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Mrs V Skinner
Clerk to the Council
Boston Spa Parish Council
The Village Hall
High Street
Boston Spa
LS23 6AA

Dear Mrs Skinner

Primrose Hill residential care home

Many thanks for your letter on behalf of the Parish Council and for the comments and questions you raise in your letter. This has been passed to the team that is evaluating the information gathered during the consultation. The points you make are part of a valuable body of evidence that is being considered as we draw up our further report and recommendations to be considered by the Council's Executive Board in September.

I am grateful for an opportunity to respond to your specific concerns in writing: they are all complex issues, to which I acknowledge that the question and answer session in the public meeting did not do full justice.

Meeting demand for care

The methodologies we have used to calculate and forecast demand include national work on provision of older people's housing and care from the 'More Choice Greater Voice' toolkit, which was published by the Department of Health in February 2008. It was prepared specifically to accompany the government's new National Housing Strategy for an Ageing Society to offer guidance to commissioners and providers to enable them to forecast demand and produce accommodation and care strategies for older people.

Alongside this national methodology, local initiatives have been incorporated and brought up to date with 2011 census data, which was released on 30 January 2013. These include work carried out for Leeds City Council in 2009 by Cordis Bright and their associates Planning4Care. The latter organisation, affiliated to Oxford University, produced the 'Planning4Care analysis toolkit' to help project demand for services in the future. The toolkit has been used across a number of Local authorities including Kirklees, Wigan and Cumbria to assist with their strategies for older people's housing, including what type of accommodation and care to provide and to what level. This re-evaluates and re-defines the residential demand figures proposed by the More Choice Greater Voice methodology by considering the impact of additional factors such as the availability of community preventive services and alternative accommodation to meet older people's support and care needs.