving in February, this year should be reinstated. This facility is essential to the future of care in Edinburgh and was presumably a replacement for the small care homes facing closure.**
- The current plan to expand the Homecare service to help people stay in their homes longer ,appears just to be the expansion of the 15 minute visits by private providers and the Third sector. This is completely unacceptable, the people of Edinburgh and all social care workers deserve better treatment and better funding than that.**
- Ending the provision of Council care homes in Edinburgh and replacing it with 15 minute home visits should be a political dilemma, especially with the Council elections next year. Unison calls on the Scottish Government and all political parties to call a halt to these ramshackle proposals and prepare a comprehensive plan we can all support.**
- The way the staff have been treated in this process has been horrendous . After working through the pandemic caring for the most vulnerable, under constant**

scrutiny and at considerable risk to their own and families safety, this is their reward. We are calling for these replacement homes to be built to house the staff and residents, they deserve nothing less.

There are proposals to have a 12 week public consultation on the future provision of care in Edinburgh which would take us up to the end of the year. We are sure you will join us in campaigning to have the right outcome for residents and staff, a better funded care system that supports people in Council run care homes and provides a quality of life if they choose to stay at home, which we currently cant afford to provide.

The alternative is a privately run care home monopoly and underfunded and overstretched Care at home provision.