

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

6 August 2009

**REPORT OF  
CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

**Adult Services and Health – Lead Cabinet Member– Councillor Ann McCoy  
Regeneration and Transport - Lead Cabinet Member– Councillor Cook**

**INTEGRATED HEALTH AND CARE FACILITY, STOCKTON**

**1. Summary**

Following Stockton on Tees Teaching PCT's plans for the Alma Street site to develop an integrated health and care facility, this report provides an update on the feedback from the recent consultation with service users/ carers and stakeholders around the plans to re-provide the Alma Centre services to the Halcyon Centre.

**2. Recommendations**

Cabinet are asked

- 1) To note the feedback received from the consultation process.
- 2) To receive a further update report in September 2009 regarding the proposals regarding the Land Sales.

**3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)**

To enable the PCT to meet its timetable in line with its proposals for health service changes

To ensure that the re-provision of the existing services on this site are planned and developed

To ensure that day services continue to meet the needs of older people across Stockton Borough and that they are fit for purpose now and in the future.

#### 4. **Members' Interests**

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (paragraph 8) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (paragraph 12 of the Code).

**Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.**

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### **INTEGRATED HEALTH AND CARE FACILITY, STOCKTON**

#### **SUMMARY**

Following Stockton on Tees Teaching PCT's plans for the Alma Street site for an integrated health and care facility, this report provides an update on the feedback from the recent consultation with service users/ carers and stakeholders around the plans to re-provide the Alma Centre services to the Halcyon Centre.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet are asked

- 1) To note the feedback received from the consultation process.
- 2) To receive a further update report in September 2009 regarding the proposals regarding the Land Sales.

#### **BACKGROUND**

1. Stockton on Tees Teaching PCT has indicated that the Alma Street site is their preferred option for the Stockton Integrated Care Centre. This is subject to affordability and value for money. The PCT Board has approved the preferred option site and will progress to its approval process with the Full Business Case planned for sign off in February 2010.
2. Alma Street site has separate office accommodation (for approx 70 staff), a caretakers house and the Alma Centre - a day service facility for some adults with disabilities, older people and older people with mental health needs.
3. It is proposed that the existing day centre provision at Alma is transferred to the Halcyon centre Thornaby (on Thorntree Road/ the former Harewood Infants School). Additional capital works will be required to the Halcyon Centre to accommodate the expanded services.

## Consultation

3. In order to take forward these plans a period of consultation with service users, stakeholders and carers was held from 18 May to 22 June 2009. The focus of consultation was targeted at service users, carers and stakeholders related to the Alma Centre, as this was the main service impact, albeit specific reviews have been undertaken with other stakeholders who have been affected by these plans. A total of 40 service users and carers were involved in the meetings. A meeting with staff and union representatives (20) and people who use the facility on evenings was also undertaken (3). Staff have also supported individuals to highlight the proposed changes to ensure that specific concerns are picked up and noted as part of the consultation process.
4. Overall, the consultation process was positive and clients and carers understood the rationale for change. There were a number of comments on the proposals. The following themes were identified from the consultation.
  - Views on the changes for health facilities and a lack of understanding of what an integrated care centre was, how it differed from the existing GP facilities and what would be provided there.
  - Transport to and from the centre – difficulties in access and potential changes to current travel plans.
  - Continuity of staff – a wish to ensure that existing staff should move with the service.
  - Disruption and potential impact for clients, in particular those who attend the Kitwood Unit (the facility which supports the most vulnerable clients).
  - Design issues – a wish to maximise the garden space, to ensure that the future design meets client needs e.g. disabled WCs, car parking and drop off areas. The transfer of specific items from Alma to Halcyon e.g. piano, sewing machines, craft materials.
  - Norton and Billingham clients – a concern that they would not be able to remain with the Alma Centre group.

The details of the questions and responses are given in **Appendix A**. This has been circulated to all clients and carers.

## Service Issues

5. A project group is in operation which is reviewing the service implications. This group will take into account the feedback from consultation and incorporate this in its project plans.
6. There are a small number of staff who will be affected and redeployment options are being developed. The savings that will arise from the transfer of the Alma Centre are likely to be offset by the additional costs of transport that has been identified. The precise scale of transport costs is difficult to anticipate as there are likely to be changes to the clients who attend the Centre over time. However there are in the region of 10-12 clients who

currently attend the Alma Centre who have indicated that transport will be an issue. There are close links with the Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) review as transport and the criteria for transport is being considered as part of this review. The final implications will be informed by the recommendations of the Transport EIT review which will consider current criteria and possible flexible alternative transport options to meet individual needs.

