

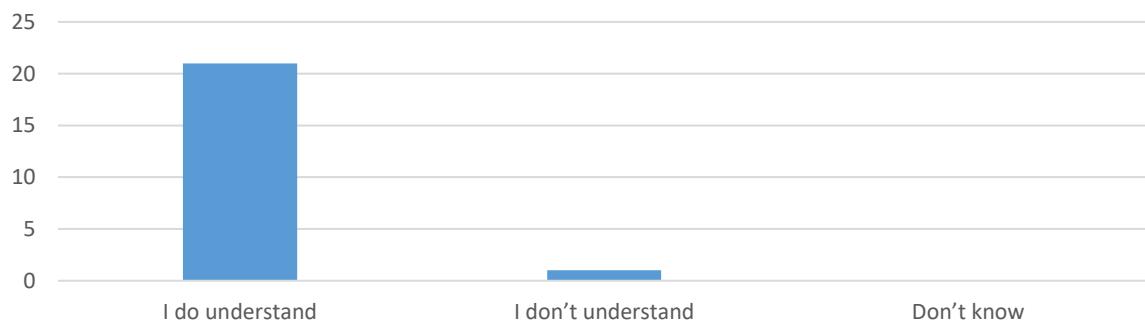
Appendix 3a) Consultation Survey Questionnaire Detailed Responses

Home Lea House General Public Consultation, January to March 2021 - Survey Results

(22 Responses)

After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?		
I do understand	I don't understand	Don't know
21	1	0

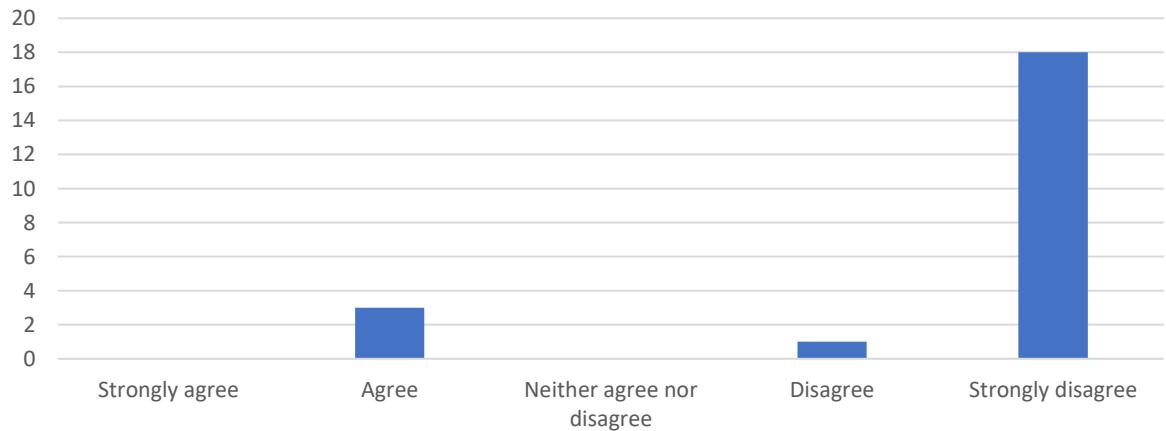
After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?



How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Home Lea House long stay residential care home? Please tick one box.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
0	3	0	1	18

How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Home Lea House long stay residential care home?



Please tell us the reason for your answer

My great grandmother resides in the care home. As a family, we placed her in several care homes, in which she didn't feel comfortable, until settling on Home Lea. Closing the home would result in great distress and anxiety for her, which has been magnified after a year not understanding why her family have hardly been able to see her, and would potentially ruin the peace we expected for her in what are likely her final years with us. While I understand long stay is not for everyone and others will want to stay at home for as long as possible, this is simply not possible for her. Instead she has somewhere she feels at home and where she is superbly cared for.

Rothwell is a large community that requires local services for its people. It is not well served by public transport to enable friends and relatives to visit care homes in other areas especially elderly people. Where people have lived together at home and one is now in care easy access is required. Dolphin Manor is described as being Council run but it's not too long since you wanted to close that. It was saved through local action and now you are suggesting that is all that will be left! Please do not close Home Lea. It is a lovely friendly caring home that we need.

The residents living in Home Lea House have made a carefully considered decision to move in here after looking around to find the most suitable home for them. They have then moved in and settled into their new home and become comfortable in their new home. They are now facing the possibility of having the trauma and upheaval of having to be moved. A number of residents within the home, including both of my grandmothers have dementia, along with other health conditions. The thought of them having to move at their ages, 93 and 89, is just unthinkable. The fact that the proposed closure is solely based on saving money is absolutely disgusting and totally wrong. These people have lived in the local area all of their lives and should, therefore, be able to stay living within the area, surrounded by their families and friends, and not have the worry of having to find a new home. This could then potentially mean they will have to move out of the area to somewhere they have no family or friends around to visit them.

The Council should not put the onus on the private sector to look after our elderly.

I am Rothwell born and bred. Home Lea is an amazing home, the residents are settled and really happy there. It would be a real shame to see it close. Rothwell and surrounding areas are forever growing in size, houses are been thrown up everywhere you look. People are living longer and leaving the area with only one care home will not be enough. Local people will not be able to stay in the area they love, it's just wrong. I am a tax payer and I'm sure the Council can cut back elsewhere to save this wonderful home.

It is a much needed well run residential home which gives an opportunity for local residential care.

Why are the Council still wasting our (tax payers) money on stupid Leeds 2023? No one wants this or any other of Judith Blake's money wasting schemes in Leeds. Why not invest in making these 2 homes more modern, viable and attract some private paying customers to help up keep. These facilities once gone will never be replaced and means Council social spending increases on private homes lining the pockets of greedy owners of elderly care facilities. Keep the homes and not a bean more to be spent on Leeds 2023.

Because better care can be provided to people in a non-profit setting. I strongly disagree with the state paying profit making organisations for care. There is still a shortage of care beds - there a huge amount of 'super stranded' patients awaiting care packages in NHS beds

The care residents receive at Home Lea is excellent. As a Council run home, residents family feel secure knowing their loved ones are being cared for at a high level. A lot of private care homes seem to think it is more important to have pianos and chandeliers rather than good quality care.

These care homes are essential for the elderly in our community. My grandma has been here for 12 months. She is coming up to 98. This was a stressful time after living independently for 97 years. The home made her feel at ease and she has adjusted well. Moving these residents further

a field where family may not be able to visit will isolate families and cause unnecessary stress. My grandma pays for her own care and sold her house to fund this.

Care homes are needed for old people to be cared for in the community. It's on a bus route for family members to be able to travel to see them.

I completely disagree with this decision as there are many residents in Home Lea including my two grandmas that have dementia. One of which has always been very unsettled, that was until she moved into Home Lea. My grandma now sees Home Lea as her home and I believe it would be too upsetting and unsettling to move any of the residents that live there. The staff are very professional and always make visitors welcome. It would be such a shame if the home were to close as it makes so many people happy, both residents and the people that visit, as we can see how happy and settled our family members are.

Both my grandmas are living in Home Lea House and they are both happy and settled. They both have dementia and they don't need the worry of getting kicked out of their homes on top of having that! All their family live in the Rothwell area and there's only one other care home in Rothwell and that has no room for any new residents, so if they got kicked out of Home Lea they would have to move out of the area and that would be very upsetting for them and also detrimental to their health and also their families.

Home Lea House is a much loved local facility. Rothwell is very much a family community and older people here value their local links. If I were ever to need care, I would be much happier in my own area where family and older friends can visit.

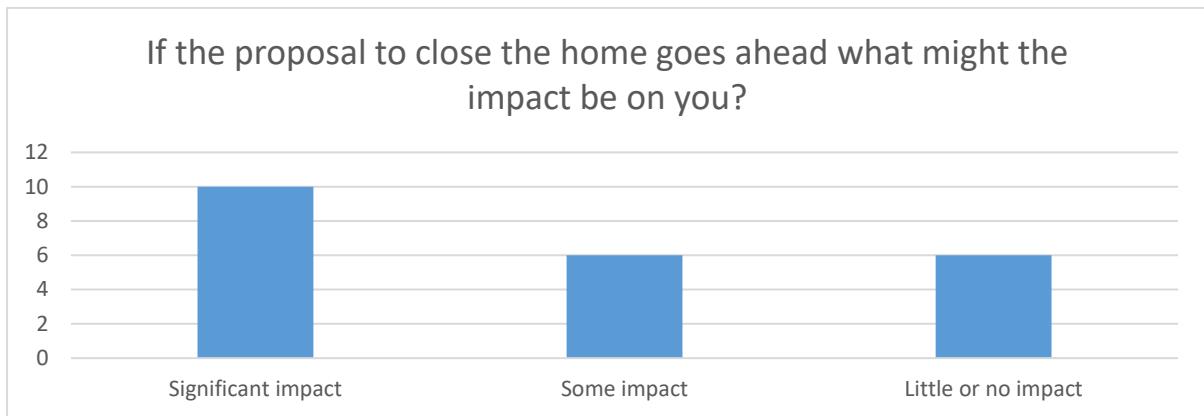
This provides a lovely home for local residents and surrounding areas. I understand that Dolphin is also in the area but in these times with care needs for the elderly in great demand I feel it will be a great loss to the area, and in the grand scheme of things what the Council will save by closing Home Lea it's a drop in the ocean.

My 97 year old grandma is a resident at this care home. For my grandma, a very proud lady, it was a huge decision to leave her home, her independence to move into a care home. She was frightened that she would be neglected and not looked after in the way she deserved. It was important to her to pick the right care that she was going to spend her remaining years at. The staff at Home Lea House have not only been kind, friendly and attentive to her every needs, they have also been a great source of comfort, when we as family have been unable to visit during the pandemic. Home Lea have become a surrogate family to the residents.

My mum moved to Home Lea House in February 2020, just before lockdown. We had suffered a horrible year, where my mum's mobility deteriorated to a point where as a family we couldn't cope with her living by herself. We fell in love with Home Lea straight away and the staff have supported both mum and us throughout a traumatic year with the extra trauma of Covid. It is her home where she feels secure, well cared for and loved. Where her 'family' of friends and staff live and work to help our elderly relatives live happily and thrive. I don't think the proposal to close Home Lea takes this into consideration. Who wants to move house in your 80's? For people like my mum, the Council home was, and is the best option to keep her safe and stable and for families to relax in the knowledge that the standard of care is high.

I think the private sector have got their act together and, as the report says, this is currently a declining market. The land is also prime development land and the income could boost the Council coffers. Dolphin Manor is the more modern of the two and should be retained.

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?		
Significant impact	Some impact	Little or no impact
10	6	6



Please tell us the reason for your answer
It would cause stress and anxiety for all the family as we seek to find somewhere that will suit my great grandmother, but most of all, it will worsen her final years.
As above.
There would be a significant impact on me and my family. I have two family members currently living in Home Lea House and they are both very settled and happy. I visit my grandmothers every couple of days (before Covid 19), with my four children. We all enjoy walking to Home Lea House and seeing just how happy they are living in there, and being able to spend time with them. If the proposed closure goes ahead, this would impact us significantly as we would not be able to visit them as often which would consequently affect both of my grandmothers' mental health. As they both suffer with dementia, the visits they receive from family living in the local area is critical for their overall wellbeing. We have lots of family living in the local area that frequently visit Home Lea House, however if they are forced to move, these family members would not be able to get to other areas to visit them.
I don't have anyone in there but may need it in the future.
I don't have family at the home, however, I know its fabulous reputation within the area. When I grow old who will take care of me? Like the residents in the home who have paid Council Tax/National Insurance all their lives, why should the older people be affected. Why can't the Council cut back in other areas? This money saving exercise will be a massive loss to the community of Rothwell should the home close. I am strongly against this.
I have a mother who is in her nineties who receives care at home by a care firm but I think she would be better looked after in a local residential home as between care visits it is a very lonely existence. There is a great chance this would not be available for her locally without Home Lea House.
I might need these facilities one day.
I work in adult social care and there is already a shortage of good care homes.
We have no idea what will happen and how this change could affect my grandma's health.
If my mum mother-in-law needed to go into a home I would choose this one.
At the moment me and my two children are able to visit both my grandmas as we live in Rothwell so can walk there. I have two brothers and one sister who also visit with their children and my

parents. None of us want to see any of the residents upset. Home Lea is their home and they shouldn't be in a way evicted from it.
If they closed Home Lea House it would have a big impact on me because I would be constantly worrying about my grandma's mental health and well-being. It would also impact me because before Covid hit I was able to walk up to the care home to visit my grandmas at least once a week. If they were moved out of area I'd hardly be able to see them due to my wife working and needing the car. I wouldn't be able to walk to see them if they weren't living in the area.
Sadly I have terminal cancer so the thought I have had about eventually going into Home Lea is no longer relevant, but I have many older friends who could be impacted if this place was lost.
I am a chef within Leeds City Council so I feel it could impact on my job. I also really feel sad for the residents as I feel this will unsettle them.
The impact on us as a family is significant as we now have the stress and the anxiety of trying to find another care home that will be able to care for my grandma the way Home Lea has.
I am worried about the impact on my mum's physical, mental and emotional well-being if she has to move home, especially during the times of Covid and the worry and uncertainty this brings. She is easily upset and anxious about everything and will not cope with any change.
I'm early 60s so hopefully a care home is a few years off but I would not be looking at Home Lea as my first choice for myself or my family.

What could the Council do to reduce the potential impact?
If the Council is to move residence, it should do so in a phased approach, where residents are slowly introduced to their new home to see if it suits them and to lessen the distress on them. It should also consider a longer time line than the one proposed so that families can make arrangements and so that residents can be prepared.
As Rothwell is quite isolated I don't think there is anything that could lessen the impact.
Do not close the care home.
Keep it open.
Don't close the home, look at other areas that can cope with a cut in funding.
Nothing, once it's gone it will never be replaced and will be a great loss.
Keep them open and invest in them.
Keep the beds open.
Not close the home - investment in the building.
Not close the home.
Keep it open.
Keep Home Lea open.
Build another care home in Rothwell!
Sorry, no ideas.
Don't close the home.
Not close. I believe choosing to close ANY care home under the current circumstances is insensitive.
Obviously the best outcome would be to keep Home Lea open. To reduce impact we would be hopeful for her to move to another Council run home (e.g. Dolphin Manor) as we appreciate the standards of care she has received and mum seems to feel happier about a possible move to Dolphin Manor. It would be good if some of her friends could move together, and even staff if this was possible.
N/A.

Please state if there is another viable approach which you believe should be considered?
I'm sure the Council has done as much as it can (and I sympathise with them over the financial position the government has put them in) but other services should be cut and infrastructure projects should be scaled back. Importantly, I believe this should be done in Leeds City Centre where it often seems the wealth of the city is pumped back into.
Keep it open, allow continued choice, look at budget cuts in other areas.
Look to save money in other areas, instead of the elderly and vulnerable. They do not deserve this at this time in their life.
No.
Keep it open and save money elsewhere.
Yes, try changing the law to stop greedy selfish people playing the social care system. Sick of hearing about wealthy families who get parents to sign over property to children so they don't have to pay a penny of elderly care bills - people who know how to play the system. No wonder council social care costs are out of control when not everyone is paying their way. Council run homes must be there for those who genuinely can't afford to pay for care, to create/keep jobs running homes and to ensure capacity for care is always available. Too many horror stories about privately run home care so that's not always the right approach either.
Council care homes provide a better level of care.
N/A.
Stop wasting money like on park and rides that don't get used.
Keep Home Lea open.
It is hard to believe that a community of 22,000 cannot fully use 2 homes. I think there are many in their own homes who put up with isolation and risk unnecessarily because funding demands the cheapest minimum provision.
I think that care homes for the elderly should be last on the list for closures because of the negative impact this has on the residents. It is after all their HOME. I think that although important, things like clubs and day centres should be looked at first. I feel that leisure and the arts should be looked at, e.g proposals to close Lotherton Hall for part of the week. I strongly believe that the Council run home is still needed in our community to provide for elderly people like my mum. Private care homes do not have the trust with older people and the high fees can be a problem.
None.

