From:

Sent: 29 April 2026 17:05

To: Cllr Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr Dyan Jones <Dyan.Jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Tim Farron <tim@timfarron.co.uk>

Subject: Applethwaite Green Windermere

Good afternoon

I am the daughter of [redacted], a resident at Applethwaite Green in Windermere, and am writing to express my concern. I am writing on behalf of my [redacted] year old mum, my two brothers and our wider families.

The context as I'm sure you are aware, is the decision by the council to put Applethwaite Green into a process of consultation of its future, including an option of permanent closure. We can see from the Cabinet notes that at the meeting of 21st April the future of 2 residential homes was discussed but only Applethwaite Green is being considered for permanent closure, whilst the other Grisedale Croft at Alston is to be moved to "alternative accommodation locally".

I would like to have a meeting with yourself and the other two local councillors , Dyan Jones and Will Clark, to discuss the future of Applethwaite Green and the consequences of its possible closure. In particular I would like to ask for your support in keeping this essential local facility open.

I am copying in my local MP Tim Farron who I am already in touch with and who has already expressed his concern at the possible closure of Applethwaite Green.

Yours sincerely

From: Cllr Dyan Jones

Sent: 03 June 2026 10:19

To:

Cllr Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk; Tim Farron <tim@timfarron.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Applethwaite Green Windermere

As stated in Cabinet papers:

https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/westmorland-and-furness-council-news/2026/cabinet-agrees-public-consultation-future-two-residential-care-homes

"For Applethwaite Green, a 27-bed residential home with 15 permanent residents, Cabinet agreed to consult on all options – do nothing, refurbishment, rebuild or closure – due to the above challenges and sufficient alternative provision locally. The report said that 12 alternative residential homes rated 'Good' by the CQC operated within 16 miles of the home."

As you comment in your email, closure is an option. However, it is not the only option hence the consultation which will continue for 12 weeks.

Naturally, I want what is best for our communities and I will always fight for our corner. Refurb is an option and I urge you to respond to the consultation to this end. We are at the beginning of this process,

and I hope that all feedback to officers is clear, strong, and unequivocal. Please encourage as many as possible to engage with this process.

I will be monitoring matters in my capacity as Chair of Adults Health Scrutiny, be assured.

Regards.

Cllr Dyan Jones

From:
Sent: 11 May 2026 12:05
To: Cllr Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Dyan Jones <Dyan.Jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: Potential closure of Applethwaite Green Residential Home

Dear All

My name is [redacted] and I am the son of [redacted] who is a resident of Applethwaite Green: I am the brother of [redacted] who I believe has also emailed in connection with this but who has yet to receive a response from you.

Although I live in [redacted] I am writing to express my dismay at the potential closure of Applethwaite Green which has enormous implications for my family who live in Windermere. Specifically , I would like to know what your position is as councillors for Windermere towards the potential closure of Applethwaite Green and what your plans are to meet with the families of the residents.

Regards

From: Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 May 2026 17:06
To:

Cllr Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Dyan Jones <Dyan.Jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Potential closure of Applethwaite Green Residential Home

Dear ,

Thanks for your email. I can only apologise for any distress that this recent news has caused.

There will be a 12 week consultation period before any decisions are made on Applethwaite Green and I can only encourage to take he opportunity to respond to this when the consultation opens shortly.

Cabinet agrees public consultation on the future of two residential care homes | Westmorland and Furness Council

Thanks,

Cllr Will Clark, Liberal Democrat Councillor for Windermere & Ambleside

From:
Sent: 15 May 2026 16:19
To:

Cllr Will Clark <Will.Clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Dyan Jones <Dyan.Jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Tim Farron <tim@timfarron.co.uk>

Subject: Re: Potential closure of Applethwaite Green Residential Home

Dear Will

Thank you for your email which I found somewhat underwhelming as a response in that it told me nothing that wasn't already in the public domain and did not answer the specific questions that I posed to you and your fellow councillors.

As the consultation process has just started we will no doubt have further questions as I and my siblings go through the document. However, I would like answers to my original questions *viz* I would like to know what your position is as councillors for Windermere towards the potential closure of Applethwaite Green and what your plans are to meet with the families of the residents.

Regards

From:
Sent: 01 June 2026 18:13
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject:

Option 2 ...how is this going yo help by getting rid if such a home of locals ,families im disgusted by how theese homes are being closed down ....ive worked here a while ago for short time ,The Abbeyin Staveley too got closed down I worked at ...this is where people need a home ,their families need theese places in our villages ,towns ....ive many freinds that work here ,loosing jobs is not right, we need theese places end of !

From:

Sent: 02 June 2026 20:26

To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>

Subject: Applethwaite Green - Windermere

Hi

Please refurbish Applethwaite Green and keep it open or do nothing and keep it open. Option 1 or 2. This is a vital care home for people in Windermere, there is nothing else in Windermere for local people to go to. I have lived in Windermere all my life, 59 years!

From:
Sent: 04 June 2026 10:20
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green consultation

Good morning,

In order to judge which of the four options to choose I would like further information.

