

9^h February
2007

Rory Belfield
Resource Centre
Manager Newent
House 5-10 Browns
Road Surbiton, Surrey
KT5 8SP

Dear Mr Belfield

Budget Process 2007/2008

In response to your letter dated January 2007, I write to let you know of my concerns regarding the proposals to consolidate the day care services provided at Hobkirk and Newent in order to reduce expenditure during the coming year.

I cannot see that Newent can accommodate the extra users with the resources and staff that are currently available, and am concerned that the extra load put on staff and resources will make it difficult for them to continue to give the level of care that we receive at present without adding substantially to their work load. I am also concerned that increased numbers at the Centre will change the whole atmosphere, from a family atmosphere to an institutional one.

Another aspect I am concerned about is transport. Traveling to and from the Centre can take a long time now and the extra traveling time to be endured by disabled people should we have to go to another Centre is not relished. If there should be a breakdown of one of the buses, it could take the staff a long time to return all users home.

Your letter has stated that the Council is committed to continuing to provide a service to its existing Service Users. What do they anticipate will happen to rate payers who require this service in the future? Are they to be left to cope alone?

I attach a petition signed by 50 people who object to the proposed closure of a Centre providing day services for elderly and disabled people.

Yours sincerely

Mrs JC