

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION FOR THE FUTURE OF HOLCROFT HOUSE
DATE: 10 AUGUST 2023
RECIPIENT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

The council is consulting on proposals to consider the future of Holcroft House. The consultation is running between 1st June 2023 – 23rd August 2023.

The consultation can be found at:

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/council-democracy/have-your-say/holcroft-house-consultation/>

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

1. Holcroft House is a 34-bedroom residential home providing short and long term care for adults living with dementia. There are currently 14 long stay residents and 4 that have been placed there temporarily.
2. A Fire Safety Assessment (FSA) has identified several issues that will need addressing at Holcroft House whereby residents will need to relocate for the duration of works (18 months).
3. The Fire Service have agreed the building is safe in the short term, but these works are required in order for the building to remain open in the long term.
4. Due to the level of work required to rectify issues highlighted within the fire safety assessment we would need to relocate residents from Holcroft House to ensure their safety and well-being throughout the proposed works. This may mean that some individuals would be moved multiple times throughout the proposed 18 months of works. This in turn may present as a significant challenge for many residents due to their dementia and associated needs. The proposal is therefore to close Holcroft House and support residents in relocating to long term alternative accommodation.
5. The process would ensure consultation with families, residents, advocates and stakeholders where necessary. The review process would identify suitable placements to meet the needs of the resident. We would also ensure friendship groups are maintained as far as possible. Planning for the home closure would take into account the assessed needs of every individual resident of the home and how these can best be met in the future. Each individuals' rights under relevant legislation would be ensured.

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6. There are vacancies within the care homes that are CQC registered with dementia care within the city.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Resources

7. There are 52 Members of staff. All have been offered voluntary redundancy with a deferred review date subject to a decision. Redeployment opportunities will be available subject to the outcome.

Policy

8. There are no policy implications at this time.

Financial

9. To be considered once a decision has been made.

Legal Implications

10. To be considered once a decision is made. Due diligence will be applied to the process once a decision is made.

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

11. Options will be considered once the public consultation is complete. Public and staff consultation has started. Group meetings have been held with families and carers and individual meetings have been offered. There is a closure timetable that can be enacted should the decision be to close.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

12. Papers that will be provided to Cabinet on 19th September will include relevant risk and impact assessments.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

N/A

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