**APPENDIX 7**

**HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING 8th September 2015**

**No1 LEDBURY ROAD**

**1. Background**

1.1 At the last meeting of Council a member of the public raised concerns about the proposals by Herefordshire Council for closure of the respite care service provided to severely disabled children from No1 Ledbury Road. We were advised that an announcement was due from Herefordshire Council shortly and that this might well allay some of those concerns. Members resolved to wait and see what this announcement contained and to reserve their position on the closure until fuller information about alternative service provision was available to them.

1.2 Herefordshire Council have now announced that they will replace the specialist services by training current respite foster carers and seeking to recruit some additional people for this role. The individual needs of each child will be assessed to see how best the respite carers can support them, taking into account the carers home, possible time commitment and family circumstances. The proposal depends on their being sufficient foster carers available with the home access, skills and time to provide cover for the present respite service, noting that some of the children involved require 24 hour attendance.

1.3 Members are invited to consider whether they wish to make a response to the proposals to close No1 Ledbury Road and replace the services provided from there with domiciliary respite services provided by a team of foster carers.

**2. Recommendation**

**2.1 That the Council decides whether to make any public statement about No1 Ledbury Road, and if so to mandate the Clerk as to the content of that statement.**

Steve Kerry

Town Clerk