Finally, do you have any other comments?
Yes, Rothwell in my view has been targeted. We have lost our Council offices, nursery and day centre and the other support services for elderly people and families with children at home have been massively cut, leading to much more need for emergency response and loneliness. Keep Home Lea open, add some day care facilities or short term respite facilities, work with live at home scheme to identify who is vulnerable and needs help.
It's wrong how the Council are off loading everything. What exactly are they running?
Please re-think, saving such a small amount of money in the grand scheme of things isn't worth closing an amazing home. The area can't cope with only one home.
Saving money by closing a good quality well run well staffed residential home for old frail people cannot be the way forwards. Look to saving money in areas of less impact.
As above.

The biggest issue with residential care homes that are privately run is that they can charge what they like. It's time there was a charging cap on residential care.

Please do not close this brilliant care home.

It would be a huge mistake to close Home Lea House. So many people call it home and a lot of staff have a stable job. Please reconsider the decision and stop the uncertainty to the poor residents and staff.

If Home Lea House were made to close, it would have a massive negative impact on a lot of people! All the people living in Home Lea and all the residents' family and friends. Most of the residents that live there have grown up and lived in Rothwell all their lives and are very old and have health issues, the last thing they need in their condition is to be kicked out of their homes. They have made strong relationships with each other in there and become good friends so they would be devastated if they got dragged apart from each other and stuck in another care home god knows where!

Just that it is a home with a great reputation.

I just feel sad that this may close and have a huge impact on the elderly residents.

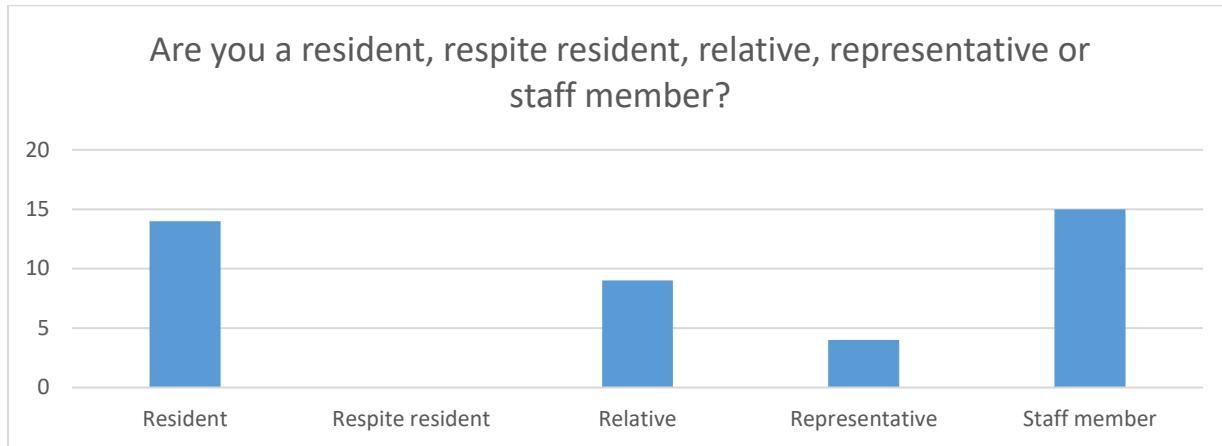
I would like to thank everyone working at Home Lea for their constant hard work during the last year. I couldn't have asked for a better home for my mum and wish and hope that the Council decide to keep such a crucial facility open.

No.

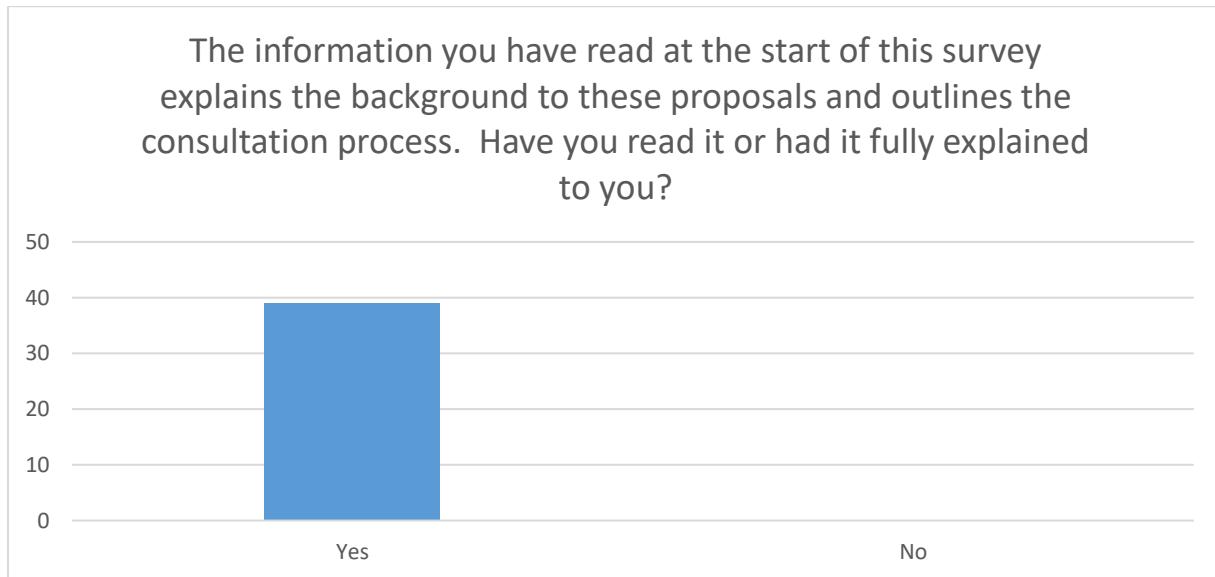
Home Lea House Consultation, January to March 2021 - Survey Results (39 Responses)

Are you a?				
Resident	Respite resident	Relative	Representative	Staff member
14	0	9	4	15

Please note the answer to the above could be more than one category.



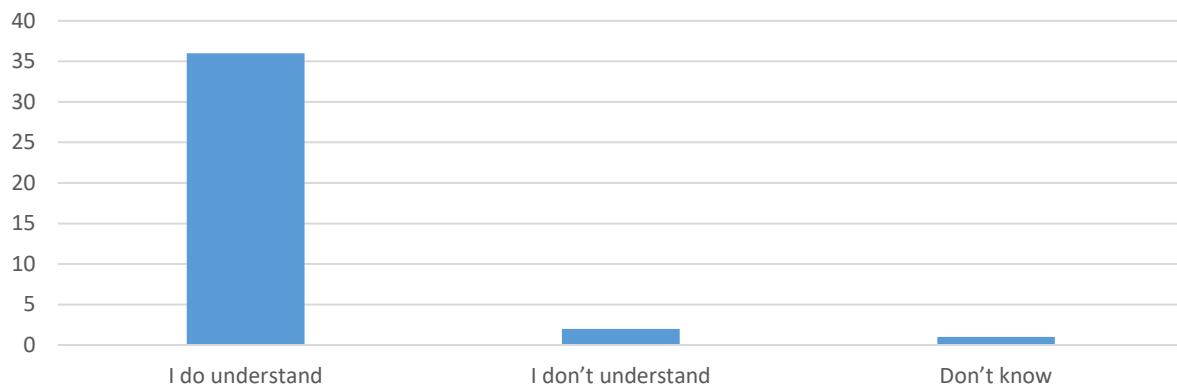
The information you have read at the start of this survey explains the background to these proposals and outlines the consultation process. Have you read it or had it fully explained to you?	
Yes	No
39	0



After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?

I do understand	I don't understand	Don't know
36	2	1

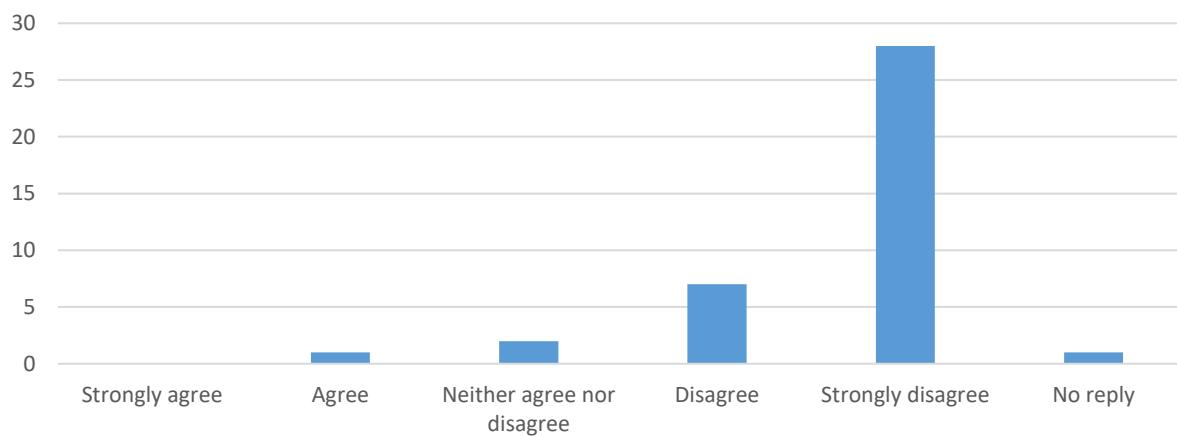
After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?



How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Home Lea House Long Stay residential care home? Please tick one box.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No reply
0	1	2	7	28	1

How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Home Lea House Long Stay residential care home?



Please tell us the reason for your answer

I am local, lived here all my 60 years and Home Lea House has always been a part of the community. My sister, (anonymised) has recently become a resident here. The staff have done fantastically well to help the resident (anonymised) settle into her new home and are definitely meeting her needs. My sister is happy here, however she has started worrying about where she will be moved to, if the closure of Home Lea House goes ahead! It is a really poor decision to suggest the closure of Home Lea House. Surely there has to be another way to recoup some of the deficit. There are less necessary projects than care homes I would imagine! Shame on the Council for even thinking we need less care Homes for the elderly!

I am Chair of Rothwell Tenants and Residents Association. I therefore consider the residents in Home Lea House are part of our wider community. After a recent annual report and receiving a glowing reference from CQC for "Excellent caring" and 4 other services as "Good," I strongly disagree with the proposed closure of Home Lea. Several years ago, LCC invested money to upgrade the building and install en-suite facilities etc. which was a real boost for morale for the residents and staff alike. On the other hand, Dolphin Manor was also earmarked for closure and did not have the benefit of en-suite facilities, but our community fought a successful campaign to keep it open. We have an ageing population in Rothwell with limited accommodation for the elderly to be able to remain in their own homes and also requiring 24 hour specialist care that can be provided in a care home setting. I strongly object to any closure of care homes in the city, and more so in my community. We, and LCC have a duty of care to provide a safe and secure environment for our elderly residents who need to be protected in their twilight years. Angela Kellett (Chair, Rothwell Tara).

Because this is someone's home. I personally have worked at Home Lea for 30 years. I have looked after some of these residents who have been there years and it's the only home they know. It will be very distressing for them when the home closes.

The home is part of the community not only providing outstanding care but supporting people who still live in the community, giving them a place to go and socialise and have contact with others which they may not otherwise have. The people who work there don't see it as a job, they put a lot more into it. Those who live at Home Lea are going to have their lives turned upside down at such an age where they should feel secure and settled. If the Council had a better sense of business and how to best control finance this probably wouldn't be happening.

The need for residential care homes is expected to rise in the future, not decrease, therefore the argument put forward by LCC does not make sense. Moving the residents to another care home is likely to be catastrophic on their mental and physical well-being and could lead to early deaths. Moving them to Dolphin Manor has been suggested but it wasn't that long ago that LCC proposed closing that care home, how long will it be before that is on the table again? LCC needs a long term strategy to survive the continuing cuts to funding being made by the government, not knee jerk reactions that will only save money in the short term.

We need to keep care homes local so that residents in them can easily be visited by friends and family, and also so that they stay in a familiar place.

There appears to be no long-term planning. We have an ageing population so demand for this sort of facility will only increase. However, the Council seem to be looking only as far as 2021-22.

Not all elderly people requiring care have the funds available to pay for private care. It is vital that people requiring care should have the option of staying local, to enable continuing contact with friends and relatives. This is an important aspect of maintaining their wellbeing. Hospital beds are still being blocked by elderly people requiring care so, therefore, there is an actual need for more beds. Leeds City Council could surely look at other options of saving money, why is it that elderly care is the first choice?

Under the question 'do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes', the relative also says 'Would understand if she had to move'. The resident wouldn't want to move, she has been

here nearly 2 years. She lived in Garforth for over 50 years and when she needed to move, all the family was in Rothwell. She needed to be encouraged and is happily settled and sees her son, her grandchildren and great grandchildren who are all nearby. When the resident (anonymised) first came to Home Lea, she had been reluctant, but loved it so much, she stayed and didn't want to go home at all. She likes to be independent but needs the care from people who know her well.

I don't think it's a good idea. I don't want to move. I like living here. The daughter, says she is still where she's always lived - in the same area. She likes the care she gets. She is settled which is very important for her wellbeing.

It's a very good home with an excellent CQC report. Money has been spent on the home. We don't understand why they have selected. Mum is 90, has lived here over 2 years - with Covid we haven't been able to visit and it's her home and her second family. Very traumatic and detrimental to her health. It took her a long time to settle in and now she has. It's worrying the cuts made to essential services. People do need 24 hour care - if mum could be at home, she would be.

Granddaughter supported the resident (anonymised) to represent her and her family's views: The resident (anonymised): 'I would be sad and would like it to stay open. I like it there. I've always liked it'. Granddaughter: 'We (family) know that nan has settled really well and is very well looked after. The reason she is there is because of her dementia and because she lived alone and was lonely. She has settled and got used to company. She has never had a sad day there'.

If it's got to be done, it's got to be done. There's money involved - they need to make savings.

It's a good home. It's my home - it's lovely. I've been here nearly 2 years. It's all about money. If we had the money, we'd buy the home to keep it. We've got a great staff team. You can have your say and they help with any problems.

Home Lea House is one of the better homes in Leeds and the staff are good. The care is good and it would be a shame to move vulnerable people at their stage in life. It's exploiting people at their age. People are in the area they want to be. 'My family knows what's best for me and they think the home shouldn't be closing'. They should close other places that have lower CQC ratings. We chose this home as the best of the homes offered. 'I can't fault Home Lea'.

I like it just as it is here. I've been here a year and it's my home. I couldn't cope at home before I came here. I kept falling. I could enjoy life again and I was happy again. My own home has gone. I get on with everybody and I've made friends with residents and staff. I feel safe here. None of us want to leave our homes. I was often in hospital. I needed somewhere to live where there was someone all the time to make sure I was safe.

I wouldn't want it to close. It's a lovely place - they take care of us. I never thought I'd end up like this. My daughter couldn't look after me. I don't want to move to a different home because I'd worry too much. The place I was at before wasn't like here - it wasn't as good. I didn't feel safe.

This is my home and I want it to stay open. I like mixing with people and I like being with people I know. Family say that it helps to be very close (in walking distance). It's been here a long time because it's a good home.

1 - In November 2019 we were informed by social services at St James Hospital that the Council homes are all full and we would have to find a private home for my Mother. We checked all private care homes in Rothwell and they were all full. A neighbour told us about Home Lea House. We contacted them and they said that two rooms were vacant (after we had been told the Council homes were all full) that could be the reason for low occupancy.

2 - Some people cannot live in their home for a variety of reasons and need 24 hour care.

3 - My Mother tried home care package and she was being left for 12 hours some days in a soiled incontinence pad, some days she only had tea and a slice of toast for breakfast at 8am then was left till 6pm one day. We had to go feed her. Her health was deteriorating until she went into Home Lea House. Now she is a different person, they have turned her life around.

4 - The need for Home Lea House is very important to the Rothwell community.

5 - If nobody needed a care home place, they would not be still building them around Rothwell.