May I point out that if this is not provided promptly, I will have been prevented from making any suggestions within the timescale of the consultation.

My questions are

1. Do you employ any full-time caring staff?

2. What policy determines the pay of carers?

3. When refurbishment was being considered were applications for rooms blocked?

4. When it was decided to consider closing Applethwaite, and to launch the consultation, were applications accepted once more?

5. For each month of the recent 12month period please state

a. Salaries paid to appointed carers

b. Fees paid for agency staff

c. Self-pay by residents

d. Income from benefits paid in respect of residents

e. Enquiries from would be residents

f. Enquiries from social services looking for a room.

Thank you ,

On 5 Jun 2026, at 13:10, Care Consultation <care.consultation@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk> wrote:

Good afternoon [redacted] Thank you for your email and your interest in the Consultation. I note your comments about requesting the information promptly.

Please find below the answers to questions 1 – 4.

1. We care staff (Support Workers) on a range of hours, from 0 to 36 hours.
2. 2) Westmorland and Furness Council Policy for pay is underpinned by the NJC Scales for local authorities – (Green Book).
3. Admissions have never been blocked for any other reasons other than staffing, not being able to recruit and retain staff, and not because of any consideration for refurbishment.
4. Once the decision was made to enter a consultation for Applethwaite Green, admissions were stopped at this point.

The answers that you are seeking for question 5 will be best answered under a Freedom of Information request, because of the amount of detail required and length of time to compile this. The email address for this is Information.Governance@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

I will forward this request for them to case manage this request, and there is a set of criteria and timescales which govern this process and will be well within the period of consultation. The Consultation ends on the 5th August, and all submissions will be considered after this date.

Can you just confirm exactly which date range you are wanting the 12 months from please? Once you reply I will instruct Information Governance and will copy you into this message.

Hope this helps.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 05 June 2026 14:34
To: Care Consultation
Subject: Re: Applethwaite Green consultation

Good afternoon

Thank you for your very helpful reply and for offering to forward questions to Freedom of Information'

May I ask that the 12-month period be up until the decision was taken to enter consultation.

kind regards,

On 8 Jun 2026, at 9:47, Care Consultation wrote:

Thank you [redacted] for your reply.

So the Council Cabinet met in April 2026 in order to make the decision to enter Consultation. So we will look at the 12 months prior to April 2026, namely April 2025 – March 2026.

Information Governance, please could this be recorded as a FOI request ?

Thanks

From:
Sent: 08 June 2026 11:48
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Applethwaite Green consultation

Yes, please record it as a FOI request.

From:
Sent: 14 June 2026 10:32
To: information governance westmorland <information.governance.westmorland@cumbria.gov.uk>
Cc: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: FOI-213021-2026

Good morning,

Please may I withdraw this request ?

Instead, I wou;d like to know whether there is a record of requests for rooms at Applethwaite Green in the past year and, if so how many.

The consukltation documents suggests few if an, have come but hearsay suggests this snot so.

yours sincerely,

From:
Sent: 22 June 2026 16:56
To: Cllr Patricia Bell <patricia.bell@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Applethwaite Green Care Home, Windermere.

Begin forwarded message:

From:
Date: 22 June 2026 at 16:53:57 BST
To: Tim Farron <tim@timfarron.co.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green Care Home, Windermere.

Dear Tim.

The public consultation on the future of Applethwaite Green Care Home rumbles on, but is causing much stress along the way. Not being helped by the following.

In the consultation document it is stated that, following completion of the public consultation, the Director of Adult Social Care will make the final decision on the future of the home. I have raised concerns over the lack of elected members involvement in this decision, but the council's cabinet member for Adult Social Care, Cllr. Patricia Bell, merely insists that this is being in line with the council's constitution..

The council's Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer has confirmed that the constitution does indeed allow this to happen, but accepts, if they wish, members could elect to make this decision themselves.

I am staggered to believe that after an extensive public consultation exercise, elected members of the council are not honour bound to take feedback from their constituents more seriously. They should be brave enough to truly own this matter and be seen to publicly make the decision that they feel is required. To delegate this action to the Chief Officer of a department that has been making a poor job of running the home over recent years would be inappropriate. If the council were to close Applethwaite Green , I am sure constituents would want to see their elected members pull the trigger.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Leader of Westmorland and Furness Council. I hope that you are able to use your influence and reputation for courage and integrity, to remind the council that we live in a liberal democracy and expect to see that ideal acted out. Especially by a Lib. Dem. council!

Many thanks.

From:

Sent: 11 July 2026 10:52

To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>

Subject: Applethwaite Green. Drop-in meeting Thursday 16th July.

Message for Nikki Phipps.

You have advised that you will be arranging to have someone from Property Services with you at the above meeting. Could you please ask them to bring with them plans and details of the proposed refurbishment of the Ambleside Wing that was supposed to happen in 2022.

Many thanks.

From: Care Consultation

Sent: 14 July 2026 12:49

To:

Subject: RE: Applethwaite Green. Drop-in meeting Thursday 16th July.

