

To: HOUSING AND SOCIAL WORK SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF SHOTTS AND DISTRICT REGARDING THE FUTURE PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES WITHIN HERBISON HOUSE
From: HEAD OF SOCIAL WORK DEVELOPMENT	
Date: 21 OCTOBER 2009	Ref: DM/AB

1. Purpose of Report / Introduction

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of a petition which was received from residents of Shotts and District, regarding the provision of residential care services at Herbison House.

2. Background

- 2.1 In February 2008 Housing and Social Work Services Committee considered a report "Residential Care Homes for Older People" seeking approval for an approach which would secure future care home provision within a best value framework.
- 2.2 The above mentioned report indicated that none of the Council's residential care homes met the standards considered appropriate for its vulnerable older people, namely en-suite, single room provision. A subsequent report, in August 2008, proposed to invest in 4 identified homes to upgrade them to the required standards so as to facilitate better access to assessment, rehabilitation and respite care. Herbison House was not one of these homes.
- 2.3 In August 2009 Housing & Social Work Services Committee adopted the following recommendations:
- agree that the residents of Herbison House are given the opportunity to relocate to the modernised Rosehall Manor home or to an alternative home of their choosing, and to cease new admissions to Herbison House, accordingly;
 - note proposals to establish a day care facility for older people in Shotts; and
 - note exploration of the prospect of additional housing for older people on the Herbison House site.
- 2.4 The report was remitted to Council on 24 September 2009.

3. Issue

- 3.1 On 22 September 2009 a petition containing approximately 2,000 signatures, opposing the closure of Herbison House, was submitted to the Executive Director of Corporate Services.
- 3.2 On 24 September 2009 Council considered the position and voted to proceed with the proposals.
- 3.3 Following the decision meetings have been held with staff, involving trades union representation, and with residents and families to outline the process. The social work service has considerable experience of managing this type of situation and will do its utmost to handle it with great sensitivity, and respect the wishes and preferences of residents and families.

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee note the terms of the petition and the action taken.



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Head of Social Work Development
2 October 2009

For further information about this report please contact Duncan Mackay, Head of Social Work Development, tel: 01698 332024