Because it is people's home. They are happy and settled at Home Lea and don't want to move somewhere else. Moving to Home Lea due to needing 24 hour care was a big move for most of the residents and it just seems unfair that they may have to move again and build relationships with another staff team and with other residents.

I understand why financially but at the end of the day we are dealing with people who depend on staff and also people think it's their home. They feel safe knowing that there's someone 24/7 to support not just with personal care tasks, with support of people's mental health and due to Covid, people need support even more.

Because I'm settled and happy with the home and the surroundings for my husband to visit regularly. Due to his illness, he can't travel long distances. He has frequent hospital visits and needs to be able to visit whenever he can (for peace of mind about my wellbeing). He doesn't drive. We have lived in Rothwell (Wood Lane estate) for twenty-odd years. My husband's family is nearby. My friends are nearby and would like to visit when it's possible and maintain contacts. My parents came from Castleford and I have cousins locally. I know all the local shops and facilities. I would like to stay in the area due to this reason.

I'd cry if they had to close it. I love it here. I love it all - my room, the lounge, the dining room. We get lovely meals to eat and we get looked after ever so well here. I like it here best. I was in a privately run care home at Roundhay Park and I didn't like it there. (When mum was in private home it was all about money, not care). (We wouldn't want that experience again).

I don't want it to close because it's in a good place. The people who live here fit very well with each other. I was a bit hurt to hear they wanted to close the home. People get on here. There's a good atmosphere. I like to be with people. The staff help you mix. The staff are very helpful and always consider you before they consider themselves. I like everything about this home, they want us to be happy here. This place has got something about it that's there all the time. There's a lovely garden you can sit out in.

The home is well-run. There is a need for it. It is very unsettling for someone with dementia needs and won't understand the changes. For her to be plucked up and put in somewhere new, we don't know what that will do to her. She knows everyone and is comfortable. The staff understand the resident (anonymised) and she is confident at Home Lea. The staff have been fabulous with her. If she was somewhere else, I'm not sure that wouldn't "tip the resident (anonymised) over".

I disagree because I have concerns about the welfare of our residents. They get very anxious about where they are going to live. I also have concerns as regards my job.

Home Lea is a great place for our residents. It's like home from home for them. It feels part of my life. I feel it's like looking after my own family and to close Home Lea, I myself will be devastated and so will our residents as this is their home and should stay this way. You could cut back in other areas.

I disagree with the proposal to close Home Lea. I believe the Council waste a load of money in other areas i.e. bonfire night fireworks displays, lighting up buildings for occasions which all costs money and manpower. Home Lea is a happy home, residents are very happy here and good care is given. I have worked for the Council nearly 34 years and for all the homes that have been closed, no replacement has been built and land has been sold off. Where does this money go?

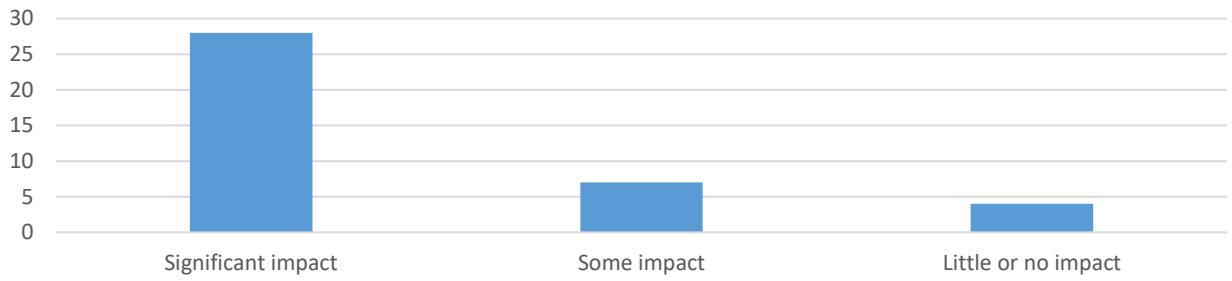
Home Lea House is a council run home with a good CQC report with caring 'outstanding'. The building has recently undergone extensive re-refurbishment including a new lift, flooring and, furniture and most rooms are en-suite. Dolphin Manor which is due to be kept open does not have en-suite bedrooms, and a separate wing only has 2 television rooms and no lounge. The residents on this wing have to be taken down a long corridor to the main lounge. Although the staff and care are second to none in both homes, my Mother has stayed in both buildings and Home Lea is definitely better and the bedrooms appear to be larger. Due to the Council wanting to save money, to me it would appear that the Home Lea site has more commercial value and a larger footprint than Dolphin Manor to be sold off for housing/profit.

I disagree to Home Lea House closing as my Mother lives here and I believe this would have a detrimental impact on her emotional well-being. It is not just a temporary accommodation, it is her home and she has settled well there, making friends with residents and carers. My Mother is already emotional and upset after a Covid outbreak at the home during which residents unexpectedly died and she had to stay isolated in her room for over a month. She needs stability and security, not the additional threat and worry of her home being taken away.
Home Lea is the best residential home in Rothwell. When we were first looking at homes in our area, so many people recommended Home Lea mainly because they had previously or currently had relatives in there. The staff are so lovely and the home in general feels warm and safe.
Because this is the ressies home.
I understand why the proposal has been made due to the financial difficulties but at the same time feel that over the last 10 years the older people have had a lot of closures of services leaving them with only the private sector to choose from.
The closure of Home Lea House would have a significant impact on various people. Residents, staff and family members, Home Lea House is one big family. Closing Home Lea House is taking people's homes away from them when they are all happy and settled. I personally think it's disgusting. Leeds City Council can surely find other ways of saving money without it causing upset and disruption to the most vulnerable of people.
I strongly disagree as this is people's homes. There is a lot of money spent on things that are not needed within the Council and this home is not one of them. I think there are more things that could be done to save money within the Council instead of taking people's homes away from them (disgrace).
I understand that the Council needs to save money but I like my job very much and don't want to lose it. It's not easy for the residents - we are so close with them. When you move from your house, it's hard and sad at any age and now at their age it's even worse.
I feel divided. I recognise that there are gaps in funding to run a service like ours. However, it's not nice for our residents that love our home and feel safe and cared for by the team. We as a staff team work well with each other to ensure our residents are cared for in the best possible way and we don't want to be split up just like our residents don't want their home shut and have to relocate.
I feel insecure and don't know if I'm going to have a job. I feel like this is 'family'. The staff team has been the residents' family for the last year. We've been through Covid together and it feels unfair and terrible to close the home now. This is their home. I leave here and go home. I feel like I might be in the same position. If I don't have a job, I could lose my home. I'd be devastated if I had to leave my home. The residents are coming to the end of their lives and thought this would be their forever home, but might have to start again.
It is very distressing for all residents and staff, as everybody treats Home Lea as their second home. Residents are worried where they will end up living and staff are afraid there are going to be no jobs for them.

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?

Significant impact	Some impact	Little or no impact
28	7	4

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?



Please tell us the reason for your answer

Because the idea of closing any care home let alone one that has provided care and protection for generations has to be wrong.

Having being retired for 6 years myself, I too may need support in the near future!!

I have worked at Home Lea for 30 years. It's like my second home. I will be 64 when or if it closes. I have been there half of my life. To start working somewhere else at my age is not good.

I work there, it's my main source of income. I live nearby, have a great relationship with the clients, their families and the staff team. I feel we should be told now what is the plan for employees so we can plan best for us when the closure comes.

I will not be impacted by the closure currently, however, my mother has Alzheimer's disease. When the time comes that my father no longer can care for her, the choice of care homes will be reduced if Home Lea is closed.

I am an elderly client solicitor and have seen the negative impact being moved far from home can have on vulnerable people needing care.

Living locally, I do expect that family or friends will in the future have a need for these services.

No particular impact as I have property which would fund care, but there are significant others who don't have funds. My relatives are no longer local so Rothwell would not be my choice, but again there are many many families who have been local residents throughout generations.

We don't want her to have to move again and move from the area where her only family are. She is here with another family member so both are looked after and visited together. Family are worried that it would make her dementia progress more. She wouldn't understand where she is and the changes would affect her. She wouldn't understand the reason why she had to move and her routine and familiar surroundings would change. Family might not visit as often if she had to go further away.

I would be unhappy. I like it here. I feel unsettled sometimes anyway (not liking change and getting easily confused). The resident (anonymised) says it would have a massive impact on her mental health. She has long-term mental health problems and has anxiety and depression which would potentially get worse. She can get very distressed and needs the support of the care team who knows her best and who she feels safe with.

At this age and in this state of health, it would be shocking for her to have to move. She has lived in Rothwell all her life. We are nearby and would find it difficult to travel to see her. Her closest friend is nearby. Home Lea House is her second family. It took a long time to find the right home and mum is now settled. It would be awful at this stage to have to start again. This is mum's home now. We think this will be the end for her if she has to move.

'Where would I go? Because I feel safe where I go now. I like to have a laugh'. Granddaughter said she feels the change and move are not good for someone with dementia. It's worrying for all the family. Some days she is a bit confused and because the team knows her well, we can all work together.

They'd have to find me somewhere. I'm hoping I could be moved into my own house. It would have to be somewhere where I could get about with my own wheelchair. I might need a bit of help with my care.

I have been feeling very low in mood and this will just make me feel worse. I don't want to leave here. I will miss all the staff who help me. I have a nice group of friends and I will miss them. It's been a hard year and I lost my closest friend. I feel I wouldn't want to live if I had to move.

Moving and disruption at a time when things are hard anyway with Covid 'I get very anxious and worried about things anyway'. Daughter stated 'Staff at Home Lea know mum well and help her with family - in another home, they might not understand her as well, not give her the right support and that could affect the care she receives. We feel mum is safe, well cared for and takes pressure off. We feel guilty that we can't look after mum all the time but we know she is well cared for'.

I can get very upset. I worry about lots of things - anything out of my normal routine affects me. Any changes upset me. At the moment, with Covid, it's a hard time to move and the logistics will be hard. Losing the level of care. It would affect my health and wellbeing. It's a big change at my age.

I'd be worried about the home closing. I've got family but I couldn't go to them. I'm a born worrier - I worry over everything. I don't want anything to change and I don't want to go to another home. When I came here I felt really poorly and now I'm getting right again. I used to have carers at home but I still kept falling. I've been depressed and worried before and made myself poorly.

It's my home and I'd be upset if it closed. My brother says it's taking the freedom and choice away. Family say it would be devastating for the resident (anonymised). It would cause a lot of stress and affect the resident's (anonymised) health. The resident (anonymised) gets very upset anyway. It has been hard for everyone and residents have been affected by Covid so it's adding another stress.

- 1 - Because My Mother is double incontinent she requires the same facilities and care she has now.
- 2 - My Mother needs a W.C in her room and help to get to it also in the night time. We are concerned that staff may not be available in a different home.
- 3 - We care for Grandchildren all week which includes school drop off and pick up. If my Mother is moved out of Rothwell the family may not be able to visit the same.
- 4 - We need the same level of contact as we have now mobile and facetime.
- 5 - We would be concerned about her health as she hates change.

It will mean starting again in another setting, building new relationships with colleagues and customers. It also causes a certain level of anxiety wondering where I may end up working and how far I may have to travel. I currently travel from Huddersfield to Home Lea but this is quite an easy commute as it is mainly all motorway, whereas previously I have travelled to Yeadon which is mainly A roads and took much longer. I have been very happy and settled while at Home Lea and believe I have very good relationships with both customers and colleagues.

Having to move somewhere else means I have to start again, with the thought of am I going to move again which the residents will probably think that too, so I may feel a bit unsettled.

Because I need to feel content with my surroundings and feel happy with the staff team and the staffing levels. I'd be worried about being somewhere where there were lower standards. I am happy with the support I receive at the moment. I have been at Home Lea before for respite on several occasions before deciding to stay here. It was my first choice. I have a range of health issues. I wanted to stay with my own GPs who are as kind and considerate as the staff who look after me here. My family are happy with me being here. I don't want to change my support network. The environment is exceptional and the food, cleaning and garden.

I hope they never close this place down. I love it here. I don't know how I'd go on if I had to move somewhere else. I'm worried about where I'd go. All the staff that work here would have to find other jobs. Daughter states, they're wanting to make these savings but at a cost to the weakest, elderly, infirm and vulnerable members of society. It could kill some people early in the last years of their life.

I'd be most upset. I'd worry about where I was going to end up. I get on with everybody and that might not be the case somewhere else. It took a while to find out where things were here and fit in and get routines - it would be hard to go to a new place and not know where everything is.

<p>It takes a while to get to know somebody. She has deteriorated mentally, but is doing well physically and is happy because of how she is supported with her care there. She would definitely need care in a home and she would find a move quite terrifying. She struggled to move initially and would feel even more isolated and lost with another move. Continuity is a massive thing for someone like the resident (anonymised) - she won't know where she is.</p>
<p>Because I am concerned whether I will have a job.</p>
<p>Because as long as I have worked in Home Lea, I feel that I belong and I love all residents and staff. It is very homely and should stay this way.</p>
<p>Very few homes left, the impact will be my job, income.</p>
<p>The impact on my 90 years old Mother would be catastrophic. She has resided in Home Lea for two and a half years and it is her home. During the Covid 19 pandemic, the staff have become her family as we have been unable to visit for the majority of the time and to move her could make lost the will to live.</p>
<p>I think closing Home Lea House would have a big impact on my mum's emotional well-being. She needs security of the people she knows and trusts at this time. Also I am currently in the process of selling my mum's home. Losing her house where she has lived for almost sixty years, as well as most of her possessions, has been very upsetting for her to have to deal with. Losing two homes at the same time is awful for my Mother.</p>
<p>My nan is currently living in Home Lea due to her dementia and living alone was not working in her best interests mentally. Our biggest fear as a family is the huge impact moving would have on my nan's mental health. She has suffered with her nerves all her life and to see her so relaxed and feeling safe and surrounded by familiar faces is a huge importance to us.</p>
<p>Just will.</p>
<p>I am currently doing a 12 month temporary post and will be returning to my substantive post after the 12 months has finished.</p>
<p>Change of job. It will affect me financially. It is a job I enjoy.</p>
<p>Home Lea is a lovely home to work in. We have 'outstanding' in care delivery and it's a kick in the teeth to shut our home when we are good at what we do. Covid has impacted everything, however, given when the world can return to normal we could recover and become a fully occupied home again if we were given a chance instead of closing us. I suffer with anxiety and it can be difficult being placed in a new team and environment. I love my job and my team at Home Lea.</p>
<p>Because I wouldn't have a job here anymore. I have worked for the Council for more than 20 years and I have been through this before. It wasn't nice wondering if I would have a job and what would happen. I can get quite down and feel this will make things worse. We are a good, supportive team and I rely on my colleagues who have helped me through some challenging times.</p>
<p>I am afraid for my job. I have mortgage to pay and I worry I could possibly lose my job.</p>

What could the Council do to reduce the potential impact?

They could do the right thing for the residents of Home Lea House and their families and cancel the proposed closure!

The families of the residents are understandably very worried for their elderly relatives and can have a devastating effect on their health and well-being.

Ensure that whatever the plan is for residents and staff that we are informed immediately, not at the last minute so we can plan and the residents can get used to knowing they will be moving. It's going to close so the hope that just maybe it might not has to be completely dispelled.

Don't close the home, simple as that. Reconsider where long term savings could be made. I work in the public sector and am familiar with responding to funding cuts. Work more efficiently, do not fill staff vacancies and reviewing how much you are charging for services are longer term viable options for saving money.

Keep the home open.