Hi

I'd hoped to catch you when I dropped the surveys off before, sorry.

I caught up with Nikkie Phipps to make sure she had received your message below.

Nikkie has arranged for Allan Harty, who is Director of Capital Delivery and Assets, so has Property within his portfolio to attend the Public Meeting (which is now probably set for 28th July just awaiting confirmation of the space).

It isn't that someone from Property will be attending the drop in on Thursday.

Concerning the proposed refurbishment, and plans of such, these conversations pre-date my involvement but I'm lead to believe that plans weren't produced, it was more an approach of that refurbishment was discussed. I will follow up on this though and get a more complete answer for you.

Kind regards

-

From:
Sent: 13 July 2026 08:25
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: https://consult.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/adult-social-care/applethwaite-green/

Good morning,

This document states that there has been *a fall in overall demand* for Applethwaite Green places. To justify this statement, W&F council must have compiled figures showing the demand over period of time.

The response to my FOI request FOI-3674-2026 was The Council refuses this request under Section 12(1) (Cost of Compliance Exceeds the Appropriate Limit) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please send me figures which demonstrate the fall in overall demand.

This is not a freedom of information request

From:
Sent: 03 August 2026 11:43
To: Chief Executive <Chief.Executive@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green Consultation

Dear Miranda Cannon,

I request an extension to the consultation to, at the earliest, 26th October, the date of the budget.

In summary. The reasons are

1. Government policy is changing. The council should change it's policy to show real commitment to the Integrated Care System. This is important because "The King's Fund health think tank released an analysis of official NHS England data on 7 July, showing that the financial cost of delayed discharges rose to nearly £2.7bn in 2025-26, up 7.5% from just under £2.5bn the previous year".

2. Those of us who are concerned about the future of care in Windermere have been promised information, which has not been forthcoming, and the opportunity develop a modified refurbishment proposal. We need the information; then we need the time to do it.

3. The council's consultation document does not properly consider the ipmportance of the location of ASpplethwaite Green,

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]

On 7 Jul 2026, at 16:56, Care Consultation <care.consultation@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi

I hope you are well.

Please find attached a DRAFT version of our "A Place Called Home" report following our "Community Conversation" activity in March.

Nikkie has asked me to forward this to you on the understanding it is still in draft stage pending final internal approvals, and that it cannot be shared at this stage or made public.

I hope you find it useful and informative. We hope to be able to make it public in a couple of weeks.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards

On 7 Jul 2026, at 17:06

Thank you

I won't share it as I understand it's still in draft pending final internal approvals . I appreciate you & Nikki sending it to me.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 06 August 2026 14:15
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: A Place Called Home - draft report

Hi

Please can you let me know when this would be available to the public?

Kind regards

On 6 Aug 2026, at 15:27, Care Consultation <care.consultation@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi

I am still waiting on final checks and approvals I'm afraid and will let you know as soon as possible.

Kind regards

From:

Sent: 11 August 2026 11:02
To: Care Consultation
Subject: Re: A Place Called Home - draft report

Hi there

When can we expect publication of this?

Given that this forms a large part of the thought process for the consultation for applethwaite green- how can we make a considered choice on the four options?

I appreciate you've sent me a draft that's subject to change - that doesn't help as I promised I wouldn't discuss with anyone else and if I include any info from this it may change.

I think it's an unfair and rushed process so the council can push through the consultation.

I'll be submitting my consultation form this week but I'll be noting that vital information has been withheld or unpublished by the council.

I'd appreciate your comments

Kind regards

On 14 Aug 2026, at 11:57, Care Consultation wrote:

Hi

A Place Called Home: Your living choices in later life is now approved and available and can be shared on the link below from the Applethwaite Green consultation home page.

a-place-called-home-engagement-report-august-2026pdf

It has not been publicised or officially launched internally and externally yet by W&F Council but I will be sharing it more widely with colleagues later this month.

Can I emphasise again – this report itself is not the foundation of any decision to consult on Applethwaite Green, it was to support the start of wider, longer term thinking, including the future of specialist housing, including Extra Care Housing.

'A Place Called Home' is taken from our vision statement and that is why the consultation page in question is headed A Place Called Home. We did have early insight from this community engagement which we considered relevant to briefly mention in support of this vision, under the heading "Your living choices in later life."

There were comments at the public meeting about not speaking to people in Windermere and only asking 271 people.

This was deliberately an in-depth qualitative research and engagement aimed at people over 50, not an opinion poll or quantitative scientific survey: the aim being to obtain deep insight and extensive consideration on the issues we explored. As you can see, we obtained considered and insightful responses from all over the W&F area and was somewhat biased towards rural communities that share all the same concerns about access to local services, public transport, and being cared for in your own community.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 15 August 2026 10:37
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: A Place Called Home - draft report

Hi

Just seen this. Thank you for getting this out there before the end of the consultation for Applethwaite Green and Grisedale Croft.

