

## Adult & Local Services

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RP/JT  
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Dear Stakeholder

### **Proposals for Changes to Social Care Services in Allerdale and Distington**

As a key stakeholder in the recent Allerdale Social Care modernisation consultation I wanted to let you know of the decision taken on 12<sup>th</sup> April by the County Council cabinet for modernised care services in Allerdale / Distington:

1. Invest in high level home care services to include related assistive technology packages to enable increasing numbers of people to be supported in their own homes
2. Invest in upgrades in line with University of Stirling Dementia Gold Standards at Parkside and Inglewood to improve the experience of residents with dementia.
3. Cease admissions to Woodlands and, over the next 12 months (depending on the needs of individual residents), close and de-register Woodlands as a residential care home.
4. Retain Park Lodge and work with the local community to explore the potential for a hub and spoke extra care model
5. Retain Richmond Park and work with the local community to develop options for an extra care scheme in the Workington area
6. To receive a subsequent report on the feasibility of the extra care model and scheme described above

In terms of making the decision James Airey, cabinet member for adult social care, said:

“We need to respond to the growth in our older population here in Cumbria. The modernisation of social care services is essential to ensure we can provide older people with choice about their care and support to live independently.

We have taken on board the concerns raised about availability of residential services. In both Aspatria and Workington ideas emerged from the consultation and we want to work with the community to explore those options in more detail.

In addition we will be investing in high level of support at home to enable more people to remain independent and upgrading care homes in Maryport and Wigton to improve the specialist care we provide to those who need it most.

We took the decision to close Woodlands as the building is dated and there are a number of alternative services already available that support people with high level needs. We will do everything we can to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for those affected.”

In terms of Woodlands, we realise that, for residents, families, friends and staff this will be a worrying decision. In arriving at this decision cabinet accepted that the building is dated and there are a number of alternative services already available that support people with high level needs.

I must stress that the closure process will not take place overnight and will involve a number of months of careful planning including work with residents and families to reassess needs and identify preferences and options for alternative accommodation. We will over the coming weeks be holding a series of resident / family meetings as well as meetings with our staff.

I hope this letter helps in terms of keeping you informed. If you have any specific questions then please feel free to contact me or Mark Hastings our Modernisation lead on 07973811194.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be 'R Parry', with a large loop at the top and a long, sweeping tail.

Richard Parry  
Corporate Director – Adult and Local Services

*The Adult and Local Services Directorate provides specialist adult social care services with public, face to face services including libraries, archives, registrars and local links.*