Increase provision.
One option would be provision of local, modern assisted living accommodation, to facilitate independence for longer. Professional, well trained carers should be a priority available at a local level. Full time care should always be a last option.
Don't close the home. Leave the residents in a place where they are happy and settled and let them see the rest of their days out where they want to be.
Keep the home open. That's the only thing that's going to make any difference. Look to save money in other areas.
Keep it open or make sure mum is kept locally with all the same support as she has now.
Not close the home. The family understand the financial side but 'people like nan and the other residents shouldn't suffer from financial issues'. We strongly need somewhere close to family. We have always seen her every day. We moved her to be near to us.
Make sure I still have the same level of care and support.
Keep the home open. Try and raise money to keep it open. How can the Council save the money somewhere else?
Not to close Home Lea.
Help to know the options. Need for similar care and support. The best result would be that they don't close this home but that, if they do, I go to Dolphin Manor. Make it more local for family to access.
Help me to stop worrying. I'd feel better if they told me the home isn't going to close. I've made myself poorly in the past with worry. I've been on anti-depressants and I don't want to go that way again.
Not close the home. The resident's (anonymised) brother says they, the Council, have to look elsewhere - the small amount saved won't make a big difference - rather than affect the elderly residents). They should be getting better treatment.
1 - Do not close Home Lea House. 2 - Find a Council home in Rothwell with the same facilities. 3 - With the same dedicated staff.
Don't close the home!! Other than keeping the home open, I don't really know.
Cut back elsewhere where possible.
Not close it. Feel sympathetic towards residents. Give the same quality of care in the same area. I'd want to be able to move around in my wheelchair and still feel as independent and be able to do things with the right level of support.
Aside from not closing it down, I don't know, because I don't know what the options are.
If the home closed I'd have to be helped to go somewhere very similar.
If the home is closed, it would impact her anyway. Help with the changes.
Ensure staff have good redeployment.
Stay open please, update the building, look after our elders. Let's keep them safe and happy.
Keep Home Lea open and update the building.
The Council could look again at the closure and move funds from other less important areas to keep the home open. If closure occurs, current residents should be kept local so that they are near to their relatives, as good quality affordable care is rare in the area.
I think if the closure goes ahead my Mother would benefit from moving to Dolphin Manor as it is similar to Home Lea House.
KEEP HOMELEA OPEN!!!
I truly don't see how a closure wouldn't impact on my nan. Due to Covid 19, I also think the impact would be even more destructive to my nan's mental health.
Keep the home open, as it's friendly and a homely place to live.
Possibly look at a partnership with NHS or LYPFT to use the space as it has in other services.

Leeds City Council could surely find other ways of saving money. The impact that it will have on all involved is unfair. This home provides a safe and happy environment. All the residents are happy, content and settled. To take all that away is disgusting.
For a start, just as an example, send one man and a van out to fix car part runners, it does not take 3 work men and 2 vans to do a simple task/job, just think what that costs to send all the workmen out to do a one man 5 minute job. The list could go on.
Help me to get another job. Help the residents to find somewhere suitable.
There's a lot of MPs/Councillors that get paid a high wage/salary. May be they should have a pay cut to help reduce Council spending. Also there are a lot of managers - their roles could be condensed to save money. Look at other services instead of our elderly.
Not close the home. Make savings elsewhere. Find suitable accommodation for the residents if the home does have to close. Find alternative employment for the staff (with the residents). Help with job interviews and training.
Not close the home. Make sure our jobs are safe.

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead, what do you consider to be important for you / your relative in any future residential care home in relation to the following?

Care and Support

Q9.1 Finding somewhere that meets my needs				
Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
26	0	0	10	3

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead, what do you consider to be important for you / your relative in any future residential care home in relation to the following?

Care and Support

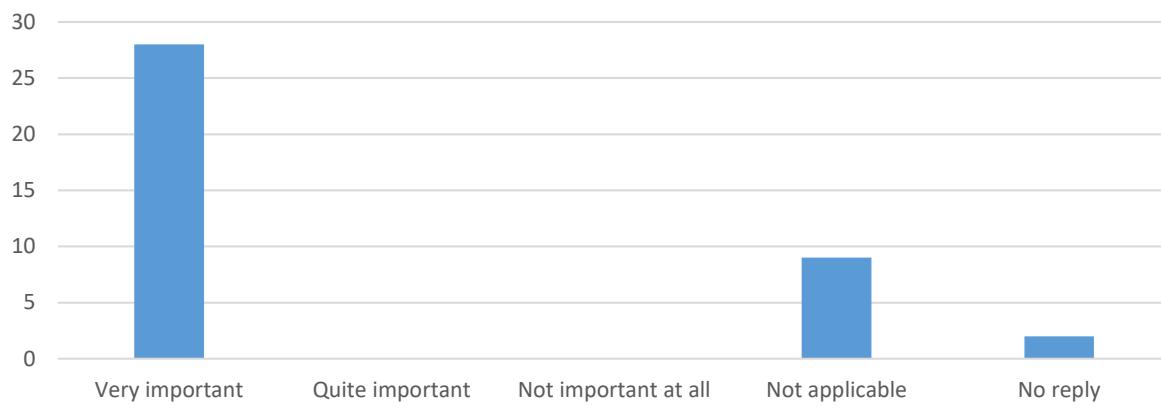
Finding somewhere that meets my needs



Well trained/friendly staff

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
28	0	0	9	2

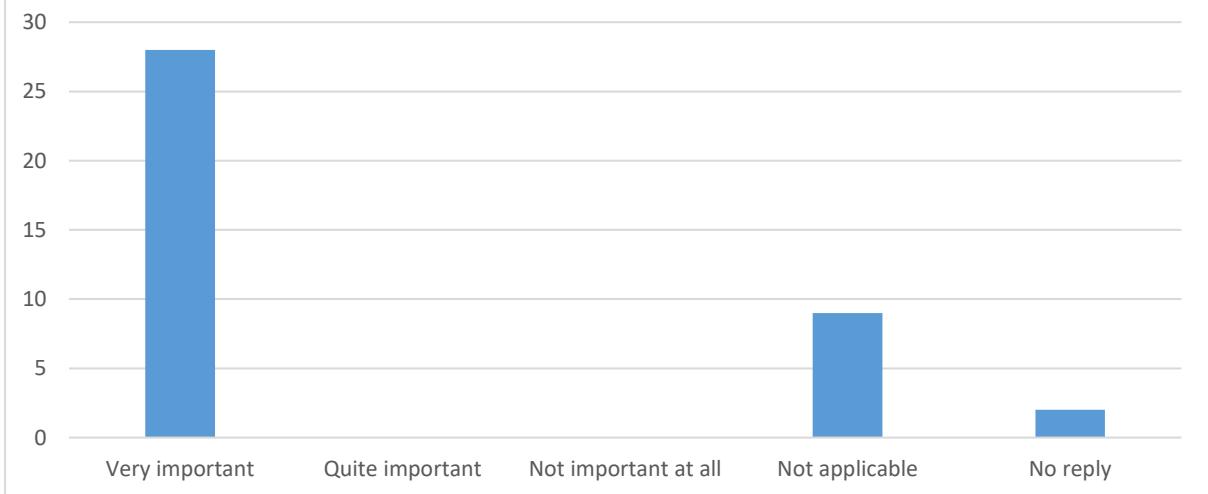
Well trained/friendly staff



Quality of care

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
28	0	0	9	2

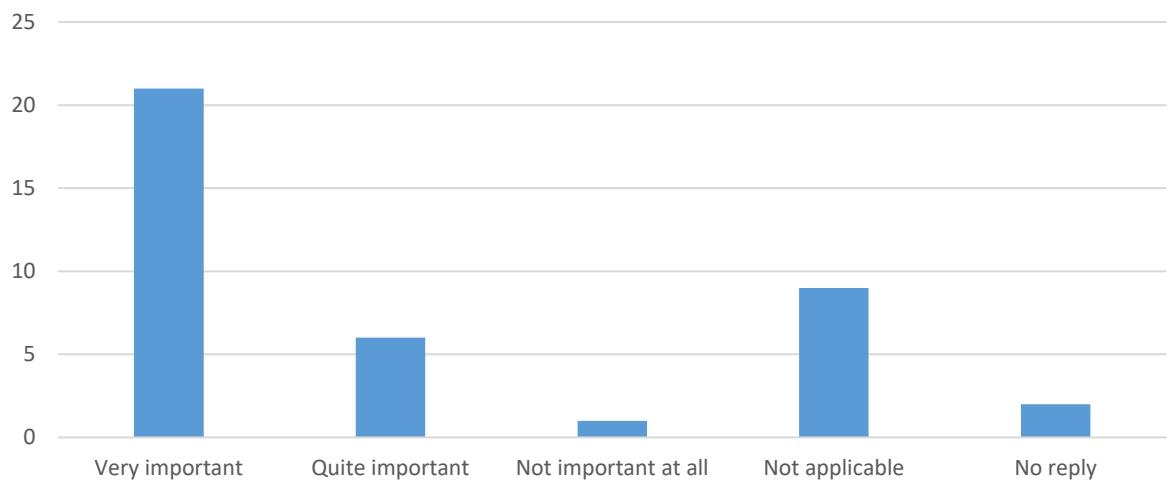
Quality of Care



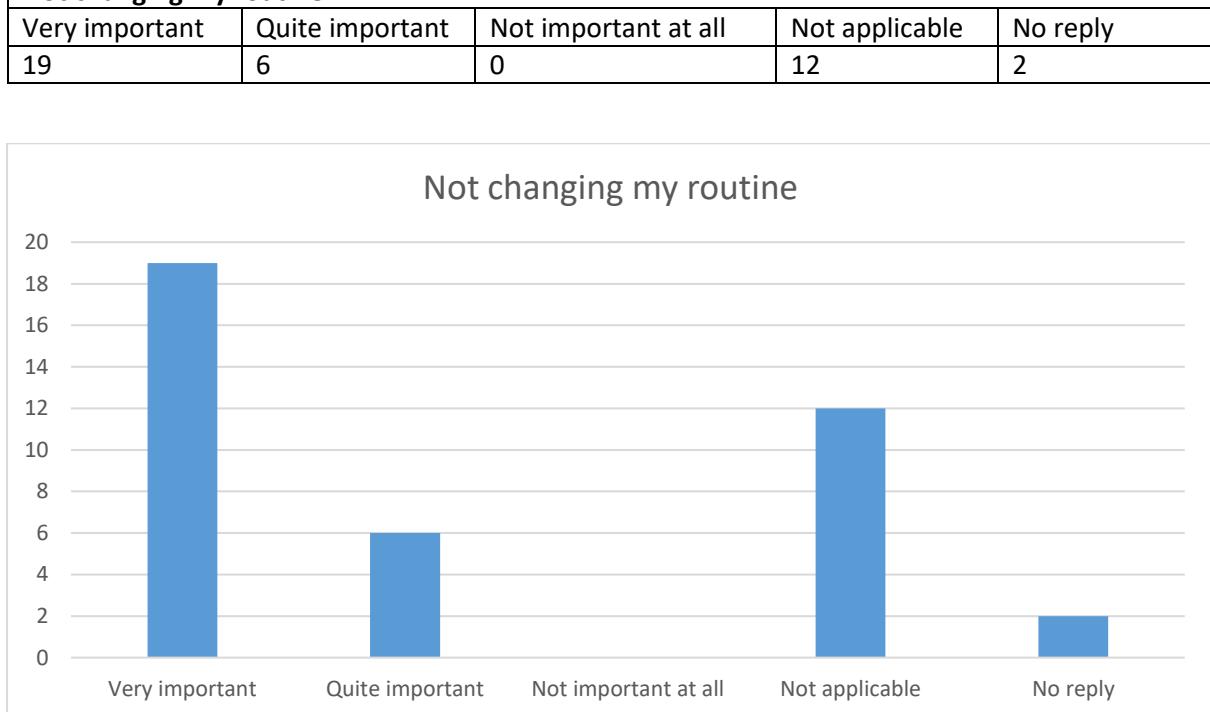
Not losing staff/carers

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
21	6	1	9	2

Not losing staff/carers



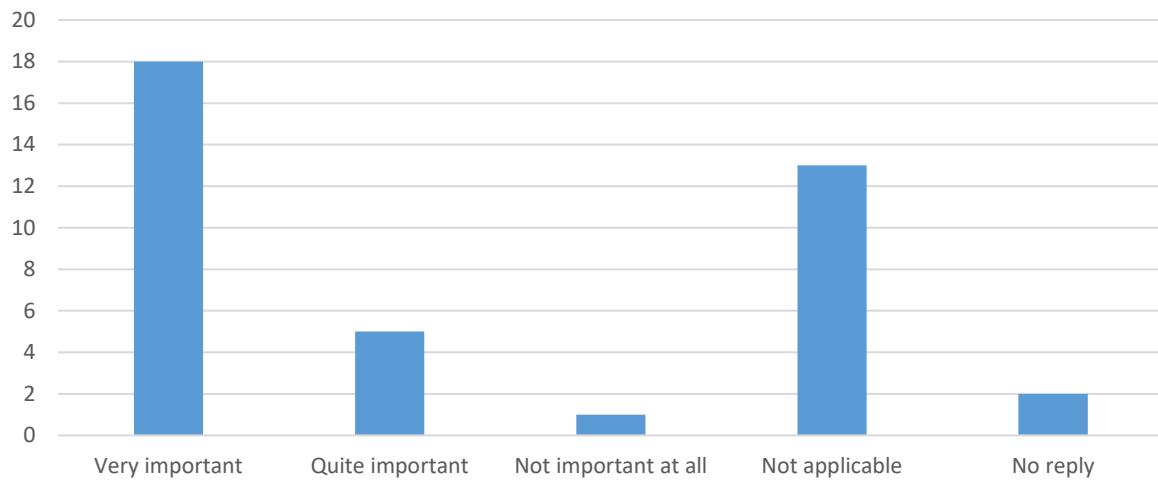
Not changing my routine



Not having to pay more

Response	Count
Very important	18
Quite important	5
Not important at all	1
Not applicable	13
No reply	2

Not having to pay more



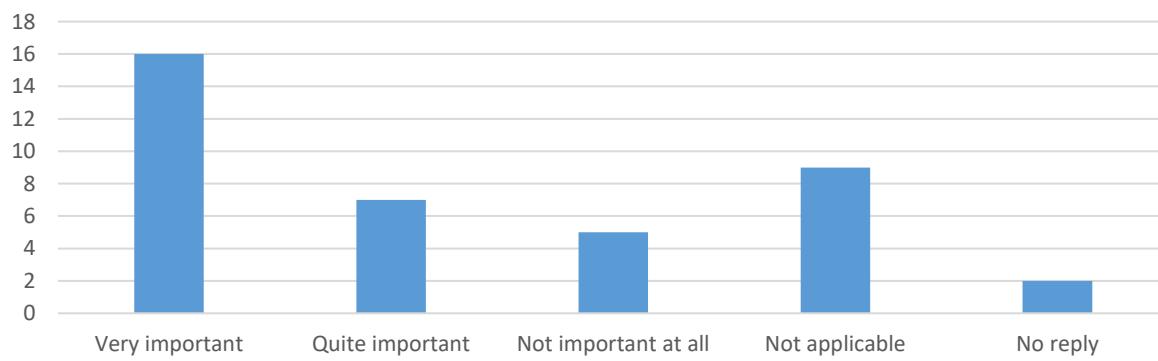
Accommodation

Moving to new accommodation with friends				
Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
16	7	5	9	2

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead, what do you consider to be important for you / your relative in any future residential care home in relation to the following?