I think it's important that people understand there is a place for both care in people's own homes and care in residential homes.

It's a lengthy report and explains the theory well. I'm a bit disappointed that the people of Windermere weren't asked their thoughts but understand it's difficult to engage all communities.

Thank you once again for all your help. I appreciate it.

Kind regards

From:

Sent: 03 August 2026 12:27

To: Chief Executive <Chief.Executive@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>

Subject: Applethwaite Green care home,Windermere.

Dear Miranda.

I am formally requesting an extension to the public consultation period relating to the future of Applethwaite Green Care Home, Windermere.

Consultation is currently due to finish on the 19th August. However I have still not received critical information about the home requested on the 11thJuly.

This information is linked with a promise made by Nikki Phipps, Assistant Director of Care Services, to give serious consideration to alternative proposals for refurbishment of the home.

If received today, it is hard to see how I could be expected to reasonably respond by the 19thAugust.

Will you please ensure that sufficient time is given to receive the information requested, consult with your staff and receive proper consideration of our alternative proposals.

Many thanks.

Yours faithfully.

From:
Sent: 03 August 2026 15:19
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green.

Message for Nikki Phipps.

Dear Nikki.

On the 11th July I asked if details of the proposed refurbishment of the Ambleside Wing, that was supposed to happen in 2022,could be brought to the Drop-in Meeting that took place on the 16thJuly.

In reply, was informed that there was some uncertainty about whether plans had ever been prepared and what the refurbishment would involve. I was promised a more complete answer to my request. I still await this with interest.

What is certain,is that in 2022,the Ambleside Wing was completely vacated in preparation for refurbishment. Residents at that time were advised that they would be relocated to Mawds Meadow, Kendal,while works took place.

It appears that funds for the work never materialised and the Ambleside Wing has remained untouched and unoccupied ever since.

During the current public consultation it is now being suggested that refurbishment of the home would require expenditure of up to £3.0. You recently confirmed that such proposals aim to provide state of the art facilities including en-suite bathrooms throughout. Anything less appears to be unacceptable.

We know that expenditure of this kind seems certain to be unacceptable to the council, but to contemplate closing down the home because perfection cannot be achieved, would be total folly.

Also it is hard to believe that expenditure of £3.0 was envisaged in 2022 and the improvements proposed at that time, therefore become a very important issue.

The question we would like answered, is why refurbishment proposed in 2022 is not appropriate in 2026?

We believe that modest improvements to the home would be possible. For example, because most of the small rooms are adjacent to each other, creating adequate sized rooms could be reasonably straightforward. By reducing the home from 28rooms to 22,all bedrooms would be within the CQC minimum requirement of 12 square metres.

It’s accepted that this simple, but pragmatic approach to making the best use of the existing building would need to be properly assessed, but over recent weeks some well qualified professionals have agreed that this is an approach well worth exploring.

I look forward to receiving details of the 2022 proposals for the Ambleside Wing and your positive consideration of the above suggestions.

Many thanks.

From:

Sent: 07 August 2026 10:21

To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>

Subject: Applethwaite Green.

Message to Nikki Phipps

Peter Lord and I have gathered our thoughts and ideas for modest improvements at Applethwaite Green and would be happy to discuss them with you and your colleagues next week if possible. Could that be arranged?

Many thanks.

From: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2026 17:36
To:

Subject: FW: Applethwaite Green.

Dear

I know you have had communication via email earlier today regarding the meeting on Wednesday morning at Applethwaite Green but wanted to reply to your email in advance of that. Apologies for the fact these haven't come in date order, the volume of correspondence generated by the interest in the consultation has been significant.

Thank you for your email regarding the Ambleside Wing at Applethwaite Green and your request for further information about the refurbishment proposals you understand to have been under consideration in 2022.

Following further enquiries into the position prior to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), I can confirm that whilst there were discussions regarding the future of the building, there were no approved refurbishment plans for the Ambleside Wing in 2022. No detailed scheme of works was developed, no formal plans were drawn up, and no costed refurbishment project was progressed by Cumbria County Council. Consequently, there are no refurbishment plans from 2022 available for the Council to provide.

I would also like to clarify that the Ambleside Wing was not vacated in preparation for refurbishment works. The decision to cease operating that part of the service was taken due to significant staffing challenges, whereby safe and sustainable staffing levels could not be achieved and maintained. The closure of the wing was therefore an operational decision rather than one linked to an agreed programme of refurbishment.

As you will appreciate, Local Government Reorganisation took effect on 1 April 2023, when Westmorland and Furness Council became the successor authority to Cumbria County Council. During the transition to the new authority, not every proposal, aspiration or piece of work considered by the predecessor council was able to progress. Organisational change, competing priorities, financial constraints, and resource capacity all influenced which projects could be taken forward. In the case of Applethwaite Green, any potential refurbishment remained at a preliminary stage and did not progress to a formal, approved project.

In response to your question regarding the cost of refurbishment in 2022 compared with estimates being discussed in 2026, there is unfortunately no basis for a direct comparison. As no detailed plans were produced and no formal costings were undertaken in 2022, there is no historic refurbishment option against which current assessments can be measured.

