



Elmbridge Borough Council

... bridging the communities ...

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Dominic Raab MP
House of Commons
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my ref:
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2 February 2024

Dear Mr Raab

Thank you for your letter, received by email today, concerning the future of the Dementia Service.

I have to say that in the light of the commitment I had given on behalf of the Council to the continuity of provision of this valued service, which was echoed in both the press statement to which I referred you, and in the Cabinet Report on the proposal for Thames Ditton, that I am both disappointed and surprised at what you have said today.

However, to cut to the chase, can I please draw your attention to the statement we issued on our website yesterday. Inter alia that says:

"We are committed to providing a best-in-class service for our clients, families, and carers, and the facilities housing the service are key to that.

We are pleased to let you know that we aim to open our Dementia Services facility at the Claygate Centre in April."

You will find it here <https://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/news/2024/elmbridge-dementia-services-updates>

In addition, yesterday we emailed Dementia Services carers about the service locating to Claygate centre. Several carers and clients are attending the centre this afternoon, helping us to develop a fit for purpose location for our much-valued clients, carers, and their families. You will be pleased to hear that we are spending £50,000 over the coming weeks to deliver this commitment. No doubt, you will be quick to draw my reply, and this statement, to anyone to whom you had circulated today's letter, in order to allay any concerns, it might have generated.

Can I also repeat my offer to meet with you to discuss this or any other local concerns. I would hope that we can work together constructively in the interests of our residents in our respective roles.

Yours sincerely

Bruce McDonald
Leader, Elmbridge Borough Council