Accommodation

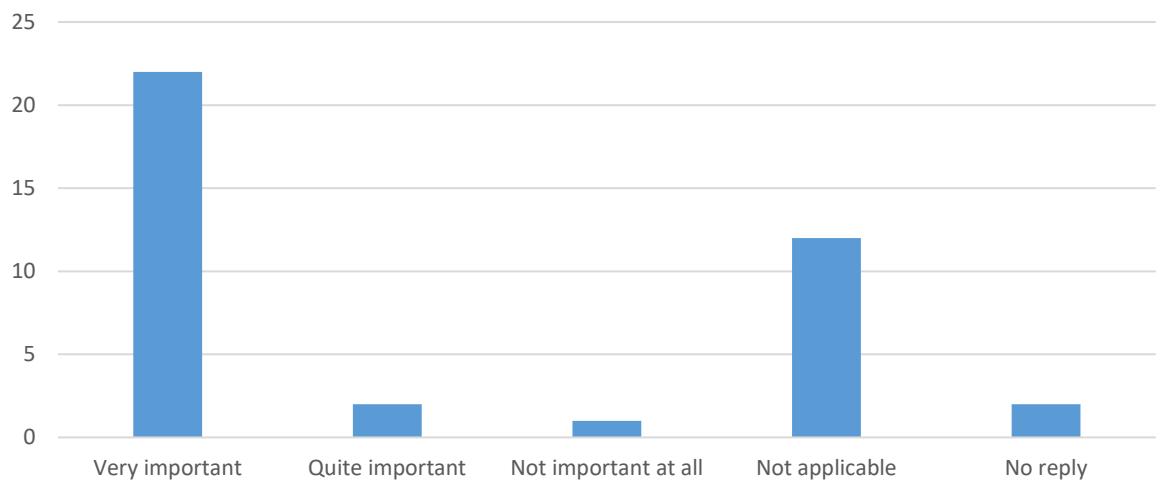
Moving to new accommodation with friends



Having choice over the type of accommodation I live in

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
22	2	1	12	2

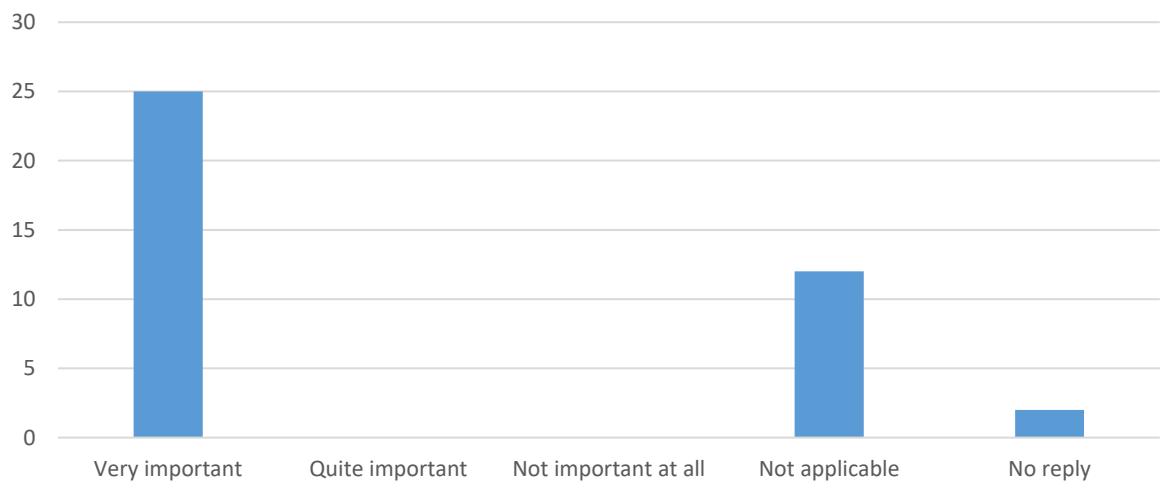
Having choice over the type of accommodation I live in



Finding accommodation that meets my needs

Response	Count
Very important	25
Quite important	0
Not important at all	0
Not applicable	12
No reply	2

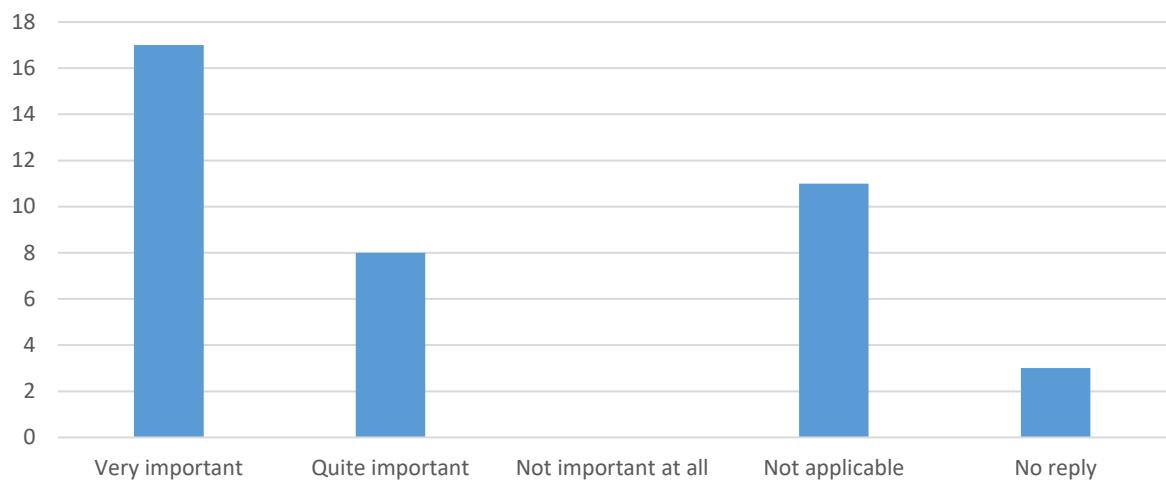
Finding accommodation that meets my needs



Good sized bedroom with ensuite bathroom and toilet

Response	Count
Very important	17
Quite important	8
Not important at all	0
Not applicable	11
No reply	3

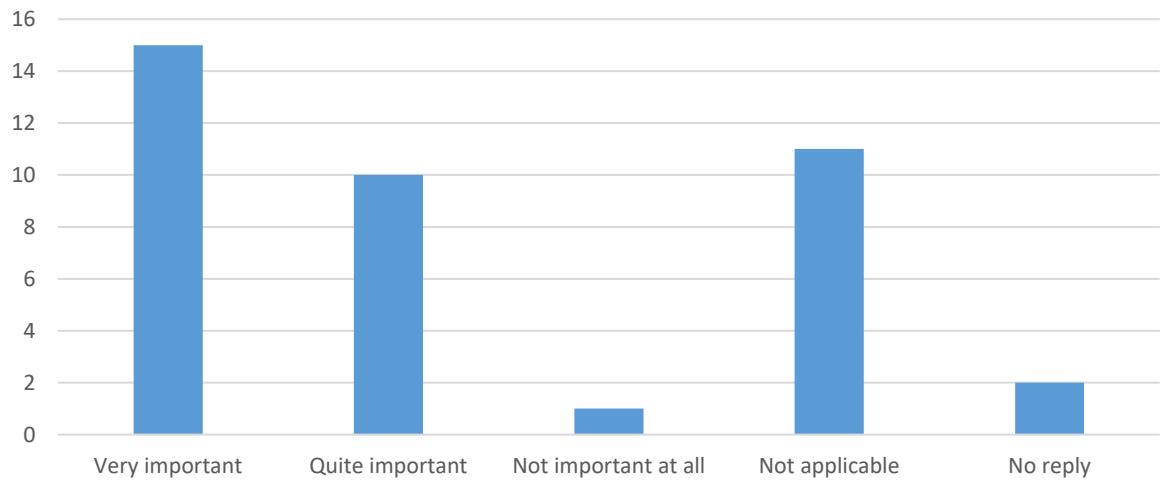
Good sized bedroom with ensuite bathroom and toilet



Plenty of social activities

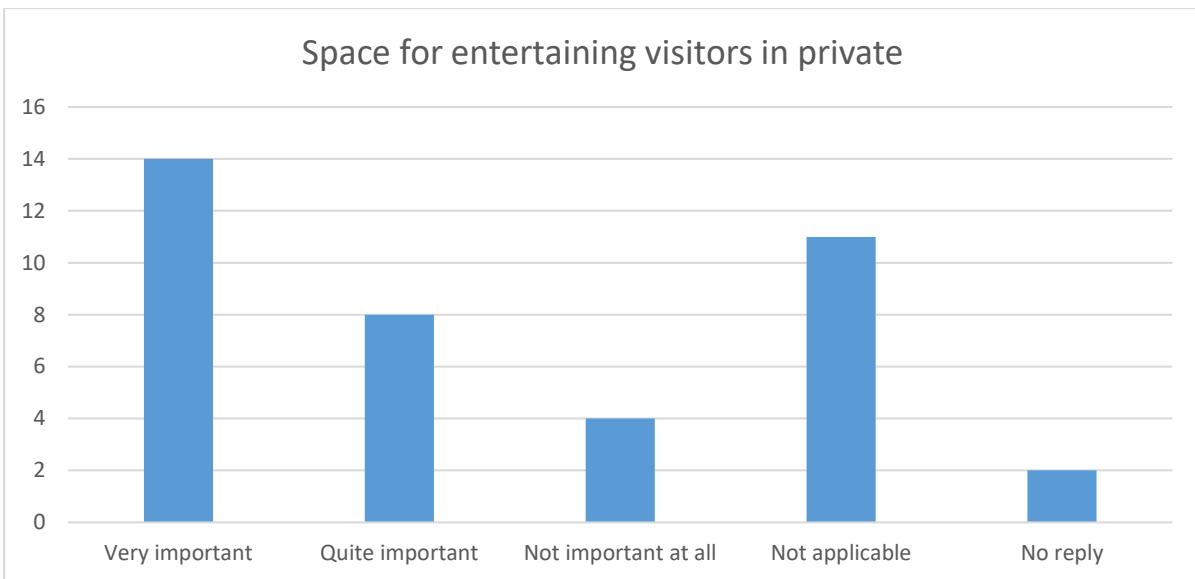
Response	Count
Very important	15
Quite important	10
Not important at all	1
Not applicable	11
No reply	2

Plenty of social activities

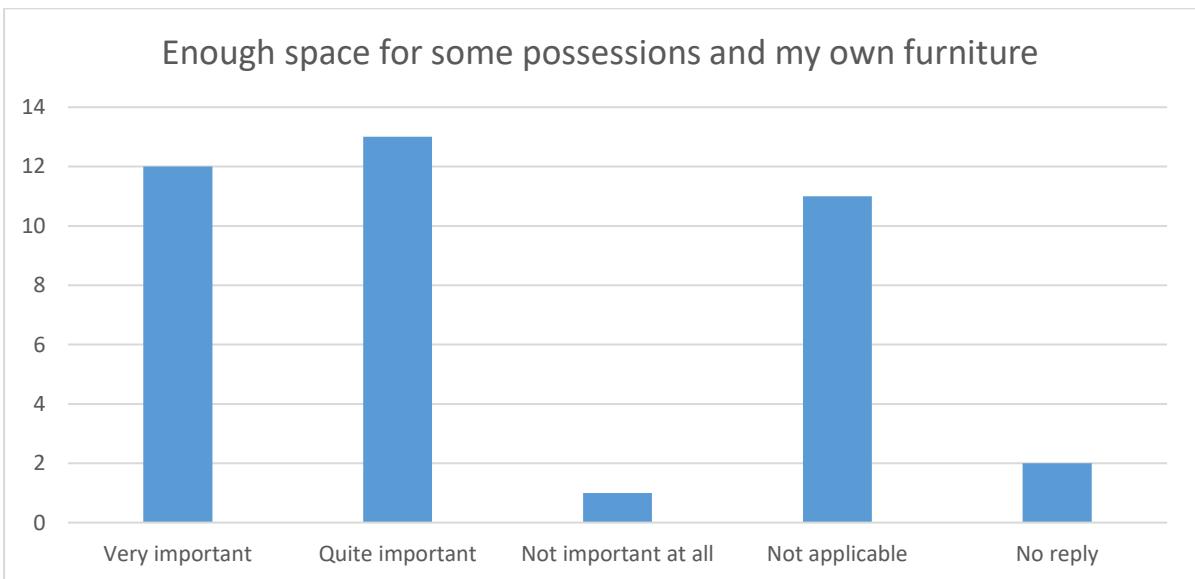


Space for entertaining visitors in private

Response	Count
Very important	14
Quite important	8
Not important at all	4
Not applicable	11
No reply	2

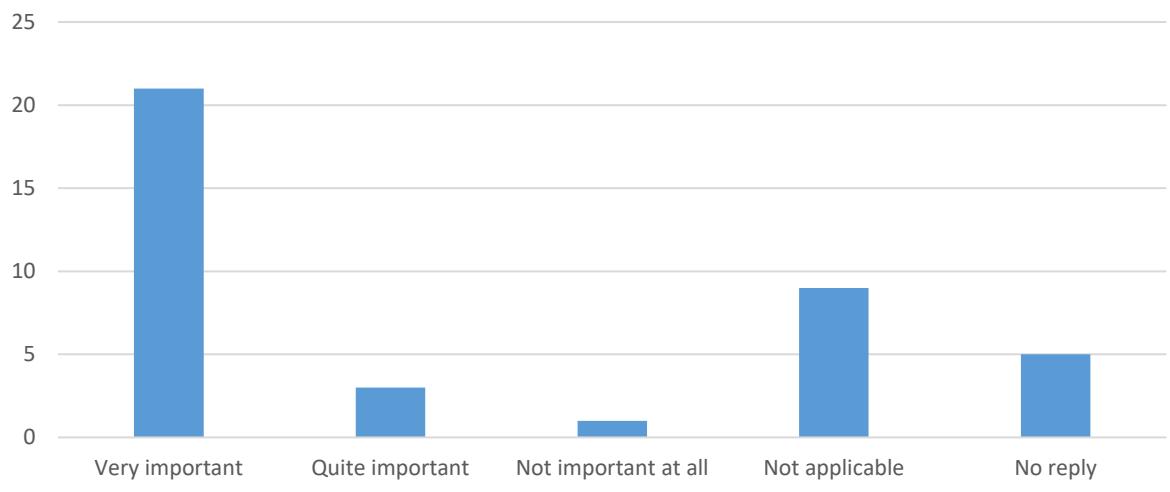


Enough space for some possessions and my own furniture				
Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
12	13	1	11	2



Who provides and runs the home				
Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
21	3	1	9	5

Who provides and runs the home



Location

Having choice over where I live/receive respite

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
26	0	0	11	2

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead, what do you consider to be important for you / your relative in any future residential care home in relation to the following?