7. Work has been undertaken to provide an initial scope of the work required at the Halcyon Centre and this estimate has been fed into the negotiations with the PCT around land values. Similarly, the Alma House office re-provision will be an additional cost that will be offset from the land sale. There are ongoing discussions with the caretaker to review alternative housing options however this has not been identified as a specific capital cost within the plans.

### **Next Steps**

8. The Council needs to agree the next steps. The PCT business case for an integrated health and care facility located on the Alma Street site must meet value for money and affordability requirements. The PCT approval processes differ from the Council and definitive sign off of their business case is not until February 2010. The building changes to the Halcyon Centre and associated costs will be required in advance of PCT approval process in order to meet PCT timetable for its building programme. However the land sale can be agreed in advance of the approval process via the PCT's third party developers (LIFT).
9. The PCT and Council are in negotiation regarding the land sale and it is anticipated that the land receipt will be sufficient to cover the costs of relocation to the Halcyon centre/ Office moves. A report to Cabinet in September 2009 will confirm the outcome of these negotiations and agreement will then be sought to proceed with the Sale.
10. A timetable for the works will be agreed and further detailed work will be undertaken to address the transport issues, transfer arrangements and staffing implications. Any transfer of the service will be based on the building works timetable but a provisional date will be May 2010.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

11. The PCT have identified Alma Street as their preferred option for the integrated care centre subject to affordability and value for money. The costs of service re-provision and capital changes to the Halcyon Centre will be considered as part of the sale of the Alma Street site. Detailed negotiations are currently being undertaken with PCT and their third party developers.
12. Additional costs around transport have been identified as part of the consultation process. At this stage it is difficult to quantify the precise costs as outlined in paragraph 6, however there is an expectation that the proposed changes should be revenue neutral as there will be some staff savings arising from the Centre transfer.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

13. Not applicable

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

14. A full risk assessment will be carried out as part of the project planning arrangements for the proposed service changes.

## **COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS**

15. The Sustainable Community Strategy (Shaping Our Future) for Stockton-on-Tees 2008-2021 sets out the vision and key improvement priorities for the local area. The provision of an integrated health and social care facility contributes to this strategy by creating vibrant and successful town centres and improving access to and a range of health and wellbeing services.
16. Stockton on Tees Council Plan 2008-2011 sets out directives aimed at helping create a sustainable community in which residents and local organisations play an active role in developing and maintaining their own environment and society. 'Being healthy, improved access to integrated services, improved health and emotional wellbeing, improved quality of life, increased choice and control, and leadership' are key objectives in the Borough.

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

17. The integrated health and care facility will be subject to the PCT's arrangements for equality impact assessment. The proposed transfer from Alma Centre to Halcyon Centre have been subject to an equality impact assessment. The EIA assessment was scored 73.

## **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

18. Consultation meetings have been arranged with service users and carers and day care staff. The consultation has included wider staff teams and interested stakeholders including Over 50s Assembly, Local Councillors, Trade Unions and Parish Councils.

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### **Background Papers**

Cabinet papers May 2009

### **Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:**

A briefing of Local Councillors has been undertaken.

### **Property**

The proposals are linked to the Asset Management Plans and have been considered via this route.

**STOCKTON ON TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CONSULTATION Q&A SUMMARY**

**PROPOSAL TO RE-PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES  
AND DEVELOP ALMA CENTRE SITE**

**Background**

A report was submitted to Cabinet on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2009 seeking permission to enter a period of formal consultation with clients, carers, employees and stakeholders of Alma Resource Centre regarding the development of the site as an integrated health and care facility and re-provision of the day care services to an alternative site.

Permission was granted and consultation began on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 ending on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009. During this time formal and informal meetings were scheduled on the following dates

- 11.05.09 Staff of Alma Centre (informal meeting prior to commencement of consultation period)
- 18.05.09 Staff of Alma Centre and community transport
- 18.05.09 Clients and Carers
- 19.05.09 Staff of Halcyon Centre Thornaby
- 20.05.09 Clients and Carers
- 21.05.09 Clients and Carers
- 09.06.09 Clients and Carers
- 15.06.09 Parish Council Meeting
- 17.06.09 Clubs and other stakeholders

Elected members were free to attend any of the above meetings' as were volunteers from the centre. The offer was made to speak to the clients and carers attending Halcyon centre but this was declined as they felt they had been fully advised by the manager Fiona Peel.

