



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr Bruce McDonald  
Leader  
Elmbridge Borough Council  
Civic Centre  
High Street  
Esher  
KT10 9SD

2 February 2024

Dear Cllr McDonald,

Thank you for your reply to my letter relating to the future of Elmbridge Dementia Services.

Many local residents have been in touch with me to express their concerns about what Elmbridge Borough Council's proposals for Thames Ditton Centre for the Community mean for the future of Dementia Services after years of neglect and running down the centre. I was surprised when reading your letter that you have failed to address their legitimate concerns and will be proceeding with the vote on 7 February 2024 without confirming a specific, guaranteed, alternative site and provider for Dementia Services.

Frankly, it is outrageous that Elmbridge Borough Council is prepared go ahead with a vote that will put a much-valued service, that some of the more vulnerable people in our community rely on, in jeopardy. The people attending Dementia Services, and their families, are already dealing with the difficulties life with dementia brings – placing this unnecessary burden of uncertainty over the future of the service on top of these difficulties is not only unfair, but deeply irresponsible.

Dementia Services allow people with dementia to socialise and participate in activities, whilst giving their families access to support and respite. It is essential that those who use the service can be certain of what the future of Dementia Services will look like. With this in mind, I look forward to receiving a comprehensive reply confirming the details of an alternative site and provider for Dementia Services, and a clear guaranteed timeline to prevent any gap in provision. Unless these details can be confirmed, I call on you and Elmbridge Borough Council to postpone the vote on 7 February 2024.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dominic Raab'.