Current considerations regarding the future of the building reflect contemporary care standards, regulatory requirements and expectations for residential care environments. As you have noted, any significant refurbishment would need to address matters such as bedroom sizes, accessibility, bathroom provision and compliance with current Care Quality Commission guidance and best practice standards.

I recognise the alternative suggestions you have put forward regarding the reconfiguration of existing accommodation and the potential to create compliant bedroom space through internal alterations. These comments are valued and will be considered as part of the consultation process. Nikkie Phipps and I are very happy to meet with you and Peter Lord on Wednesday at 9 am, to discuss in more detail the proposals you have referred to as "Option 1.5" and to better understand the basis of those suggestions on Wednesday

Thank you for taking the time to engage with the consultation and for your continued interest in the future of Applethwaite Green.

Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: 17 August 2026 15:02
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green

Dear

Thank you for your email of the 11.8.26.

Soon after my sister was admitted to Applethwaite Green in October'24, she was advised to expect to be moved to Maudes Meadow Care Home in Kendal for a period of up to 12 months,while Applethwaite Green was refurbished. Surely such elaborate arrangements were not being planned and anticipated without good reason?

You state that the Ambleside Wing was closed down due to problems with staffing levels, but I suspect uncertainty with on/off relocation issues has hindered any prospects of re-opening the wing.

All in all, very confusing and not very satisfactory! It is hard to believe that things could not have been managed a bit better.

Will you please ensure that my views on this issue are included as part of my response to the public consultation.

Many thanks.

From:
Sent: 06 August 2026 20:01
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to the Proposed Closure of Applethwaite Green Care Home

Dear Westmorland & Furness Council Consultation Team,

Having represented my mum's interests in several meetings and conversations over recent months and having exchanged email correspondence with Tim Farron this week, I am writing to formally submit my strong objection to the proposed closure of Applethwaite Green Care Home.

My 94-year-old mother has been a resident at Applethwaite Green for the past two years, having previously lived in her own home in Windermere. She received a diagnosis of vascular dementia several years ago and, when it became obvious that she could no longer safely remain in her home even with several daily visits from carers and family members, we actively sought a place for her at Applethwaite Green in order that we could keep her close by her family who live locally. We are convinced that we made the right decision as the quality of care, compassion, and stability she receives from the dedicated staff at Applethwaite Green is exceptional and we have been highly impresseed.

As you will be aware, for individuals living with advanced dementia, continuity of care and familiar surroundings are not just matters of comfort—they are critical to physical health and psychological well-being. My mum's vascular dementia is now very advanced and she is unable to complete simple tasks such a feeding herself without support and she requires help with all aspects of personal care. Despite the extent of her difficulties, she appears happy and content at Applethwaite Green and I am extremely concerned that moving her to a new and unfamiliar environment, upon the closure of this facility (which is her home) would be deeply distressing for her and harmful to her health.

While I understand that Westmorland and Furness Council is running a formal consultation regarding the options for the facility, I have not yet heard the council put forward any constructive suggestions as to how the current difficulties facing Applethwaite Green can be addressed and resolved positively. The tone of the communication so far strongly suggests that closure is viewed as the primary option. This prospect is deeply alarming for families like ours who rely on this wonderful facility.

Applethwaite Green is a vital asset to the Windermere community. Simply closing it would leave a significant void in local adult social care, severely impacting staff, families, and, most importantly, vulnerable elderly residents, like my mum, who call it home!

I ask you to please note my strong objection to the proposed closure and I urge the council to explore all alternative, positive solutions to keep Applethwaite Green open and maintain this essential, and much loved, facility within our community.

Yours sincerely,

From:
Date: Tue, 4 Aug 2026, 11:29 am
Subject: Applethwaite Green Care Home
To: <andrew.jarvis@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>, <dyan.jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>, <will.clark@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>

Dear Councillors

I am writing to ask you about this consultation which, in my opinion, is full of lies. Where have the figures been plucked from? Why is there a piece in there called "a place called home" which incidentally didn't include anyone from Windermere? If you ask a 20 year old "would you like to grow old in your own home" they will, if course, say yes. The reality, when they eventually become old may be very different.

I do not understand this consultation at all. Why did you not consult the people of Windermere and wide surrounding areas of Staveley, Troutbeck, Crosthwaite, Crook, Ambleside, Hawkshead, Coniston, Chapel Stile and Grasmere about how we could all save money? Why pick on our only care home and it's vulnerable residents. I actually think it is a form of bullying. You must have had, possibly do still have, Mothers and Fathers yourselves. I urge you to think again.

From:
Sent: 05 August 2026 21:38
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green care home

It beggars belief that yet another residential home is trying to close.

I have been a district nurse for many years and find it unbelievable that the council do not want to fund care homes, leaving hospitals in dire need for beds for acute Medical needs for patients. How many beds has the council closed in the recent years? This leaves a stretched NHS unable to cope with the patients that are bed blocking, causing very poorly patients to wait in corridors to wait for a vacant bed.