Location

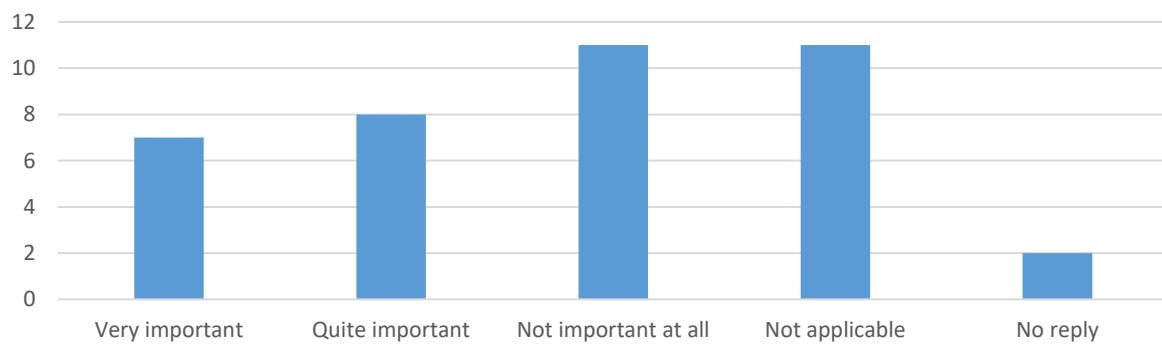
Having choice over where I live/receive respite



Close to shops/other facilities

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
7	8	11	11	2

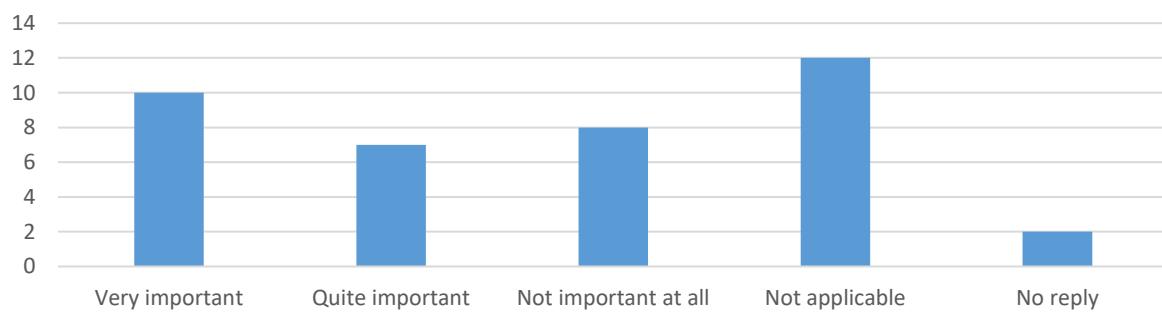
Close to shops/other facilities



Good bus/train service

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
10	7	8	12	2

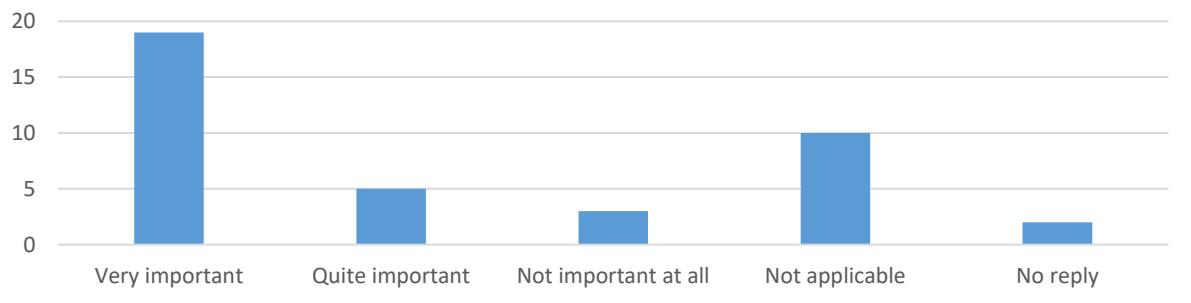
Good bus/train service



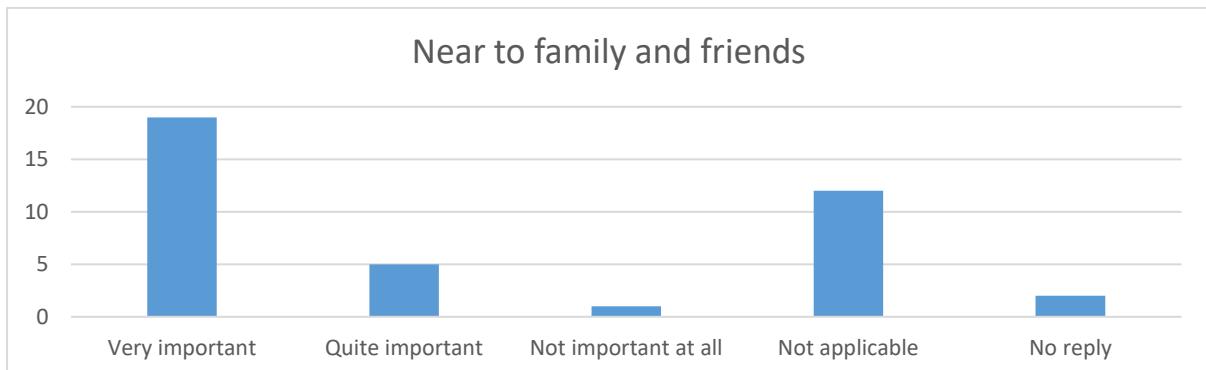
Close to where I live

Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
19	5	3	10	2

Close to where I live



Near to family and friends				
Very important	Quite important	Not important at all	Not applicable	No reply
19	5	1	12	2



Other (please state)
All family members live locally and visit regularly. She gets a lot of pleasure from this.
It's important for the home to be well-run and staff to be familiar and know Vera well. At the minute, the family are all within walking distance.
You know that council care homes stick to the rules - the quality of care is better, there's less staff turnover and the staff are better trained. Must be near family.
For stability and because of dementia, it needs a secure manager and regular team - familiar faces who know nan well.
I don't mind who runs the home as long as it's run well. I want to be in Kippax if possible. I lived there all my life.
I'm not keen to move on. I suppose it would have to be Dolphin Manor.
The home has to be run well. It's been excellent. Needs to be very close to family.
Would like to be local because it makes it easier for family to visit (as they all use public transport).
I need help with everything because I've got health problems and I can't see.
The most important thing is to be near my family in Rothwell.
Live locally with the same level of support.
I'd prefer it to be Leeds City Council after my experience with the private sector.
It's important to me to be near and with friends.
It has to be a good home. Activity is important but has to be tailored to the resident's (anonymised) needs and interests.
N/A
I would like to work in a similar job not too far from where I live.
I need to be able to get to work on public transport.
If the home closed, I would like to be reassured that I have job to go to.

Q12. Please state if there is another viable approach which you believe should be considered?
Reconsider the decision for closure, and invest in people, jobs and livelihoods.
Look at other areas within the Council where money is wasted and streamline the business as a whole to be more efficient.
Office staff could work from home, save money on buildings. Try and save money in other areas rather than affect the elderly.

Save money in different areas e.g. cut down on staff offices, cut down on office overheads and do more home based working.
The older people at the moment are more important than the young ones - they're more vulnerable - they don't have time left and need to be cared for properly. They have been through enough not seeing family. Leisure services can be put on hold and come to later for example.
We don't want to talk about her going anywhere else because we think it would have to be a last resort.
Not really - if the home's losing money. Unless you can get the home full.
Don't close the home.
Better links with NHS to fill beds and reduce hospital bed blocking.
Any other options would be better than taking someone's home away (e.g. non-vital services - there are important places and groups e.g. youth groups and Lotherton Hall) that aren't someone's home.
I'd like the home to be kept open.
Family feel the Council should try and find the funds elsewhere - don't take things away from old folk. Especially for the small amount they will save through closure - it can surely be found elsewhere.
Leeds City Council should get together with other local councils to lobby Government for extra funding for Covid 19 safety measures in care homes and other services. Old people are already selling their homes to pay for care. They cannot pay more.
Look at other options to save money.
Keep it open with same staffing levels. Get rid of some of the top bosses. Don't know. Make some other cuts.
Look at other cost saving measures rather than closing my care home.
It is a problem. No matter what you do, you're going to cause upset. Get more people to fill the homes.
N/A.
I think the Council should close other things instead of old people's homes. This is not a luxury for my mum, this is her home. It is not fair for the people who live there.
Covid has impacted so many elderly people with loneliness. Mainly that I feel we need all the homes we can for the future.
The amount of vans and workers that come to do the same job, too many bosses.
They could put more people in the home instead of closing it down.
Explore other services that can be condensed to save our home from closure. Explore new directions for our home to go to help save it e.g. end of life care.
Find cuts elsewhere - don't waste money on projects that aren't needed. Cut managers where they aren't needed.

Q13. Finally, do you have any other comments?

As above.

As a staff member I would like to see the residents have time to get used to the idea that the home is definitely closing. It's not fair that the words "may close" are used as it is closing, we know that for sure. Giving them that bit of hope is cruel. Also the staff who work there need to know what will happen to them so we can all make plans necessary for our best interests too.

It is very disappointing that elderly care is undervalued still in 2021. Lack of investment, such as modernisation of existing premises, allowance of big private companies to run social care for profit is morally wrong. Every elderly person irrespective of their financial means should receive care appropriate to their needs, in a local suitable environment. These people have over the years contributed to society in a variety of ways, which unfortunately is often unacknowledged by

society in general. Staff in care homes and care services should be well trained and monitored, they should also be paid a salary which reflects the importance of their job. This would help in long term retainment of staff and in time save some of the training costs which are incurred with high turnover of staff.

From Daughter-in-Law: It's wrong to close people's homes, they are vulnerable. Currently, the situation is affected by Covid. We're worried that there aren't as many people in because places have become vacant and potential residents and their families might be reluctant to move in because of the threat of closure.

My mum has lived in Rothwell since 1952. She has been a Leeds City Council resident. She should still have some say as to where she lives and that shouldn't be taken from her at her age. We considered other homes and Home Lea was our choice. The Council shouldn't be taking that choice away from her.

We desperately want the home to stay open and let my mum live in a nice secure place where she's well looked after. (We would like to know if existing residents would have priority over the home they want), aware of transitions social work team.

Granddaughter: We need her to feel safe. We know now that she feels secure and happy. It's been a tough year and this has made it even tougher. We hope Home Lea House can stay open. We are so worried about the upheaval and disruption and how it would affect nan's mental health and wellbeing.

I like Home Lea House. I feel great for being here. I like to be independent and get the help I need.

I'm very happy here. We're very well looked after.

Family need more ongoing support from social work team for future care and support.

The ideal scenario would be to keep the home open. If the Council can't then the most support to me and my family. 'They should keep the home open because that's what we all want'.

I was so fed up and poorly before I came here. It's helped me feel better living here.

The resident (anonymised) seems to be a lot happier than she was before coming to the home. She is more talkative and outgoing. She's happy so the home is really good for her and us and we don't want that to change. That must be due to how the home is run and the staff.

I think it would be a shame for the home to close and feel it will cause a lot of anxieties for the customers and staff team.

Why do they want to close a home when it's detrimental to people's lives?

It's devastating news for the people living here. At any age being told that you're losing your house is the worst thing that can happen to you. To lose your home, your friends, your routine when you're happy, to cost cut - there must be other ways of doing this. 'It's our home'.

If you close this home, there will be all the upheaval and upset. We're all elderly people.

I'm so impressed with the staff and home. It's one of the nicest homes I've been in. Everyone is so accommodating and welcoming. It's an incredible place. She thrives there. I sleep well knowing she's there. It's peace of mind for the family.

None.

Save Home Lea.

Leeds City Council have tried to close both care homes in Rothwell. Due to the lack of success in closing Dolphin Manor, they have changed their plans to close Home Lea instead. The statement saying that more people wish to have care in their own homes on the report is misleading. Many of the residents in Home Lea have slight dementia and have only been placed in a care home because they can no longer stay at home with carers. My Mum has Parkinson's Disease and Parkinson's related dementia and needs 24 hour care. Having a warden in a flat would not fulfil her needs. She has experienced 3 local independent care homes where she has suffered falls, and in one of them neglect to the extent that she almost died of de-hydration due to the lack of care and constant use of agency staff who were not even aware of her situation.

I understand Council has budgets and cuts to make but through Covid 19 we have protected the elderly and vulnerable massively and now closure of ANY homes is devastating. I believe cuts for budgets could definitely be made in other ways. Let's not let our elderly and vulnerable down!

We want the residents to be alright because Home Lea House is such a lovely home. If the decision is made, we hope to be able to keep a job.

Home Lea is a happy home. Our residents love living here. They shouldn't have to face the stress and anxiety/worry that comes from this process. It will be so much upheaval if they have to move somewhere else, as they are vulnerable and should be living life stress and worry free.

I am very committed to my work and hard working. I am worried for the residents and for myself and my colleagues. I am worried about having to go for interviews at my age.

Home Lea House is a really good place to work. Staff are friendly and hard working. Residents are lovely and very supportive families. Also Rothwell community is amazing.

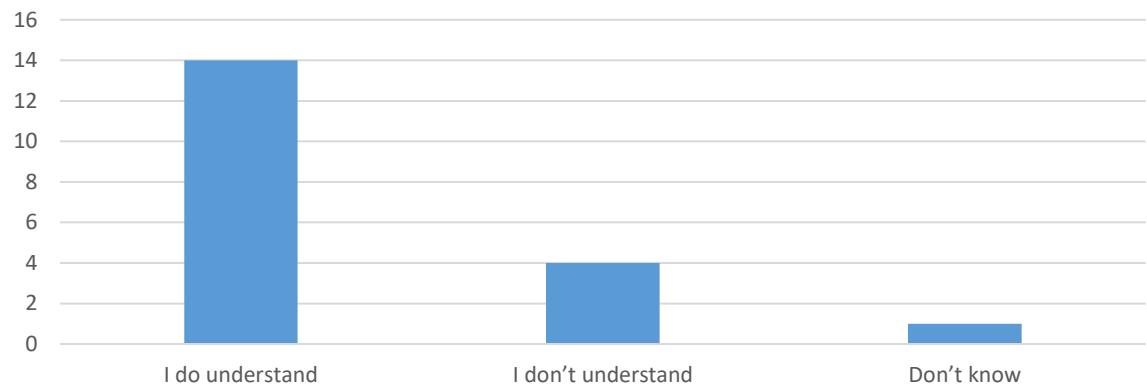
Richmond House General Public Consultation, January to March 2021 - Survey Results

(19 Responses)

After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?

I do understand	I don't understand	Don't know
14	4	1

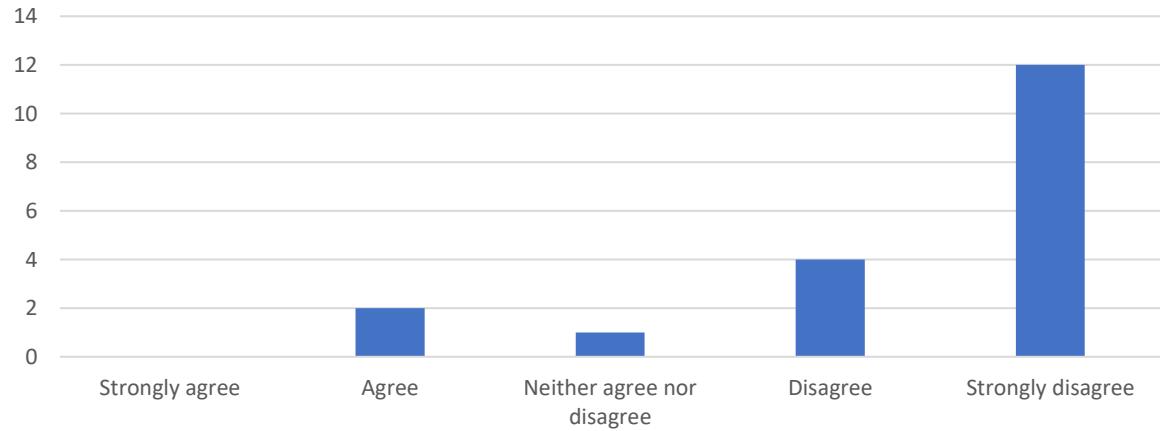
After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?



How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Richmond House short stay residential care home? Please tick one box.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
0	2	1	4	12

How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Richmond House short stay residential care home?



Please tell us the reason for your answer
If the occupancy has been low for the past year, it's not being used and I agree could be closed to make savings, as long as existing occupants are moved or supported within home care. If it does close then I agree with what is being proposed.
The beds are needed. What would happen to those people who don't have the funds constantly required for care.
Whilst it initially sounds an extreme measure to save money, after reading the paper and levels of occupancy being below, 100% it does make economic sense. However, this must be balanced with the needs of the people requiring care.
I don't think closing a service to vulnerable people is a good move but I understand the reasons why the Council need to make budgetary cuts.
Short term care is essential to support carers.
There is no other facility like this in the west of the city. Family members of the residents may not be able to travel across the city to visit their loved ones meaning the resident may feel abandoned. This is not a good way to save cash! This will only put hardship on residents, future residents and all of their relatives.
Again LCC has priorities all wrong. Why should we care for the elderly when you want another silly cycle path? Why provide care for the elderly when you can raise Council Tax 3.99-4% year on year and blame the government for "cuts" when you get paid £100k annually salary wise? I strongly disagree with the closure of Richmond House. You have no idea what the people of the real world have to endure. No idea at all and you certainly have no idea about cost saving, given your silly road schemes/cycle super highway rubbish.
Where else in the area provides the same provision?
You don't explain how many people went through Richmond House during a year. If average occupancy is 62% presumably this is not unexpected for some term return to own home accommodation. If closed where do these people go? No doubt they will become more institutionalised in a home forever. This will increase council costs paying for long term care.
I put up a change.uk poll on the local Farsley Community What's On Facebook page and over 1200 signatures were obtained from members of the public objecting to the closure. It is a very much required facility in West Leeds and I am afraid to say that LCC have deliberately run the numbers down to try and show that it is not required. Richmond House is a far better facility than the one in Beeston and it is easier for relatives to access. LCC have tried this tactic before as they see this is valuable land for building on. From figures I have seen on savings it is very short sighted.
It has a wonderful track record of caring for people. Well respected in the community. We need to keep this home. Please rethink.
There are no similar facilities in this area but for some reason, it isn't being used in appropriate circumstances. My Mum was sent to Middleton, from Pudsey, for 10 weeks, my 82 year old Dad drove there and back, 3 times each day, they have been married for over 60 years, they need each other, they have a big family but it isn't the same. Fortunately, he was physically and financially able to do this, I don't wish for others to be in this position. Look at why it isn't being used. Look at where our residents are currently being sent further afield, why and what this costs. Put energies into promotion and alignment to current, local needs. Work with ALL people, professional and public to find a way forward to keep Richmond House for its current demographic. The community respect this facility and will rally to support it.
There is an ongoing need for respite facilities like Richmond House to allow people to recover outside of a hospital setting, to free those beds up especially in times of a pandemic.
A service that needs promoting and being allowed to be used to its full potential.
Short-term care helps recovering people to prepare for the next step without making them too reliant on others. It gives them a positive experience.

