

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TAKEN BY**

Graham Gibbens

**DECISION NO.**

10/01512

*If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972*

**Subject:**

**OUTCOME ON THE FORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE CLOSURE OF CORNFIELDS REGISTERED CARE CENTRE, DOVER**

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services I APPROVE the recommendation that Cornfields should close in September 2011 and for the site to be used for extra care housing.

This decision is taken on the basis that there will be no closure before alternative services are in place.

**Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken**

None

**Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information**

The main drivers are that:

- a) More people are living longer and living with long term conditions including dementia. People rightly expect more choice in care.
- b) High quality care is a continuing priority. Dignity in care is crucial and more people want care at home.
- c) Residential care should be in high quality buildings. Some KCC buildings reached the end of their useful life and do not meet expectations or standards for new builds.
- d) Good quality care can be commissioned for less money. The private and voluntary sector is set up to care for more people.

The considerations and options considered included:

- a) The range of alternative local services for older people.
- b) The opportunity for developments with partners in the local area.
- c) The condition of the buildings and likely capital expenditure required to maintain services.
- d) The appropriateness of the design of the buildings for the services delivered and required.
- e) The need to release money that is tied in to services that could be used to deliver equivalent services to more people.

Extra care housing enables people to live independently for as long as possible. I believe these proposals provide significant steps in meeting the aspirations of people now and in the future. Current residents of Cornfields will be offered the opportunity to return to the new services if desired and appropriate.

Extra care housing is a national model. It is recognised as making a valuable contribution in offering

choice for older people who are considering care in later life. It is offered as a choice to those who previously would have only had the option of residential care. Individuals will have tenant status in their own home with their own front door and at the same time will have access to care staff 24 hours a day in an environment that has been built to meet the needs of people with a range of disabilities.

I am assured that both assessments and intensive support will be offered to all services users and their families to plan and provide alternative services and that the range of services needed will be available.

**Background Documents:**

Report by Managing Director, KASS 'Outcome of the formal consultation on the closure of Cornfields Registered Care Centre, Dover' (10/01512)



signed

13 JANUARY 2011

date

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			