



Atkinson Court Elderly Persons Home Threatened with Closure

Trafford Council are to consult with residents, relatives and staff about closing Atkinson Court EPH in Ashton-on-Mersey.

Labour Councillor Joanne Bennett, Opposition Spokesperson for Adult Social Care & Health, said:-

“We recognise that more elderly people are being enabled to remain in their own homes. However we are worried that the Council is closing its own homes at too fast a rate; this is the fifth home the Council will have closed in less than 3 years. The proposed closure will inevitably be distressing for the residents and the staff. Although the Council has said that it will consult, evidence from previous closures indicates that there is unlikely to be a change of mind, whatever the views of those most affected.

This policy of closing homes does not give sufficient recognition to the fact that we have an ageing population and that people are living longer. Unfortunately many people will not be able to live at home until the end of their days; there still will be a significant need for residential care.

Nor does the policy have any regard to possible closures of privately –owned care homes. We believe that the Council has a duty to ensure that elderly people and their relatives continue to have a wide choice of care options. Cost savings are all very well - but not by limiting the range of care the Council can offer vulnerable, elderly people.”

Contacts:- **Cllr. David Acton** **Tel: 749 9823**

Cllr. Joanne Bennett **Tel: 962 7809**

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