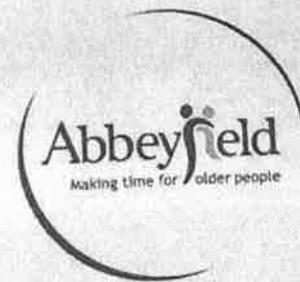


The Abbeyfield Society
Royal Patron HRH The Prince of Wales



Private and Confidential

Cllr Parkinson
13 Calf Hey
Lynwood Park
Clayton-le-Moors, Nr Accrington
Lancashire

13th September 2019

Dear Miles Parkinson,

Important update regarding Abbeyfield House in Accrington

As Chief Executive of The Abbeyfield Society, the charity which runs Oak Mansion House in Accrington, I wanted to write to you personally to inform you that, after much consideration, we are beginning consultations on the closure of the home.

As a responsible provider of residential care we carry out regular reviews into the quality, safety and long-term financial viability of our services. As part of a recent review, we have identified 22 Abbeyfield services which either no longer meet the needs of the older people living there; are unlikely to fulfil future regulatory obligations; or will soon be unable to meet the high standards the people who live in our homes now, or in the future, deserve and expect.

After many months of consideration, including looking carefully at whether further investment and renovations can solve these issues, **we have made the difficult decision to begin consultations on the closure of these services, including Abbeyfield House, in Accrington.**

This property requires extensive condition investment is needed, including electrical upgrades and full redecoration. The property has difficulty competing with other services in the area. Having conducted an in-depth review of the options available to us, we do not believe renovations or further investment will solve these issues and have no other choice but to begin consulting on the closure of the home.

The Abbeyfield Society

Registered Charity No. 200719; Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) No. H1046; Company No. 574816

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Registered in England and Wales

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Over the coming weeks we will be commencing a detailed consultation with residents and their loved ones where we will discuss the options available to them, as well as a comprehensive package of support designed to guide them through the process. The consultation will run from September to November, and **we can confirm that no decisions on closures will be made until January 2020 at the earliest.**

In the event of a closure, we will do everything in our power to find residents an alternative place at another nearby Abbeyfield Society or Abbeyfield Member Society home, where they will enjoy the same high standards they are used to. Where this is not be possible, or where a resident chooses a different service, we will do everything we can to support them to find a suitable new home in which they will be happy.

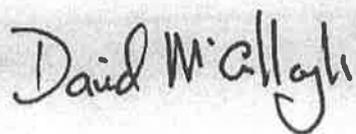
We will also be launching a formal consultation process with staff where we will set out their employment options. They will be fully supported by our HR team throughout this process.

We firmly believe this course of action is in the best interests of all the older people that we support now, and those we can and should support in the future. Any funds raised from the closure of the 22 services will be reinvested into the charity and the communities we support, allowing us to continue fulfilling our founding mission of alleviating loneliness amongst older people while building an Abbeyfield Society that is fit for the future.

I also want to be clear that, subject to the usual review process, we have no plans to start closure consultations on any other Abbeyfield Society homes for the foreseeable future. Housing remains a central part of The Abbeyfield Society's work, and we are actively pursuing a number of investments to make improvements to our housing services.

If you have any questions, or would like to arrange a meeting, please do not hesitate me at chiefexecutive@abbeyfield.com.

Yours sincerely,



The Abbeyfield Society