The head master of the school which shares the site of the Halcyon Centre was advised in a separate meeting with Fiona Peel, Alan Alton, Architect and Jane Matthews.

**Attendance**

In total the following numbers contributed to the consultation process.

- 20 employees of either Alma Centre or Community Transport. Trades Union representation was also included.
- 40 Clients/carers
- 3 Elected Members
- 1 Volunteer
- 2 Club representatives (A third joined later)

In addition to the above there were four letters received.

**Questions and Answers**

The following are the questions and then the comments from the combined meetings, letters and e-mails.



1. Will the staff from Alma Centre move with the clients?  
A Yes. There are a few roles which are duplicated and these will be looked at as part of the future processes but the majority of staff will transfer.
2. Will our gardener go to Halcyon?  
A There are quite large gardens at Halcyon and providing the gardener wishes to transfer it is likely that this will be accommodated. The gardener is a volunteer and as such is free to make his own choice.
3. Will staff integrate?  
A Yes. The centre name will be retained as Halcyon but the staff from both centres will be managed by one person and as such will all be part of one larger team.
4. Will our hairdresser go with us?  
A Since the meeting when this question was asked it has been agreed that she will.
5. Will Lucy (Pat dog) go with us?  
A Yes Lucy will most certainly be going to Halcyon.
6. Will Alma centre be knocked down?  
A Yes the entire site will be cleared including the offices and the Care Taker's house.
7. What about Kitwood clients. They may not be able to deal with the changes  
A We are aware of the vulnerability of the clients attending the Kitwood Unit and we will be working with them, their carers, Halcyon Centre manager, the staff and managers at Alma centre and the mental health team to make the transition as easy as possible. A room will be selected as their main base and decorated as closely as it can to the existing room they use. We will take advice from the Mental Health Team in supporting only proposed changes to minimise the disruption to these clients.
8. What are parking facilities like?  
A At the Halcyon centre they are limited at the moment as there is no need for more with the small numbers attending the centre but there is a great deal of surrounding land which can be developed as part of the overall work for parking, dropping off/collecting and community transport. The Architect appointed for the work will include parking needs in the plans.
9. Can mobility scooters be charged up at the centre?  
A As this is an individual issue we will look at it on an individual level. We would envisage that if this service is available at Alma Centre it will be provided at Halcyon.
10. Can the plants and equipment/furniture go with us?  
A Provided the plants can be lifted they can go. All the furniture and equipment will also go.

11. Halcyon is further away for some. What can they do if they have a problem getting there.
- A It is further for some but closer for others. It is 1.8 miles from Alma centre. Anyone who will find it difficult to get to the new centre will have their needs looked at by the community transport section.
12. Can people who currently walk to Alma Centre access transport?
- A Each person's needs will be looked at by the transport section.
13. Disabled toilets need to be higher than they are at Alma centre
- A There are some requirements placed on the height and other dimensions of facilities and this will be assessed with advice from health professionals.
14. Has the building work started?
- A There is building work underway to re-furbish the Kitchen, but this was scheduled regardless of the Alma centre move.
15. When can we visit?
- A It is too soon yet but when building work is far enough on to safely permit visitors we will arrange visits in groups through community transport.
16. Will our charges increase?
- A No. The move will not make any difference to the fees. Also see Q 70
17. Will children from the school access the centre?
- A Only on a supervised and planned basis. The children have shared some events with the clients of the centre and these events were a huge success. The clients were also entertained by the children at Christmas.
18. Section 4 of the cabinet report stated that only 20 clients can attend Halcyon. There are more than that now.?
- A The information in the cabinet report gives the current situation and not the future plans. Only one unit of the Halcyon centre is used at the moment for clients. There are a further two units waiting to be developed ready for future use by more people.
19. Will clients from Norton go to Halcyon or Parkside at Billingham?
- A No new clients have been accepted at Alma centre from Norton for several years. The ones who currently attend will be given the option of remaining with their existing group or transferring to Parkside.
20. What will happen with regard any additional costs incurred by staff due to their travelling further?
- A There is quite a long lead in time to the proposed plan and this will give us time to address individual issues. The policy on disturbance payments will be circulated and with a copy to the Trades Union. Some staff will actually be better off as the distance is shorter than they are currently travelling.

