



House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

Cllr Bevan Craddock  
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DAVID KIDNEY MP  
*Working for all in Stafford Constituency*

Constituency Office  
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13 March 2007

Dear Bevan,

We have corresponded recently following the news that Staffordshire County Council are planning to close all their residential care homes in the County and I thought that you would like to be up-dated as to what steps I have taken in the interim.

In addition to correspondence that I had last year with the County Council and the Health Minister Ivan Lewis MP, I have:

- Written to the County Council objecting to the closures of the residential homes;
- Attended meetings at The Foxwalls in Stafford and Silverdene in Penkridge;
- Raised this matter in a debate in Parliament;
- Obtained a meeting with the Health Minister Ivan Lewis to discuss the situation in Staffordshire;
- Taken up a number of individual cases with the County Council; and
- Made arrangements to hold a seminar about "social enterprises" to examine whether this may provide a way of saving some homes, and other provision, from closure.

I enclose for your information a copy of the most recent reply that I have received from Eric Robinson dated 2 March 2007. I assume that you will have seen the Changing Lives FAQ sheet referred to in his letter to me but if I am wrong, please let me know and I will gladly copy this to you as well. More importantly, I enclose copy of the report of a court judgement which recently dismissed a legal challenge to the council's plans for closing residential homes in our County. This, I know, will come as a great disappointment to you.

You are very welcome to come to see me at one of my regular advice surgeries at the Chetwynd Centre (I hold these on the first and third Saturday of each month – except August – from 10 am until 12 noon and no appointment is required) or if this is not suitable, please contact my constituency office on 01785 22444 to make an appointment to meet me there

Yours sincerely,

DAVID KIDNEY MP

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