It has worked well for the community in years gone by, with abbey home in staveley, Maudes meadow and riverside in kendal also many other homes that have closed in the area in recent years. These were excellent places, well run and caring ,with the carers earning a pittance for the work they carried out.

I find the council always finds money for the higher paid workers for salary and pensions whilst penny pinching for the community.

Can the council with hand on heart feel they are serving the community as though they mattered.

From:
Sent: 15 August 2026 08:51
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: FAO Nikkie Phipps, Director of Care Services, Adult Social Care, Westmorland and Furness Council.

Argument Against the Closure of Applethwaite Green Care Home

I strongly oppose the closure of Applethwaite Green Care Home without a clear, evidence-based plan demonstrating how the present and future care needs of Windermere, Bowness and the surrounding communities will be met.

I am a Specialist Community Occupational Therapist. Although I no longer work within the South Lakes area, I was born and raised in Bowness-on-Windermere, and this is a community to which I have a strong personal connection. I have also spoken to many local people who are deeply concerned about the potential loss of Applethwaite Green and what this could mean for the future of care within their community. Especially following the closure of other local care homes.

My professional experience also significantly informs my concerns. Through working as a Community Occupational Therapist, I see first-hand the challenges facing our ageing population, including increasing frailty, reduced mobility, dementia, social isolation and the difficulties people experience trying to remain safely and independently in housing that was never designed to meet changing needs.

I recognise the concerns raised by Westmorland and Furness Council regarding the age and suitability of the existing building, its current occupancy and the high cost per resident. However, these concerns make a case for investment, redevelopment or transformation of the service; they do not, by themselves, establish that Windermere and Bowness no longer need locally based residential care.

An ageing population requires long-term planning

Decisions about care provision should not be based solely on current occupancy. We need to consider what Windermere, Bowness and the surrounding rural communities will require in 10, 15 and 20 years.

As people live longer, increasing numbers will experience frailty, dementia, reduced mobility and complex health and social-care needs. At the same time, much of our local housing stock is older and can be difficult or impossible to adapt for people with significant physical disabilities.

Supporting people to remain in their own homes is an important goal and one I strongly support professionally. However, community services, equipment and adaptations cannot meet every person’s needs indefinitely. There will continue to be people for whom residential care becomes necessary.

Removing capacity now could therefore create a much greater problem in the future.

People should be able to age within their own communities

Residential care is not simply about finding an available bed.

When an older person enters a care home, they should not unnecessarily lose their community at the same time.

Applethwaite Green has supported local people for more than 50 years. People in Windermere and Bowness should have a reasonable opportunity to remain close to spouses, children, grandchildren, friends, neighbours, familiar services and the community in which they may have spent most of their lives.

The existence of alternative care homes within a 16-mile radius does not necessarily provide an equivalent service.

In a rural area, 10 or 15 miles can present a significant barrier to an older spouse, relative or friend who no longer drives or who depends upon public transport. Moving someone further away can reduce visiting and increase loneliness and social isolation.

Maintaining familiar relationships, routines and community connections can be enormously important to a person's wellbeing, identity and quality of life. This is particularly important for people living with dementia or experiencing significant changes in their health and independence.

Local people deserve the opportunity, wherever reasonably possible, to grow older and receive care within the community to which they belong, close to the people who know and love them.

This also appears difficult to reconcile with the Council's own Adult Social Care vision of people living with strong community connections, independence and support closer to home.

Current vacancies do not demonstrate a lack of future need

The fact that Applethwaite Green currently has 16 residents in its 27 rooms needs greater examination.

Before closure is considered, the community should be told:

- whether admissions to Applethwaite Green have been restricted or reduced and whether this has contributed to falling occupancy;
- projected demand for residential and dementia care in the Windermere and Bowness area over the next 10–20 years;
- the number of genuinely available local care-home beds rather than simply the number of care homes within a particular radius;
- how many of those beds are affordable to people funded by the local authority;
- local domiciliary-care capacity and workforce projections;
- the availability and waiting times for accessible and Extra Care housing;
- and how the loss of Applethwaite Green could affect hospital discharge, admission prevention and pressures elsewhere in health and social care.

Closing residential capacity therefore needs to be considered as part of the whole health, housing and social-care system, rather than simply as the operating cost of one building.

Health and social-care professionals should be meaningfully consulted

I would also like clarification about consultation with local healthcare professionals.

Have local GP practices, community nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, social workers, hospital discharge teams, the Integrated Care Board and other relevant professionals been formally asked for their views about the present and future need for local residential care?

As a Community Occupational Therapist, I believe these voices are essential. Professionals working directly with older and disabled people can provide valuable evidence about the realities of maintaining people at home, the limitations of existing housing stock, availability of care packages, pressures around hospital discharge and the circumstances in which residential care becomes necessary.

These views should form an important part of any decision that could permanently reduce local care capacity.