21. If Norton clients elected to go to Parkside would this lead to a reduction in the current staffing levels?

A Any reduction in the short term would not impact on staff levels as it would be anticipated that new clients would take their place.

22. Will transportation of clients clash with children leaving school?

A The times of children and clients leaving the site is not a problem at the moment and with careful planning it is anticipated that both can be accommodated satisfactorily.

23. I start work at 10am or 11am and always have difficulty parking?

A See response to question 8

24. Is Halcyon centre a secure building?

A Yes. The internal exits lead out to enclosed gardens and the front aspect has a security lock. The centre is also situated down a very long drive way so anyone leaving by the front door who should not be doing so will have quite a long walk before accessing the road.

25. Will there be a smoking area for clients?

A Yes they will be able to access specified parts of the garden where the shelter can be set up. When the no smoking rule came into force at the centres we were given a dispensation for clients to be able to smoke in the grounds but not in the building. There are a number of areas where this can be facilitated.

26. How do the staff at Halcyon view this move?

A They are delighted that the remainder of the building is to be developed and that they are going to be joined by staff and clients who share their work and outlook.

27. Is there a hairdressing room at Halcyon?

A Yes there is. (See answer to question 4)

28. Can staff retain their current clients for whom they are key worker?

A Initially this may be the same but as it is intended that the two services will merge it may become necessary for some clients and some key workers to change. Clients choice will be respected as far as is possible but when some workers have a disproportionate number of clients compared to colleagues, there may need to be some negotiation regarding change.

29. Can staff undertake swap visits?

A This could be arranged through the managers of each centre.

30. Is there a computer facility for clients and is it used at Halcyon?

A Yes there is a computer room and the computers from Alma centre will transfer across. As there are only 15 to 20 clients attending each day at the moment, computer use at Halcyon is not extensive.

31. Will the cost of transport to the centre be more than it is currently?

A No.

32. Why not wait until the new hospital is built at Wynyard then use parts of North Tees Hospital for this new health service?

A These new locality based services need to be in place as soon as possible to reduce the need for the larger centralised hospital. It is the aim of the integrated health and care services to provide minor operations, procedures, diagnostics and tests as locally as possible. There are already plans to develop integrated services in Billingham and expansion of GP premises in Yarm.

33. Will there be a range of activities at Halcyon the same as there currently is at Alma centre?

A Halcyon manager and Alma centre managers have all worked hard to develop a very wide range of activities for clients. Both centres can offer a great deal to clients.

34. Would there be the possibility of a project to be undertaken by the current clients to 'make' something that reminds them of the Alma centre and their role within it? Also could they make something to 'hang' in the new health facility as a reminder of what went before?

A A tapestry is underway now and this will be a piece of work started at Alma centre and finished for Halcyon. The concept of a wall hanging for the health centre is worth considering and the client committee will be approached re this.

35. Are there active client/carer committee's at both centres and how will they merge?

A Committee members are elected each year and it may be that an election could be timed shortly after the move to ensure representation was across both groups.

36. Why was this site selected?

A There were a number of sites explored as part of the assessment. However the Alma Street site was the preferred option as it was a good central site, easily accessible with the necessary space to accommodate the PCT requirements and good links to the GP practices located nearby.

37. We are very short of toilets here at the Alma centre will there be more at Halcyon?

A Floor plans of the Halcyon site were distributed and it was explained that inside each unit were a block of male and female toilets. These will be upgraded so that clients spending time in any of the three alternative units will be able to access a toilet quite near to the activity rooms. It was explained at all the meetings that we wanted to take with us the best and good ideas from Alma centre but also take the opportunity to include those aspects of the service which were currently lacking, such as the garden, wc's etc.

38. Why have they not provided a new purpose built centre?

A Halcyon has a great deal of unused capacity and this space can be developed to suit the needs of clients.

39. How will Halcyon Centre be accessed on an evening

A This issue is still to be resolved. At Alma centre the caretaker is able to undertake that duty. We have no such arrangement in place at

Halcyon. We will be making enquiries at the school to see if they have a caretaker but if not we may need to make alternative arrangements and if this is an additional cost to the service this may need to be passed to the clubs.

40. Will we be able to access the centre earlier or leave later than scheduled if we have special events on?

A Once access arrangements are clear there should be no problem with variations to times.

