

**Press Release issued by CARE  
(Campaign Against Residents Eviction) 9.3.09**



The recent press statement released by Councillor Berrill, Leader of the Conservative Group on Stirling Council is welcomed by CARE. Although belated, the sentiments expressed by him are shared by us particularly in relation to the shambolic lack of consultation and any clear strategy for relocating the elderly residents of both homes.

This confirms to us that the original decision was taken in undue and indecent haste without effective dialogue or consultation even within the ruling executive of Stirling Council never mind the general public. This quite frankly beggars belief and the legacy of this ill judged and ill conceived action is now all too self evident in the devastating impact it has had on the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens and their families. The current atmosphere in both homes among residents and staff is also testament to the failure of the consultation process and an all too timely reminder that elected members and officials should have spoken with all the interested parties and organizations before reaching this decision. We are not encouraged then to still hear the Leader of the Council stating

“Hopefully once we have had a chance to discuss members’ concerns we can all understand the reasons why the council had to take this difficult decision.”

The provision of elderly care services and for that matter all care services provided by Stirling Council is surely not just a matter of concern for key agencies, elected councillors and officials to determine in isolation. The biggest stakeholder and recipient of these services is the general public and they should have a far greater say in the future provision and delivery of these services in the Stirling Council area.

That is why CARE has decided to give the general public an opportunity to attend a public meeting to discuss these home closures.

This public meeting will be held at the Old Allan Park Cinema, Stirling at 6.45pm for 7pm this Thursday, 12 March, 2009. All local councillors, MSPs, the constituency MP and relevant Directors of Service within Stirling Council have been invited to attend.

We ask that you CARE enough to attend this meeting.

If you wish to keep updated on the work of our group please check out our link on the CVS Stirling website at [www.cvs-stirling.org.uk/](http://www.cvs-stirling.org.uk/)  
Neina Keenan

Chair  
Care