

## **ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES**

**THE DEADLINE FOR CALLING-IN ANY OF THE DECISIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MINUTES IS UP TO, AND INCLUDING FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2007. AFTER THAT DATE, THEY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WHERE APPROPRIATE. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE CALLED-IN TO BE SENT TO:**

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### **EXECUTIVE**

**12 JUNE 2007**

**(7:30 pm – 9:35 pm)**

Councillor Derek Osbourne (Chair) - Leader of the Council

Councillor Patricia Bamford - Children and Young People's Services

Councillor Rolson Davies - Health and Social Inclusion

Councillor Simon James - Transport, Planning and Regeneration

Councillor Ian Reid - Improvement and Performance

Councillor Penny Shelton - Housing and Adult Services

Councillor Liz Shard - Environment and Sustainability

Councillor Mick Amson, Councillor Patrick Codd, Councillor David Fraser,  
Councillor Ian

George, Councillor Howard Jones, Councillor Nick Kilby, Councillor Steve  
Mama,

Councillor Ken Smith and Councillor Robert-John Tasker attended.

### **14. CONSOLIDATION OF OLDER PEOPLES DAY SERVICES ON A SINGLE SITE**

In view of the financial pressures it faces, the Council has decided to combine its day services for older people with physical disabilities onto one site at either Newent House or Hobkirk House. An extensive consultation has taken place with service users and their relatives, staff, Councillors, the voluntary sector and other stakeholders for their views on which Centre to use. Most respondents wanted both Centres to remain open and a petition to Council in April containing 1998 signatures, also made this request. However, there was concern that any change should be managed very carefully, should not be delayed and should give people the same service as they currently receive, preferably on the same days with the same group of friends. The consultation showed high levels of satisfaction with the existing services on both sites.

Whilst either Centre would be suitable, providing the services at Newent House would cause the least disruption. The transport requirements for a single site will need careful planning to minimise any increase in journey time and a flexi-transport system, which is currently used for those people who can only spend very short periods on transport because of medical conditions, will continue to be used. Implementation will involve a planning group; service users individual needs will be discussed and visits will be arranged for users and their families to Newent House. The combined site will be become operational this Autumn, and a review will be carried out in January. The vacated space in Hobkirk House will be used for alternative Community Care use.

One outcome of the consultation was that the services provided to people with lower levels of need should be reviewed and this will be carried out and a report submitted to the Executive in October 2007, alongside the expected report on promoting independence and well-being.

Carers and service users attended the meeting, three of whom addressed the Executive on behalf of other users, with the request not to close Hobkirk House.

**RESOLVED** that

1. the outcome of the consultation, the petition presented at Council, and the views expressed at the meeting by carers and service users of Hobkirk House be noted;
2. the single site for the consolidated Day Service for older people with physical disabilities will be Newent House with effect from Autumn 2007;
3. the implementation arrangements set out in paragraphs 16 -18 of Appendix to the agenda, which will ensure that all existing users of both Newent House and Hobkirk House day centres will continue to receive their current level of service be approved; and
4. it be noted that a report setting out the future plan for lower level day services will be submitted to the Executive in October 2007.

**Reason for decision**

Kingston faces serious financial challenges over the coming years; the proposed changes to the services will enable Kingston to continue to provide day services to older people with high levels of physical disability within available resources.