Redevelopment should be considered before closure

If the existing Applethwaite Green building genuinely cannot provide the standard of accommodation required for future generations, I would favour serious consideration of redeveloping the site rather than removing the service.

This could potentially provide a modern residential care home, Extra Care housing, accessible older-persons housing, or an innovative combination of these.

Such a development could allow people to move into suitable accommodation before reaching crisis, retain independence for longer and access increasing levels of support as their needs change.

That would appear far more consistent with a preventative model of Adult Social Care.

The future of this publicly owned site matters

If closure nevertheless remains under consideration, the Council should state clearly what would happen to the Applethwaite Green building and land.

This is particularly important in Windermere and Bowness, where housing pressures and the competing demands of tourism are very real concerns for local communities.

I would be extremely concerned if a publicly owned site that has provided care for local people for generations were lost, only for that land or building ultimately to be used for holiday accommodation, second homes or tourism-led development.

If the site is no longer required as a residential care home, I believe priority should be given to accessible housing, Extra Care, affordable housing and genuinely local housing, ensuring that this valuable public asset continues to benefit the community.

Conclusion

This should not be reduced to a choice between maintaining an outdated building indefinitely or closing it.

There is a third and potentially much better question:

How can the Applethwaite Green site be developed to meet the changing health, housing and care needs of Windermere and Bowness for the next generation?

Applethwaite Green has served its community for more than 50 years. Before permanently removing that provision, there should be compelling evidence that local people will continue to have access to appropriate care close to their families and communities, alongside a transparent long-term plan for meeting the needs of an ageing population.

As someone born and raised in Bowness, and as a Specialist Community Occupational Therapist, I am particularly concerned that we do not make a short-term decision based predominantly on current occupancy and financial pressures that results in the permanent loss of a valuable community asset and care resource that may be increasingly needed in the future.

The concerns I have heard directly from local people should also be taken seriously. This is not simply a building or a balance-sheet decision. It is about what kind of community we want Windermere and Bowness to remain for the people who have built their lives here and who deserve to grow old here with dignity, appropriate support and their families and communities close by.

If the existing building is no longer fit for the future, let us make the provision fit for the future rather than simply remove it.

Many thanks

From:
Sent: 19 August 2026 16:20
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Subject: Applethwaite Green.

Applethwaite Green Consultation

My preferred option is 2. Refurbish Applethwaite Green

As you will see from my address I live less than five minutes walk to Applethwaite Green and have been here for 36 years.

I was the Warden then Scheme Manager at Birthwaite until I retired so I have had a lot of contact with Applethwaite Green. Over the years, we had people move there when Birthwaite no longer met their needs and we were able to visit them for birthdays, other parties and generally keep in touch. Often, carers have brought people here as well.

We all know that it would cost a lot to refurbish the building but is it necessary that everyone has an en suite bathroom? So many people would still need assistance, so the present communal bathrooms would be perfectly suitable and people in hospitals use shared bathrooms quite satisfactorily.

I have never heard the staff complain about their accommodation.

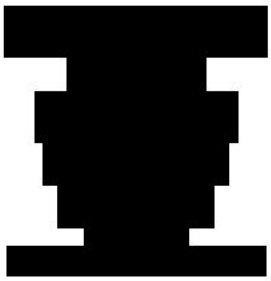
Maybe the difficulty to recruit staff is because they are not sure they will still have a job for very long. Surely, permanent staff would work out cheaper than employing from an agency.

From a personal view, my parents lived in Windermere and my mother was the full time carer for my dad who was disabled and had dementia. Then she had a heart attack and had to be admitted to hospital in Kendal. I was unable to have my dad as I was working full time, and also my home had stairs that he couldn't have used. So, he went to stay at Applethwaite Green temporarily and obviously, that was ideal as I could visit him in my lunch breaks as I also had my mother to visit in hospital.

Eventually, dad was moved to a Home in Grange over Sands, about 16 miles away, but that made it difficult for visiting him there as well as my mother in hospital. When she left hospital, she was unable to visit him alone due to being frail, the bus service was impossible and I could only take her after finishing work. Obviously, they wanted to be together and she stayed there with him for a short while to celebrate their 60th weddding anniversary.

They were both heartbroken that they couldn't spend more time together and life would have been so different if he could have stayed at Applethwaite Green where my mother was only a short walk away.

It would be a great loss to everyone if Applethwaite Green had to close.



Jonathan Brook
Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy
South Lakeland House
Lowther Street
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 4DQ

Copies as attached sheet

17July 2026

Dear Cllr Brooks

Open Letter Concerning the Future of Applethwaite Green Care Home

It is with great regret that I find the need to write this letter to you regarding what I see as the Westmorland and Furness Councils reckless and verging on Machiavellian intentions towards Adult Social Care at Applethwaite Green Windermere.

I live in Phoenix Way [redacted] to Applethwaite Green with my wife.

We enjoy living in Phoenix Way which is the only part of Windermere that has not yet been destroyed by the current and previous Council's obsession with tourism.

