



Mark Gaynor, Director of Housing and  
Regeneration,  
Dacorum Borough Council  
Hemel Hempstead Civic Centre  
Marlowes  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire  
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**Your ref:**  
**Our ref:** CH 18  
**Date:** 05/05/15

Dear Mr Gaynor,

**Caddington Hall, Luton Rd, Markyate, Hertfordshire**

Central Bedfordshire Council is undertaking a consultation on 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.

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.

Although the home is located just across the Hertfordshire-Bedfordshire border in Dacorum Borough it has been operated primarily as a resource for Central Bedfordshire residents. Although from time to time it has had residents from the Markyate area it does not have any at present.

One person who has responded to the consultation has referred to plans for the expansion of Markyate, the need for older person's care home provision and stated that the site identified for this purpose (presumably in the Masterplan for Markyate) is not ideal or may not be available. The respondent suggested that Hertfordshire County Council may be interested in working with Central Bedfordshire Council to jointly operate and improve the provision at Caddington Hall. I have recently written to the Director of Health and Community Services to get his views on this and await his response.

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Similarly, I would be interested in your views, especially from a strategic planning perspective. A couple of key questions are:

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. If so, is this site one which you would consider suitable for meeting such demand?

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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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:

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Houghton Close,  
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Yours sincerely

**Julie Ogley**  
Director of Social Care, Health and Housing