



## 22. REVIEW OF LOW DEMAND SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION

The Corporate Director of Housing submitted a report concerning a recent review of Sheltered Accommodation in the City.

The report explained that there was a growing frail elderly population in the City, but most older people preferred to receive health care and social support in their own homes. In this context, the demand for the Council's Sheltered Accommodation was falling, although individual schemes remained popular, and some had a waiting list.

A number of initiatives had been taken to increase demand, but there were some schemes where there was still low demand. The report described the implications of closing Lily Marriott House, and William Smith House, which were both under subscribed.

Members' attention was drawn to a petition with 581 signatures, received from Councillor Getliffe, in the following terms :

“ We, the undersigned tenants, together with the community in and around William Smith House, Beaumont Leys, call on the ruling Cabinet and the Council to reject moves to dispose of the property by any means, therefore depriving us of our homes. We further call upon the Council to invest resources, and come forward with a means of ensuring our futures, and those members of the community who will benefit from the facilities provided in William Smith House in the future.”

Councillor Getliffe spoke at length on behalf of the residents of William Smith House.

Councillor Allen moved that the Scrutiny Committee support the proposals to close Lily Marriott House, and William Smith House; this was seconded by Councillor Smith, and put to the vote.

Councillors Allen, Karim, Keeling and Smith voted for the motion.  
Councillors Corral, Draycott and Getliffe voted against the motion.

The motion was carried by four votes to three.

RESOLVED :

- (1) that the petition be noted; and
- (2) that the Cabinet be informed that the Scrutiny Committee supported the proposals for the closure of Lily Marriott House, and William Smith House.