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Background

We were asked by Haringey Adult Services to undertake facilitated consultations with people who had no relatives or friends to support them in actively participating in the consultation about the future of adult services. We provided support to residents of three homes which may be facing closure; Cranwood, Broadwater Lodge and Red House.

Method

We undertook consultations at Cranwood on Thursday 7th July 2011, Broadwater Lodge on Friday 8th July 2011 and at Red House on Tuesday 12th July 2011. Information on the background to the proposed changes was given to the residents and then each person was asked to individually go through the consultation questionnaire with one of our advocates and have their views and comments recorded.

Responses

At Cranwood we met with 5 residents, at Broadwater Lodge we met with 9 residents and at Red House we met with 8 residents. Completed forms have been passed to the Interim Head of Service (Change Management).

Summary

Q1 The extent to which individuals support or not support the closures were;

- o 3 strongly support,
- o 3 support,
- o 6 neither support or not support,
- o 1 do not support,
- o 5 strongly do not support.
- \circ 4 individuals were not able to answer the question.

Q3 Of the individuals we spoke to;

- \circ 9 understood why the Council were proposing to close homes
- o 5 were not sure

o 5 had no understanding.

Q9 When looking at what was important to individuals there was a range of responses. The highest scoring choices that were ranked as a '1' were;

- o 12 'Well trained at friendly staff'
- o 6 'A garden or outside space'
- 6 'Home cooked nutritious food'
- \circ 10 'Good size bedroom with its own bathroom'
- o 6 'Plenty of social activities'
- o 7 'Space for entertaining visitors in private'
- o 8 'Enough space for some possessions and my own furniture'
- o 6 individuals did not answer this question.

Quotes

Comments from those who supported the closure included;

"They should close it because I can move to another." (Red House resident)

"Because the council could save money" (Cranwood resident)

Comments from those who did not support the closure included;

"I'm used to the place" (Red House resident)

Comments from those who neither support or do not support the closure included;

"They going to close it anyway so why do I need to say anything?" (Red House resident)

Comments on how residential care could be provided differently included;

"They (the council) know what they are doing so leave it to them" (Red House resident)

"Do more activities, keep our brain active" (Red House resident) "... would like staff to have more time to listen" (Broadwater Lodge resident)

"Mentally ill people should not be living with elderly people as it gets a very unsettled environment" (Broadwater Lodge resident)

"I would like to be in an environment that makes me feel younger" (Cranwood resident)

"More day trips" (Broadwater Lodge resident)