**Information for Unitary Councillors**

Sheet Number:

2022-27/55

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| **From:** | **Nikki Shaw** |

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| **Relevant ELT Director and sign-off date:** | Mel Lock, Director of Adult Social Care |  |

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| **Date:** | **20th June 2023** |

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| **To:** | **All Unitary Councillors** |

**Woodlands Farmhouse, Wrantage, Taunton**

Woodlands Farmhouse (Ruby Care) is a privately run residential care home in Taunton providing support to older people. The owner of the Home is also the Nominated Individual and Registered Manager of the provision.

Woodlands Farmhouse is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to provide personal care for up to 13 older people. There are currently 9 people using the service:

* 3 residents are funded by Somerset Council
* 1 resident is self-funding
* The remainder are funded by Devon and Dorset Councils.

In January 2023, the Home was inspected by the independent regulator, the CQC, with the report published 9th March 2023. The provision was judged to be ‘Requires Improvement’ overall, and in domains of ‘safe’, ‘effective’ and ‘well led’: [Woodlands Farmhouse - Care Quality Commission (cqc.org.uk)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-1700351692); the last rating for the service was ‘Good’ (February 2018).

Woodlands Farmhouse was subject to a routine Quality Improvement response from Somerset Council’s Adult Social Care service following the inspection outcome, with an initial Quality Improvement Meeting completed on 26 April 2023. No restrictions were initial applied as the Home’s registered manager reported that the associated CQC action plan requirements had been completed. However, there have since been a series of concerns identified and progressed involving professionals from across health and social care regarding the provision of care and support.

On 15 June 2023, the owner communicated their decision to give 28 days notice to all residents, citing the reasons as rising costs, the ongoing quality improvement activity, and wider scrutiny of professionals amongst her reasons for closure.

Consequently, the Local Authority has now commenced our established Business Failure process to outline next steps and options for those residents we support. A residents and relatives meeting will take place on 21 June 2023 at the Home. Our operational social work team in Taunton will support the review of residents, alongside social work support from relevant external placing Local Authorities.

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| For more information please contact: | Name: Sian Angel  Contracts and Quality Assurance Officer – Adult Social Care  Email: sian.angel@somerset.gov.uk |