

Closure of John Darling Mall Progress Update

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Jess Hutchinson

John Darling Mall - Overview

- Respite facility for adults with disabilities, primarily physical disabilities but also learning disabilities
- Located in Boyatt Wood, Eastleigh
- 18 accommodation units plus 6 independent living flats
- Built in 1985 with unique design
- Current layout of the building makes it difficult to offer a service for people with profound and multiple disabilities
- Usage had been in decline to the point average occupancy 5-7 people

Consultation and Engagement

- Eight week public consultation during Summer 2015 on the future of the respite service
- Decision made to close the respite service by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care (November 2015)
- Dedicated care management to support users of the service to identify suitable alternative respite services
- Dedicated social worker to support the tenants to find alternative housing (in partnership with Eastleigh Borough Council and Stonewater Housing Association)
- Engagement with stakeholders from local community regarding the future of the site

Respite Provision

- Approximately 40 regular users of respite service
- Dedicated care management resource to support users of the service
- One to one support, visits, trials
- Service-user involvement to help adapt our current learning disability respite services
- Individual choice
- Mixed menu of options for respite:
 - In-house respite services (Totton, Basingstoke, Hayling Island and Fareham)
 - Expanded Shared Lives offering
 - Revitalise (Netley)
 - Carer replacement services
 - Residential / Nursing care
 - Direct Payments to purchase own respite

Stonewater Tenants

- 6 people in 5 flats (5 tenancies)
- Flats leased to Stonewater Housing Association
- Right to return to new development on current JDM site
- Partnership approach to rehousing with Eastleigh Borough Council and Stonewater Housing Association
- To date 3 out of 6 people have either moved or have found alternative housing
- Remaining 3 people (2 tenancies) will remain in JDM, with appropriate security, until such time as they have agreed to alternative housing
- Tenants are a housing priority for Eastleigh Borough Council with situation changing weekly as properties become available

Staff

- 23 members of staff working at JDM at start of consultation
- Redundancy wasn't offered
- Some staff already leaving through voluntary redundancy as part of earlier Council-wide scheme
- All remaining members of staff redeployed
- Dedicated HR manager to support staff
- Make most effective use of skills of staff
- Take personal / individual circumstances into consideration
- Appropriate training for JDM staff moving to new roles
- Additional training for staff at the 4 respite units

Next Steps / Future Use of Site

- Respite Service closes 31 March 2016
- Building will not close until final tenant is rehoused
- Plans to develop Extra Care Housing for adults with disabilities
- Development will be part of Transformation to 2017 Disabilities Accommodation workstream
- Work in partnership with Stonewater Housing Association and Eastleigh Borough Council
- Involve interested parties from local community