41. Will the site be safe?

A The entire site is set in a residential area with housing on two sides. There is also a sturdy fence around the entire site. The current service at Halcyon has not experienced any vandalism or problems with anti social behaviour to date.

42. We are concerned about the distance club members have to walk from the road side to the front door

A The service is currently used by clients who are older people and this has not been a problem for them.

43. We will need a light fitting in the centre that flashes when a fire alarm is activated for the profoundly deaf members.

A Any modification or additional equipment will need to be included in the tender and the cost assessed

44. Is there a step in front of the centre. This can be difficult for members

A There is a gradual slope providing access not a step.

45. Will our equipment cupboards go with us

A Everything will go.

46. Will it cost us anything

A See answer to Q 16

47. We don't have an income and may not be able to pay

A The clubs have all been given free access to facilities, utilities and the care takers costs in the past. While we wish to continue to support clubs by continuing to provide as much as we can at no charge, any additional costs incurred exclusively for the clubs will need to be funded by the clubs.

48. Cabinet report is difficult to follow

A Yes they can be difficult to follow but its use at the consultation meetings was as a guide only and to show interested parties exactly what was being proposed. This is why Ruth goes through the main points and simplifies them.

49. Will there be tea making facilities at Halcyon

A The kitchen is currently being re-furbished and will be accessible when finished.

50. Can we play Bingo

A Most certainly

51. Can we hold extra events  
A Provided opening and closing arrangements are in place and the centre is not being used you are very welcome.
52. When can we visit  
A Ideally late summer when the kitchen is complete and some of the external work is complete. It is a bit of a building site at the moment and movement around the centre and grounds is carefully monitored.
53. Please can Becky or Sue let us know when it is appropriate to visit.  
A Yes this can be arranged
54. Will the Council profit from the land sale and proposed changes?  
A The revenue from the land sales will be needed to fund the development of the Halcyon centre and enable some of the office moves to be undertaken. It is unlikely that there will be any profit.
55. Why not use empty space rather than the Alma Site?  
A The PCT did look at a number of sites but only this one provided all the requirements for access, convenience, location and car parking etc.
56. There are concerns about wasted money. Why are you doing this?  
A The plans are about developing services closer to people's homes and meeting the needs of the population. The PCT has done a lot of work in understanding the future needs and believe that the new building will be an excellent new service. As part of the approval process there are many "checks and balances" that are undertaken to ensure that we do not waste money.
57. When can we transfer to the new service?  
A The time scales are difficult to accurately determine but the PCT had hoped to have access to the site by February 2010. However, the move will not take place until the new site is ready and if that means a delay then the time scale will slip.
58. How old is Alma Centre  
A It was built in 1974/5
59. When will this building be demolished?  
A This will be subject to the building timetable that the PCT sets. At this stage we do not know but would expect this to be sometime in 2010
60. Will there be sufficient space for the combined services  
A Only one part of the building is currently occupied by the service users. There are two further modules of a comparable size to be developed and although the structure is different the floor space that can be used for activities etc is larger than Alma centre. Alma has a great deal of commuting space in corridors etc.
61. Can we be involved in 'Momentum' plans  
A Yes – at this stage there are no formal consultation processes ongoing, but as the plans develop the PCT and Hospital will publicise various updates. There is a web link which details more of the plans <http://www.momentum.nhs.uk/momentum/background>

62. How certain are these planned changes  
A Nothing is absolutely certain as the PCT still has some approval processes to go through. However, the PCT is committed to this venture and has indicated that the Alma Site is its preferred option.
63. What is the impact on staff?  
A Most of the staff will transfer with clients. Only a very small number of posts will need to be reviewed due to duplication.
64. We can see the benefits but we are trapped by transport  
A As we have highlighted people who currently have a Council Bus to the Centre will still be able to use the bus. Those who have identified specific difficulties accessing Halcyon Centre will have their details taken and the Transport Manager will work through the various options that may be available to them
65. Can I park my van at the centre? I want written permission to have a parking space for my van  
A There will need to be additional parking provided for service users and staff alike. The requirements are being fed into the plans.
66. Will there be a good Cook?  
A The Cooks at both sites are excellent
67. Will there be instructors to support woodwork etc  
A Care staff undertake activities at Halcyon in the same way as they do currently at Alma Centre. Large scale woodwork is not necessarily an option as this needs specialist trainers and equipment. However there is a very ambitious programme of activities on offer every day and these should meet most people's needs. Any new activities can be considered but the demand and practicality of such introductions needs to be considered.
68. Has it a loop system?  
A No but we will consider this as part of the requirements for the new areas.
69. Which beers can we have?!  
A We will offer drinks and refreshments throughout the day as we do now!
70. Will fees go up?  
A Not as a result of the change in site. Any increase in the future would have been introduced to take into account annual fee increases as they occur now.
71. Where can I get more information about the plans and be involved in the hospital plans etc  
A There is a link to a site that could be useful. It is <http://www.momentum.nhs.uk/momentum/index.html>
72. Why are the PCT not building more services at Ingleby Barwick?  
A The PCT has considered the needs of the whole population of Stockton in the development of services. These plans have been

