

Mr Iain MacBeath
Director of Health & Community Services
County Hall, Pegs Lane
Hertford SG13 8PD

Your ref:
Our ref: CH 16
Date: 28th April 2015

Dear Iain,

Caddington Hall, Luton Rd, Markyate, Hertfordshire

You may recall that I wrote to you to advise you of the consultation that Central Bedfordshire Council is undertaking in relation to the future of Caddington Hall Older Persons Home.

The consultation document identifies seven options. The Council's preferred option at this stage is the closure of the home and the relocation of the current residents there to other homes. We are assisted in this by the offer of enough places at a newly-completed care home in Dunstable to enable all of the current residents at Caddington Hall to relocate there if they wish.

During the consultation it has been suggested that there is an option we have not considered and that is why I am writing to you now.

Underlying the proposals for this home is the position that there is sufficient capacity in care homes in the area of Central Bedfordshire that this home serves – essentially the towns of Dunstable and Houghton Regis and the villages of Caddington and Slip End.

Given the home's location just across the Hertfordshire-Bedfordshire border in Dacorum Borough it has been suggested by respondents to the consultation that the home may be capable of meeting needs in that area and that there may be a current or projected shortage of care home places in this locality. It has therefore been suggested that Hertfordshire County Council may be interested in working with Central Bedfordshire Council to jointly operate and improve the care home provision on the site.

It would be good to get your response on the following questions:

1. Does your understanding of care home capacity in this area lead you to the conclusion that there is currently a shortfall in capacity to meet existing or future demand?

2. Is this site in a location which you think would be attractive to potential customers in Hertfordshire?
3. Given the answers to the preceding questions would you support the concept of investment by Hertfordshire County Council in this home.

I have attached the consultation documents which provide more detail about the home, the reasons for the proposed changes and the possible options.

The consultation period finishes on 13th May 2015 and following that officers will be preparing reports for consideration by members during June and July. It would therefore be very helpful to have a response from you by 15th May 2015 in order that this matter can be incorporated into these documents.

If you or any of your officers would like to discuss this matter in more detail then the primary contact is:

Tim Hoyle
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Houghton Lodge,
Houghton Close,
Amphill, MK45 2TG
Direct Dial: 0300 300 6065
Email: tim.hoyle@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



Julie Ogley
Director of Social Care, Health and Housing