



# KAFKA Save Our Services

<http://knutsfordareaforknutsfordaction.blogspot.com>

In presenting this Petition, signatures of which have been gained over the short time of only two months (14 October 2011 – 14 December 2011) **Knutsford Area For Knutsford Action**, states that it represents the view of more than 6000 people, who object to the current policy of removing local services for local people from local areas.

What began as a serious attempt to gain support for a number of learning disabled adults who attend The Stanley Centre, caught fire across Cheshire East and over its borders. Carers and other volunteers have committed a large part of their valuable social time to this Petition, and invite Cheshire East Council Representatives to take very seriously the results obtained.

We now present **a three-part Petition.**

**The first part** consists of more than 3000 signatures gathered in Knutsford;

**The second part** is a similar number of signatures gathered in towns and villages across Cheshire East and on its borders;

**The third part** is a 275 signature petition on the single topic of The Stanley Centre, which was begun by family members of an adult who attends the Stanley Centre.

To this petition we add,:

1. a copy of **Cheshire East LINK Report** on The Stanley Centre - 11 November 2011
2. a copy of **Knutsford Town Council Health and Social Care Work Group's Report** - November 2011
3. a **Care Quality Commission Report on Bexton Court** – showing that it was well run and appreciated by its service users and their carers - prior to its unnecessary closure – 14 April 2010
4. A Knutsford Guardian news item on the recently issued **MENCAP Report on The Stanley Centre** showing the centre's usefulness to the learning disabled and their carers – 14 December 2011.
5. **A Report to Cabinet, on Dementia Strategy – Building Based Services Review – showing an 80% occupancy of Bexton Court just before it was closed** - produced by Director of Adult Services, Mr Phil Lloyd – 20 April 2010
6. A copy of the **Report of East Cheshire NHS Trust's Director of Performance and Quality, Kath Senior on 'Temporary Closure of Tatton Ward'** – 09 September 2010
7. A copy of **Cheshire East Council's 05 October 2011 Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Minutes**, during which a formal request was made - and undertaking given - to look into the effect of the current difficulties and worries experienced by service users and carers, about the future of their Day and Respite Services – 05 October 2011
8. Extract from **Cheshire East Council's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Work Programme** – showing (Page 30) that the Health and Wellbeing aspects of the current crisis in social care was **'To be prioritised'** - presented with Agenda for 10 November 2011 Meeting effectively closed down all consideration of this matter for several months at that meeting.
9. Knutsford Guardian 01 December 2011 and email to Charlotte Peters Rock from **Cheshire Police Area Commander, Michael Garrihy** – 02 December 2011.

We formally request a full response from Cheshire East Council, on all aspects of this broad-ranging Petition, and ask that it should take careful account of the legal requirements on public bodies, under the European Convention on Human Rights, and under the many aspects of disability legislation in operation within the UK, in respect of non-discrimination towards disabled people and the right of all people to have their family life uninterrupted unnecessarily by any official or public body.

We petition Cheshire East Council on this day, Thursday, 15 December 2011, to carefully consider the needs and rights of service users and carers.. and further to consider – in view of point 9 - whether any adequate 'consultation' has ever – yet - taken place between Cheshire East Council and residents of the Knutsford Area, in respect of social care and health services.

**15 December 2011**