focused on central Stockton because feedback from the public has highlighted the importance of central location, ease of public transport and parking etc.

73. Will the corridors and spaces be suitable for wide wheelchairs?  
A All of the rooms and access routes are very spacious and are used by wheelchair users currently.
74. Will there be disabled car parking?  
A The whole issue of car parking is under review and the requirements are being addressed by the Architect. However, there will be disabled car parking for the Centre
75. There are concerns regarding the site access. This is very narrow  
A Plans have been agreed with the Head Master of the school to modify the entrance.
76. Would it be possible to have a light controlled or Zebra crossing outside the school in order for pupils to use this for access rather than using shared routes with traffic?  
A This is also going to be looked at as part of the overall building tender.
77. What will the new management/staff structure look like?  
A The new facility will have one manager, a deputy and the combined workforce of both centres in terms of care staff, clerical staff and kitchen staff. There may be a few duplicated posts however we will work with the affected staff to review.
78. Will the staff structure for the Kitwood Unit be sorted before the move?  
A No we will retain the current structure and review the requirements after the move.
79. What about staff on temporary contracts?  
A They will have their contracts extended to take account of the move.
80. Will the new centre run as three separate units?  
A No. The Kitwood unit will have a consistent base but all other clients will access all parts of the centre. Kitwood clients will access other areas as required in the same way as they do now at Alma Centre.
81. Will open hours remain the same?  
A Basic opening times are between 8.30am and 4.30pm. This will be the same but there is no guarantee that this will be unchanged as the service develops in the future.
82. Why were we not advised of these plans earlier?  
A There is never a right time and sharing information with a large group of people and on different sites etc has to be planned in order that everyone gets to know at about the same time. In this case Becky and Sue were only advised a week before you and that was to enable them to absorb the information and the implications in order to support their staff and clients appropriately.



83. It will take me longer to get to Thornaby?  
A Halcyon is only 1.8 mile away from Alma centre but planning staff start and finish times will be negotiable.
84. Will our jobs be the same?  
A Your job role will be the same.
85. Will the new additions to the Halcyon Centre cause traffic problems for the schools?  
A As clients attending the centre are transported primarily in large buses there should not be a problem. Also the school starts at 9am while the bulk of the clients arrive after 9am. The transport manager is looking at the return home times in order that there is the minimum amount of cross over with the school times.
86. Will the clubs have to provide their own personal liability insurance to use the facilities at Halcyon centre  
A Yes but the Council's Community Development Manager Stephen Shaw will be able to help and support you in this process.
87. Will there be a charge for clubs using the new facilities?  
A There may be a charge for costs incurred beyond the normal remit of the centre such as payment to open and lock the facility after hours. We will look to minimise this cost but cannot fund it from operational budgets.
88. How will a club member who lives across from Alma Centre be provided for in terms of transport to access the Thornaby centre?  
A Dial a Ride service may be an alternative option for this member. It operates within the boundaries of Stockton every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. More information is available via the Dial a Ride booking line Tel: 01642 527 159
89. Will the staff structure for the Kitwood Unit be sorted before the move?  
A No we will retain the current structure and review the requirements after the move.

**Comments:**

I have no confidence in the political process at all from whatever quarter

People don't like change

I feel that the whole issue was being dealt with sensitively for such vulnerable people.

The chairs in the pictures are not suitable for people with back problems

Benefits on both sides are noted

No one wants change but if this benefits Stockton we can understand

We have a good working arrangement with the Halcyon Centre and the manager in particular and I'm confident that we can work together to get the best solution for both services.

