

## **CONSERVATIVES CALL FOR DELAY ON CARE HOMES CLOSURE**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Conservatives on Stirling Council today announced their intention to revisit the issue of care home provision. This is as a result of information that has become clear since the Council Budget Meeting On February 19th.

Despite administration assurances during the budget process, there is no clear plan for reprovision of places for elderly residents of the Wellgreen and Beech Gardens homes.

Consultation with the residents has been crass and insensitive with leading SNP Councillors using the closure to make Party Political points. The shambolic nature of these consultations has led to distress and uncertainty amongst Stirling's most vulnerable people.

Speaking on the issue Conservative Group Leader, Councillor Alistair Berrill said:

"In these hard economic times, the council needs to live within its means, but this is the wrong way to achieve this. The SNP administration's high handed implementation of the care home closures is unnecessary and insensitive."

"The Conservatives have found potential savings in back-office bureaucracy, contained in the same report that recommended the care home closures, that can halt the closure of these vital front line services."

"If these care homes must be closed in the future then it must be handled sensitively and suitable alternative provision must be put in place."

The Conservative Group is calling for an emergency council meeting to discuss taking another look at these home closures. They will be working together with all parties in the council to ensure services are delivered and budgets are met.

**Ends**