When our elected people make decisions re. savings, the research to put suggestions forward is made by unaccountable officers regardless of the impact on local services. Surely one cannot justify the employment of people higher up. Adult services who cost the tax payer yet provide no direct service, that's where I would begin. Councillors of any persuasion in times past were more involved and defended the vulnerable.

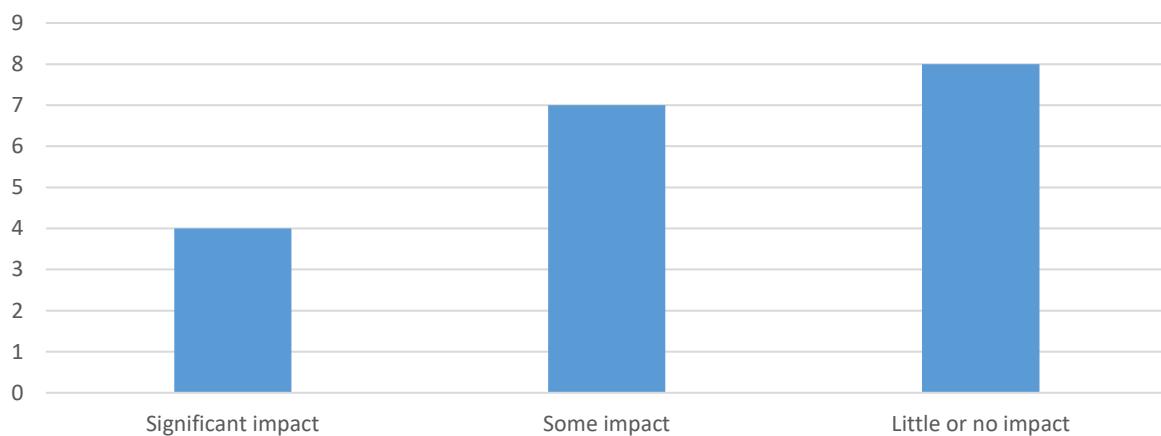
Over the years I have had several friends and relatives who have been grateful for the care and respite that Richmond House provides, both for patients and their relatives. Respite is the description of the facilities and that is what is provided. We are all getting older and these council care homes are getting fewer and fewer. The thought of a few weeks in there to get back on one's feet, is surely better than facing longer spells in hospital or a permanent care home. Try saving money in other ways. Stopping cycle lanes would be my choice for saving vast amounts of money. Care facilities are used significantly more than the cycle lanes and are much more in use than cycle lanes.

I first went to Richmond House about five years ago after I had broken my hip. I had two stays there and had physio and rehab before I returned to my own home. I was dealt with kindness, caring good humour from all there and because of their support I was able to return home. After that I have returned regularly for respite care so my daughter who looks after me can go on holiday. The care team have remained the same and treat me like an old friend. I feel comfortable there and enjoy going. It is a lovely place and from catering staff, cleaners and care staff, all are lovely. It is clean, a well-appointed home from home. Why would you want to close somewhere like that?

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?

Significant impact	Some impact	Little or no impact
4	7	8

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?



Please tell us the reason for your answer

I live in Farsley, however have never had to visit the centre in question.

I do not have relatives with a need as yet.

I live in the locality but have no direct involvement with the care home.

I am not a user of the service.

The older population is increasing and we need services to meet need, especially in times of family breakdown/crisis.
At this stage I have not used the facility nor would potentially have use for it in the short-term - however I feel it is a very necessary facility for the west of the city.
My father is 90 years old, he is currently in hospital and has been admitted on two other occasions since July. He is at the stage where this provision would help him adjust from being in hospital and getting on his feet for going home.
We are all getting older and will need this service in the future.
Many of the people who use this facility are from Pudsey, Farsley, Calverley, Rodley, Bramley and Stanningley and it has easy access for friends and relatives to visit.
I may need this facility at some point but as treasurer of an elderly person lunch club, I know how important this local facility is.
To me at this time, none, although it has in the past affected my immediate family (see first response). It's not about me, it's about my community, which includes old as well as young. I know many older people and many people who have older family members. Richmond House would be ideal for many who find themselves in need of services, but they are sent elsewhere much further away. Many can't travel far so absence is enforced. This impacts others' health and is totally avoidable and a hidden cost.
I currently don't have anyone in my family that are in need of their services.
I live in the area and I have friends who live local and work in Richmond House.
I live round the corner from Richmond House. It would be an ideal venue if I had to recover from hospitalisation.
No service locally for the area, pressure on NHS, more deaths, increased pressure on families. As an older person, just imagine the Council's hands when they cannot fulfil a need!
My husband and I are in reasonable health and may not need to have care. We have a family unit that is strong but there are lots of elderly people that have no other means of care. For people to have to come out of hospital to an empty house must be terrible. I know that there can be care packages put in place but that is not the same as having someone around all the time.
It is one of the very few places that is affordable. A lot of other places charge a lot more money, have fancy features but the care is not as good. We cannot afford to go to some of these places anyway so my daughter will not be able to have a holiday which she needs.

What could the Council do to reduce the potential impact?
Plan in advance!!! Ensure residents have a place to go before closure. Tell local residents plans for the building when it's closed. People do not like to see run down derelict buildings in this village and a lot of people will want to know what's happening to the site once it closes.
A phased approach to closing the care home must be done, taking into account the needs of all the residents, the staff and families affected.
Keep Richmond house open and consider alternative cuts elsewhere in the Council's services.
Look at other areas where they waste budgets.
Leave the facility alone, it is needed and fulfils a need to residents in the west of the city.
Don't close the care home!!!
Sell some of their empty premises and unused equipment.
Charge for the cost of the accommodation on a means tested basis. Alternatively offer the property as a community asset and get someone else to run the property as a need for this type of accommodation exists.
Keep it open for future generations of old people.
Keep this facility open and save money elsewhere.

Keep it open by understanding why it is low occupancy when the local need is so great then fix that problem.
Maintain funding and recognise its value.
Leave it open.
Make savings in other sections of their remit or raise Council Tax.
Use money it has in other areas to support this local service. Keep the service.
Keep places like Richmond House open and cut back on things like the previously mentioned cycle lanes. You can drive miles down the road between Leeds and Bradford without seeing a single cyclist. They cause more disruption for other road users and pedestrians.
Not close the place or offer places of a standard the same as Richmond House for the same money.

Please state if there is another viable approach which you believe should be considered?
Keep it open, develop it to have day services as well providing respite for carers.
As above.
Less spent on external services.
Stop wasteful spending on car parks, hotels and city of culture 2023 among other things! Look after your residents properly.....
You should look to scrap the pointless bus lane schemes, aimed at increasing car congestion for your precious bus contracts with First. Would save how many millions???
Transfer to another party to run it as a business.
From the amount of money they are saving, no. They could stop some of the other hair brain schemes they come up with, which quite frankly do not work but the Leader and other members think they look good.
Understanding what the issues are rather than killing the problem.
None.
As above.
As above.
How about not seeing it as a foregone conclusion in the first place. Look at a cost benefit analysis and determine how you can take a hard look at people's salaries in relation to a diminished service.
There is no other alternative. Neither myself or my daughter who is my carer can afford to pay more.

Finally, do you have any other comments?
Times have changed and people live at home longer. If the Council can close this home and offer people better care in home or a more equipped centre then I see no reason why it shouldn't be closed. Staff MUST be reassigned locally, however, I feel this is only fair if you decide to close the site. You must have alternative employment for those care staff.
No.
Look at wage costs for top posts - is it right that a fairly junior post in the administration pays a larger salary than those who run the country??
I think I've said all I need to.
Please think about our community and the care needed, especially for the older citizens.
If this property does close what is proposed for the site?
No.
Only to say a facility like this cannot and should not be replaced elsewhere.

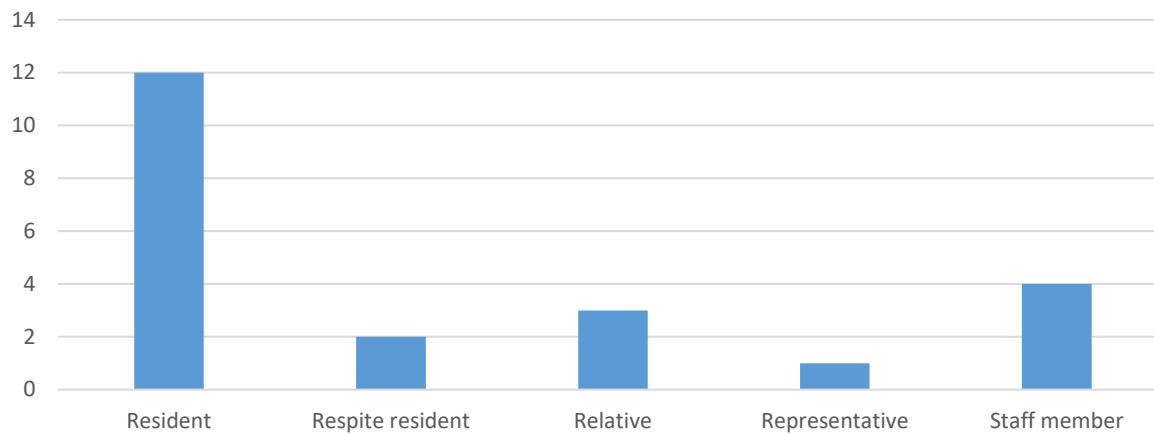
How local needs will be met both to the patients and the needs of their families.
I hope the campaign to keep Richmond House and similar facilities open is a success.
If it closes, as you are planning, local people will draw attention to who it is across our city who are making these decisions and involve the press and MPs.
I think I have covered all my concerns.
Yes, I understand the Council has money problems but why close a well-run, well-staffed place. I am sure savings could be made in other ways. If the place isn't full all the time why not do something to ensure it is. Once people go there they want to go again. Where can people go to give carers a break that doesn't cost the earth? I suspect this is not a real consultation and that the decision has already been made, but I think you are wrong. You talk a lot about carers and looking after them but provide nothing for carers if they have no money, it's all talk. In addition, I got this form on 23rd March, closing date for consultation is 26th March. How on earth could I fill it in and post it back! I have had to get someone to type it for me, as I say you have already made the decision and are just pretending to go through the motions.

Richmond House Consultation, January to March 2021 - Survey Results (20 Responses)

Are you a?				
Resident	Respite resident	Relative	Representative	Staff member
12	2	3	1	4

Please note the answer to the above could be more than one category.

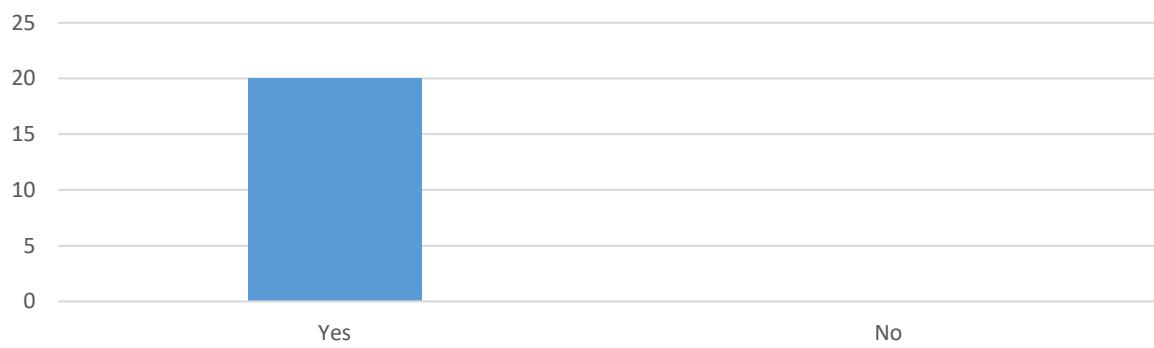
Are you a resident, respite resident, relative, representative or staff member?



The information you have read at the start of this survey explains the background to these proposals and outlines the consultation process. Have you read it or had it fully explained to you?

Yes	No
20	0

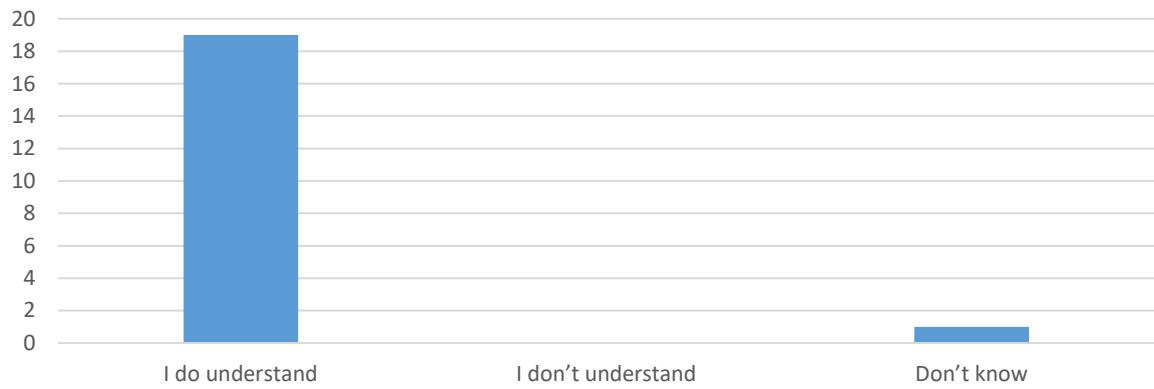
The information you have read at the start of this survey explains the background to these proposals and outlines the consultation process. Have you read it or had it fully explained to you?



After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?

I do understand	I don't understand	Don't know
19	0	1

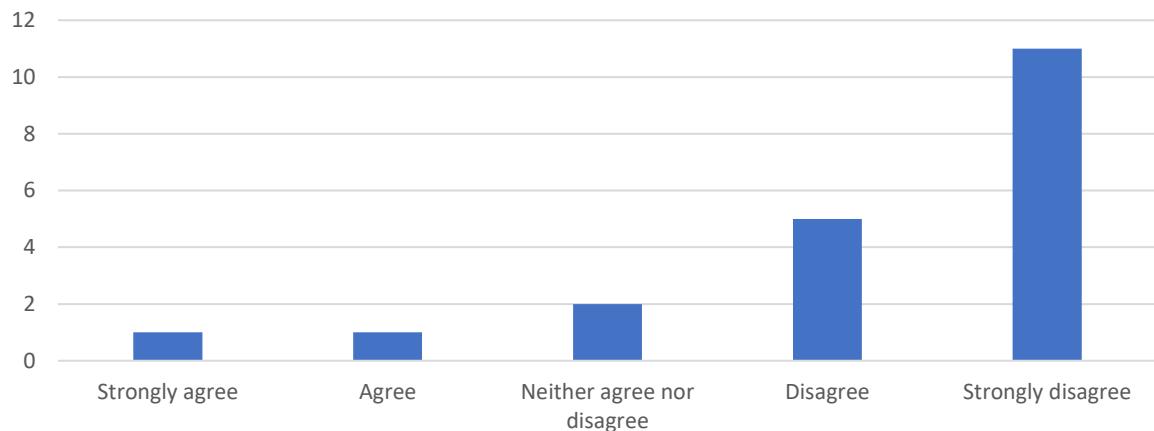
After reading the information or having it fully explained to you, do you understand why the Council wants to make these changes?



