

MOTION – GIRTRELL COURT

Proposed by Councillor Chris Blakeley

Seconded by Councillor Bruce Berry

Following critical responses from users, carers, families and staff Council is concerned that the transitional arrangements put in place following the decision to close Girtrell Court do not appear to be providing the respect and dignity that was promised.

Council further notes that, while Girtrell Court is a 20 bed single floor bespoke respite centre which, according to the Director of Adult Social Care's latest description provides thirteen respite beds, two emergency beds and five placement breakdown beds the alternative provision will comprise a ten bed unit over three floors, providing, according to the Director of Adult Social Care, eight respite beds and two emergency beds with no provision for placement breakdown. Therefore Council does not believe this alternative is 'equal to or better' than that currently provided at Girtrell Court.

Council is also concerned that promises made to existing staff regarding the transitional arrangements are not being honoured and staff have been, and continue to be, left in a state of limbo.

Council therefore resolves to instruct officers to halt the closure programme for Girtrell Court and, instead, to invest the £1 million pound capital available to the Director in this excellent bespoke facility.