

COUNCIL 13 December 2023

Item 16 – Questions: Written Responses

2 Cllr S Gardiner

Written Response

Following the decision to cease day opportunities services at the Stanley Centre meetings between council staff and individuals and families/carers/advocates who access the service took place on 29th and 30th November, to discuss the options for alternative service provision.

Individuals and families have been provided with an information pack, contact details for social workers and arrangements have been made for visits to alternative services. We have given people a deadline of 8 January 2024 to respond to the social work teams with their preferences.

Following this, a transition process will be implemented to enable a smooth transfer over to new services.

We expect that this transition over to new services will be completed by 31st March 2024.

5 Cllr S Bennett-Wake

Written Response

In respect of the condition of Nicholson Close, I can confirm that Cheshire East Highways has had dialogue with the developer regarding several issues raised by the local community and ward member.

Mark Unwin from Hollins Homes has confirmed they will keep a close eye on any further damage to the highway verges resulting in mud nuisance on the carriageways and footways and will endeavour to clean up promptly to keep disruption to a minimum. The developer has also confirmed that any damage to the verges will be reinstated upon completion.

A recent inspection did not identify any issue with mud on the carriageway or footways but going forward we will continue to monitor the condition of the road to bring any safety concerns to the developer's attention as and when appropriate.

7 Cllr A Gage

Written Response

Thank you for your question at Council last week and for your subsequent correspondence.

The Council's Agile Working Policy sets out the framework for staff working arrangements, to provide clarity to staff and managers. The policy has been recently updated to include a section on working abroad, setting out the circumstances under which staff can access the Council's systems from outside of the UK and the process for requesting such access.

The policy states –

“Working outside of the UK is not permitted, unless required in an emergency/ exceptional circumstance and only for short periods of time. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Guidance and the approval form are attached but can be found on CEntranet.”

The policy directs staff to further guidance on using portable electronic devices abroad and a form they can complete to make a request to work abroad in the circumstances outlined above. The form is sent to the Information Assurance and Data Management (IADM) team, who will consider each individual request. The Leader of the Council has no involvement in this process. As a general rule councillors should be involved in setting policy and should not be involved directly with routine staff management issues.

The Fol response from Cheshire East Council that you supplied in the subsequent correspondence states “We do not currently have any employees with permission to work outside the UK.