How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Richmond House short stay residential care home? Please tick one box.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	1	2	5	11

How much do you agree or disagree with the proposals to close Richmond House short stay residential care home?



Please tell us the reason for your answer
I do not feel like Richmond House has been supported, not just through the pandemic, but beforehand. As stated, only 60% of the beds were full, but it hasn't been taken into consideration about the residents we are getting in and staff numbers on the floor. We can have 10 residents and it can feel full due to individual needs. Nobody explained to staff about the change in residents we were receiving and the issues they had, or even ages. (Not elderly men and ladies - young people with serious mental health/alcoholics/drug addicts). If staff were updated and provided training for this, it would have been managed better. Richmond House has so much potential to be a 'safe place' if support to the home was given. Admissions were being held back due to the lack of this, especially when only x2 members of staff were allowed on the floor due to low numbers but dealing with high dependency residents. We all feel we have been given up on.
The staff are good and you get looked after well. It's a nice place to be.
Because there are a lot of unwell people in this place.
If you're in hospital you need somewhere to recuperate. It's a local home. Family can come and see you. It's not far to come. You get well looked after. If you need help, they're there all the time. The staff are all friendly. The other place I went to was all very old people. I want to live somewhere like this where there's staff all the time.
We don't want it to close. The staff are like family. I love it here. I love everything about it. It's a bit like a hospital and a home.
I came here because I was stuck in hospital for a long time. The staff here help me with washing myself, cleaning my room, making my meals. They got me new clothes. I need more help otherwise things go back to the same way. They will help me with that here.
It's up to the Council because it's a business. If you are not meeting your targets, it's no use moving forwards.
You never know when you might need a service like this and they aren't close together. People need this help and the staff are kind. It's a nice home.
Because things change. The Covid pandemic means we don't know what things will be like in 6 months. The care staff do a great job. I've never been in a place like this before. They work hard, make you feel comfortable and do the best they can.
Over 10 years we have struggled to get respite, which allows us to continue to care. Richmond House has been the most consistent, high quality service in the whole of Leeds for respite. It's the one service where I have peace of mind. The best care elderly frail people can have is with their family but quality respite is essential to keep this going. It's an easy target but very short-sighted in the long term. The people who use the service deserve continuity.
My 87 year old mother is familiar with the routine of a two week stay at Richmond House. It's local for my nieces and I to pop in. The staff are great, my mum looks forward to 2 weeks over the Christmas period and 2 weeks in August which allows me to have a holiday with my family. It's a local home - the rest of the family is too far away. There's just me and her niece in Pudsey so it is local to us to take her there and back because she doesn't like travelling with taxis or other transport. We have tried other places and it is a lot more money and not as good quality.
It just needs to fill its rooms up. It's a nice home with friendly staff. When you come out of hospital and you can hardly walk like I could - they can handle it.
A decision has to be made. If it's not financially viable to keep it going then the residents will have to be dispersed amongst other homes. I have found it a good place, people try and do their best for you here.
They need to look after people. These people who work there are very helpful and will lose their jobs. The people who live there might end up on the streets. The people who live there are very poorly. The residents and staff deserve much better.

I understand the budget position and the occupancy at Richmond House has been low since I have been in post and I do believe the service can be provided in other ways. If the customers were permanent residents then I would perhaps hold a different opinion on the proposal but the customers here are short stay and do not have any ties to the service. They will all be moving on at some point.

Part of the information is about people going into permanent care at the start of the form. Given that affordable options for carers are reducing, there are so few places for respite across the city without a massive top-up. It means that, as a carer, you have very little, if any choice of where to go. Sitting services are increasingly expensive. For some people, the cost is a massive issue. There needs to be some way of getting a break to allow us to keep caring for people at home. There is a consistent, well-trained, person-centred staff group and dad loves them all. It's provided very good care - daughter can go on holiday because she has full confidence that they will look after dad well.

They want to save money. They (the residents) will have nowhere to go. They shut all the centres down - even the new ones get shut down now. I've been in centres and a hostel and they flattened that down. People are alright here. The staff put you to bed and give you a bath or a shower. They help me.

Richmond House is well known for being a caring well-run establishment. It doesn't have a quick turnover of staff. Many have worked at Richmond House for many years. Outside agencies have regularly commented at how we look after our customers with pride and full respect. I think it would be a shame to close a well-run highly committed and dedicated team/home down.

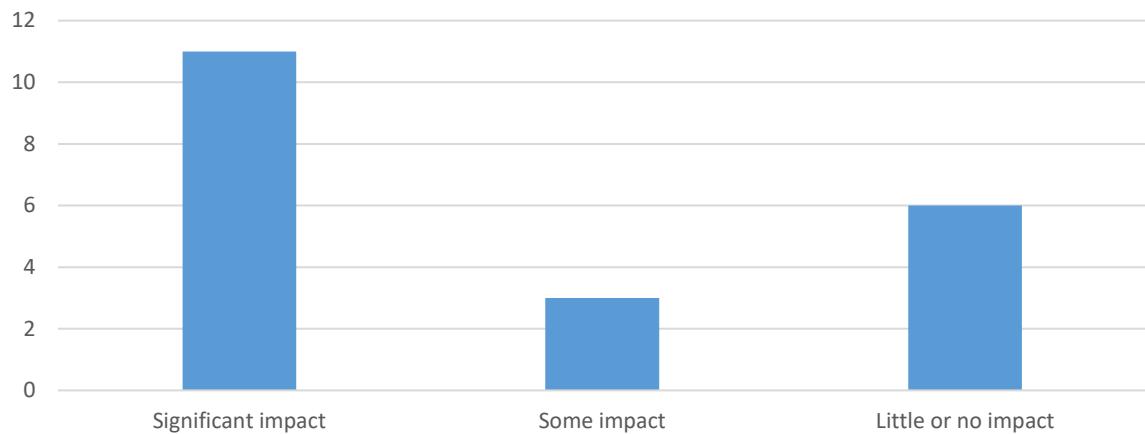
I do not agree at all and believe the Council is being very short sighted and denying people like my mother and myself the local authority respite facility. 10 years ago my mother was assessed and I was assessed regarding care needs. My mother has dementia; arthritis; glaucoma; coeliac to mention a few of her ailments. These have only worsened over the last 10 years, including falls with broken bones (one in rehab - Green Lane as recent as yesterday at 21.3.01). Jane Atkinson, the social worker at the time, assessed her needs as needing respite 42 days a year. The last year this service denied due to Covid. At no time has any social worker consulted me about the closure and given any useful information about any alternative local authority respite provision. Unpaid carers like me save the local authority thousands of pounds looking after disabled people. It is disgraceful that the local authority propose to cut this service, which is the one thing that I as my mum's full time carer value more than anything. Until Covid it was a service that I utilised 100% and the staff provided excellent respite care for the resident (anonymised), unlike any provision.

I understand to what has been said about the closure, that old people do not want to be in such a setting which doesn't motivate them to still be alive. The building was built for nursing people, they, the rooms are not en-suite most of them that residents have to use commode or walk out of there to bedrooms to use toilets which are communal.

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?

Significant impact	Some impact	Little or no impact
11	3	6

If the proposal to close the home goes ahead what might the impact be on you?



Please tell us the reason for your answer

I worked so hard for this role. For 5 years I was on the local care force agency and this was the only home I came to where I felt at home. Only last year I got the position and I've never felt so happy and complete in what I did. The managers and staff are all so wonderful and approachable. The hours suited my life as I have a two year old.

It would be such a huge shame and such a sad day if Richmond closes. I feel so passionate about it. It would impact on my life hugely.

I won't be here because I am going home but I still don't think it should be shut.

I like it here, I feel safe, I've got used to it.

I'm going to move on. I know it will take time. It all depends whether there is somewhere I can go from here. I'm wondering about where I'll go next.

I hope I won't still be here and they will have helped me move on. I'm waiting for my home to be cleaned.

There will be an impact for people who don't/won't/can't live privately. People would be worried about where they will go.

I'll be going back home, but if something happened in future, you might need it again. There's an impact on the other people, especially people who are here longer.

Because I don't know what happens next.

People who are full-time carers will hit a brick wall and won't be able to continue caring if they don't have trusted respite to be able to alleviate some of the pressure and allow for some time off. Respite has been the most valuable support the local authority has been able to give us. When the Green shut, I had great trouble finding another place, then we tried Yeadon and that shut. When we got to Richmond House, we were able to book regular respite and plan ahead, which we couldn't anywhere else. We have great anxiety that the service is just being withdrawn. The need for respite will increase, not decrease. My mum has dementia (and has had it for 10 years), has benefitted from the continuity from the team at Richmond House and has remembered and mentioned Richmond House to the hospital staff recently.

I will have to cancel the summer holiday with my children and be available 24/7 365 days of the year, unless alternative arrangements could be put in/be in place for summer and Christmas. At some times over the past year, because of Covid restrictions, they couldn't take her anymore and I am desperate for some respite.

I won't be here. Other people will be.

I live on my own and my family aren't close by so it doesn't make much difference where I'm staying. To somebody else, it may make a big difference. Everybody has a different situation.
It's very bad to move him. The people who work with these people know the residents well. He (my brother) needs 24 hour care from people who understand him. People are poorly and will get more poorly and stressed and it's not right, especially at this time.
I am hopeful that if Richmond House does close I will be granted ELI and be able to take early retirement.
Daughter says dad goes happily to the home and enjoys the care and support. Daughter, Fiona can go away with confidence and know dad is okay - needs a break emotionally, physically and psychologically from caring (with peace of mind). Daughter wouldn't be able to go on holiday if the home were to close because dad wouldn't want to go anywhere else and the strain of caring would hugely increase.
I won't be here, will I? But other people were here before I came. I don't know if they would still be here.
There is no other Council home in this area. I live in a very isolated place with no means of transport as my husband has not long passed away. It would mean walking to catch two buses late at night/early morning. I would also miss the support of my friends/colleagues who I have worked with for many years.
It will 100% affect my ability to permanently care for my mother and give such stress and ill health to myself and my family not being able to plan any break in my 100% care of my mother. I have other care commitments to my grandchildren too and what kept me going was knowing every few weeks I could plan for mum's care to be taken over by a group of people who really understand my mother's care needs and responded appropriately. I believe the Council are targeting unpaid carers as an easy target for cuts. It is the case that no alternative provision from the local authority has been discussed with myself.
It will be a significant impact to my system because I am getting old and starting something new will be a good challenge for me. Anyway, when I joined the Council in 2008 I managed to upgrade myself educationally and gained an Honours degree in Youth and Community Development in 2012. I can work with young people in residential which will be good for me. However, 3 years ago I managed to gain a Diploma in Adult and Social Care which can be useful, hence I have duty of care and I can work with parents and their children.

What could the Council do to reduce the potential impact?
The Council need to speak up. SUPPORT US! Listen to staff concerns, have some answers as to why we have never had a meeting about the clientele in, and when requested one, everyone is always too busy. Keep us open, supply us with the training and keep us in the loop.
Don't know.
Keep it open to help everybody. If they close this down, where's other people going to go.
This is the first time I've been in a home so I don't know what somewhere else would be like.
Provide another house for them with all the care needed (or send people back to their family with help by sending carers to their family house).
Don't close it. Keep people close to home and family. When my dad was in a council home and it closed, he had to go to Bingley and it was awkward for family to get there.
Obviously finding somewhere adequate to move to, may be another care home.
Ensure that there is an equivalent service. I'd like to know what and where and have a plan in place. I'd rather that a facility which is working perfectly well was not closed. The demand for respite will not decrease. It's only going to increase with the effects of long Covid and also as Covid restrictions allow respite again, there will be a much higher need. People are waiting to have a break and are in great need of it to be able to continue caring.

Please keep it open, or make similar alternative accommodation. We would like to not be forgotten about and have the same respite times, the same cost and the same level of care.
They need to get some more clients.
The Council needs to do their best to make sure your needs are cared for.
It's not right to close the home. There is such a high quality of care.
Keep somewhere like Richmond House open or provide an alternative at local authority rates so carers can get a break (of a similar standard of care). Why couldn't it be used better as a hub? It's not known about enough, which makes it under-utilised. They used to have physios and OTs - given that hubs are bursting at the seams, why couldn't it be used that way?
I don't know.
Provide an immediate named local authority short term/respite provision that is guaranteed I will be able to use in the near future.
First I need my redundancy pay or Early Leavers if not then secondly, I need to work with young people, if possible not in another home with elderly people no. I am a mature woman which will make sense for me for the 3 choices I have put across. Most importantly I am a single woman and I have never been on benefit since I came to the UK 21 years ago.

Please state if there is another viable approach which you believe should be considered?
We haven't been full because of the reasons I've stated. Fill us up, let us have more staff on shift, provide us with training and see what difference it can make.
There must be other ways to save money. The government should give the Council more money.
They could charge people to stay permanently. If they kept it open, they could make it into a permanent home and people could stop here all the time. I like it here and would stay here.
I don't know.
The Council needs to look at why they are not meeting their targets. Do they need to reduce the workforce or add more patients?
I've heard they've spent a lot on making changes in the city centre (pavements and cycle lanes). The Council needs to think more about other areas where people live.
The Council doesn't appear to have an option, the way that it's put here because the figures show a massive gap. It makes sense in a business sense but not for the people that live in the homes.
If you contacted all the respite customers from prior to Covid (over the previous year) you would find a higher need. What time frame was used to compile the statistics? There has been a freeze on respite so this has affected the occupancy figures over the last year. They should put the prices up for respite. It's much cheaper than my mother going into a home 24 hours.
None.
Why not let all the rooms out?
I don't know.
Disabled and poorly people need special help, especially at this time when people can be very low. The Council should keep places and good staff because these are the people who need it most.
Not a money-saving approach, but it could be better used. It's been refurbished and has great facilities.
I don't know.
Respite home.
I do not believe the local authority should reduce/stop any respite provision. It is short sighted and not cost effective in the long term. Us unpaid permanent carers gave Leeds local authority 13 billion pound a year as it is.

As for Richmond House, the best thing is to demolish it and build new housing or flats for elderly people to live. As for me, my Early Leavers and redundancy pay, that will be nice.

Finally, do you have any other comments?

Please listen to staff. We know better than anyone, it's so unfair during a pandemic especially. I have worked through the whole thing and my mental health has been hit hard. I know Richmond House is better than this. Thank you.

It's not fair on the staff.

No, because all the staff are nice and make you welcome.

While there's a pandemic (and all the time) it's a safe place. I'm worried about the staff and the other residents and where they will all go.

The staff are alright. They help me and make sure I get a shower and my tablets.

I like the service here. They are very respectful and they make the house like a family house. They don't treat you like a patient. They listen to your problems and advise you if you need it.

Where would you go if you closed this home? Would you have to go further and how would people visit? A lot of people haven't got cars. It will also affect people's jobs.

Although it might be a quick cut, if you look at what the local authority saves through having carers caring, that saves much more. Demand for respite won't decrease but demand for 24 hour care, which is more costly will increase as a direct consequence of short breaks being in shorter supply.

We do our bit and although I get 2 weeks off here and there, I think we save the Council a lot of money. The time off we get is a godsend – we really need it.

Obviously, if you're closing somewhere, you're losing facilities, so it must be a difficult decision. I've found the care here has been very good. People are interested in you and your health. They're all doing their best.

Everybody should have rights and be well looked after.

The level of care is what is important. It's not about the building, it's about the care the team shows towards the residents (which is very individual and very personalised).

It's alright here. I like it.

I think it will be a very sad day when we close.

I am horrified at the poor level of care provided by the rehab centre that the local authority is using for people discharged from hospital (Green Lane). My mother, Joan Scott was a previous regular respite user of Richmond House.

My Early Leavers and redundancy pay please.