It is a quite narrow road where the majority of residents are elderly and a large percentage live in sheltered and retirement accommodation. A large percentage of vehicles on Phoenix Way are Mobility Scooters. It is the perfect place for an Adult Social Care Home, and it has had one at Applethwaite Green since the 1970s.

It is also one of the two adult care homes outside of Kendal to meet the needs of the people who live in the National Park. I understand the other care home in Windermere has been and still is on the market.

One day a few weeks ago a document called ‘the Future of Applethwaite Green Care Home in Windermere’ was delivered to my house by someone in his 80s campaigning to save Applethwaite Green. This was shortly followed by the Westmorland and Furness Summer Newsletter from Westmorland and Furness Council, which I believe, was delivered to every house by the Council.

The Newsletter had no mention of the Consultation on the Future of Applethwaite Green. The immediate question is **‘Why did Westmorland and Furness Council not just slip the Applethwaite Green Consultation Document in with the Newsletter for this area so every member of the electorate in this area and Kendal would be easily able to comment. Why was it not distributed by the Council and was it dependant on an octogenarian’ hand distributing the document.**

I always read every word in any document that I receive.

My conclusion is that the proposals and options that people are asked to show a preference for are complete fantasy and nothing more than lip service to the alleged consultation. I will therefore henceforth refer to it as the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document,** which I believe is a more appropriate name.

So, I have spent a lot of time since receiving the document reading every word and statement and understanding and researching the content and claims made in the document.

I also attended a drop-in session at the Windermere Library on Monday 29 June 2026.

I have come to a number of conclusions.

My first and very important conclusion is that the **Fantasy Tick box Consultation Document** and the drop-in sessions were/are absolute rubbish.

This is **NOT** about the future of Applethwaite Green. It is a catalogue of failure by Westmorland and Furness Council and its predecessor over many years to manage adult social care efficiently and fairly and equally for **ALL** of the people of Westmorland and Furness.

In my opinion the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** clearly demonstrates how Westmorland and Furness Council, under your leadership, have failed to manage and maintain Applethwaite Green and the bias towards Adult Social Care in Kendal.

Just look at the map on page 10 and your analysis of Capacity of the Homes in the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** and the population data in

appendix C below before you try to justify the care home provision in Kendal compared to the provision in the National Park.

It is not, in my opinion, a document about a sensible coherent Adult Social Care from now into the future in Westmorland and Furness, which is required. It is a confession of the mess that Westmorland and Furness Council and their predecessors CCC have made in managing Adult Social Care. It also demonstrates to me that the people who wrote and approved this document don't have the first idea about the needs of elderly people. Statements such as the demand for adult residential care is declining demonstrates this and I can't believe that anyone working in Adult Social Care would say this!.

I strongly agree that there needs to be a coherent analysis of Adult Social Care needs from now going forwards ignoring the shambles of the past. However, the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document is not what is required** and was yet another waste of public money by an inept Council Cabinet who, I understand, in the case of Applethwaite Green, have discussed everything in closed sessions and the public and Councillors have been excluded.

So much for Open Accountable Local Government. One has to ask " What is so secret about a old peoples care home"

It would be wrong of me to make such statements about the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** without pointing out the inaccurate miss information within it but before I do I need to share my view on an appalling interfering with a consultation process and a blatant breach of confidentiality to manipulate the process to allow YOU to say you have consulted widely and that you have analysed the answers and that the majority of people agree with what YOU want to do!

I have analysed the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** in great depth and I have identified 55 cases of misinformation, inaccurate information and statements without any data to support them.

I do now have a detailed schedule of these 55 points which I have cross referenced with an annotated copy of the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document**. I have done an abridged version of the schedule which is attached in Appendix F below although I doubt that you will bother to read it.

Interference in the Consultation!

What has come to my attention in the last few days is I believe at the very least unethical, gerrymandering and at the worst, possibly illegal actions have taken place.

I suggest that you read the third sentence down on page 13 of the Fantasy Tck Box Consultation Document and the Data Protection Policy on page 16 of the Fantasy tick Box Consultation Document, as I believe that [redacted] has blatantly contravened these undertaking of confidentiality by the Council and when [redacted] found that the people were ticking an unwanted outcome [redacted] has changed and reissued the document to get an amswer that can be manipulated

This is a quasi-Referendum and there are rules for such e.g.

1. You don't look at the responses till the Consultation Process has closed

2. You don't change the wording of the options halfway through the process

3. You do not breach the confidentiality of the respondents by telling the people who are still thinking about which option to go for how the people who have responded have voted

I refer to an email from a Nikki Phipps, Assistant Director of Care Services, Adult Social Care.

For the sake of those not privy to this email I have copied and pasted it below in the appendix A below.

I have excluded the identity of the recipients for obvious confidentiality reasons.

Given the dubious interference with the consultation to manipulate the outcome I demand that both of versions the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Documents are withdrawn immediately, that the Westmoreland and Furness Council apologise to the residents of Applethwaite Green for the stress that they have caused them at a time in their life when they least need such stress and worry and that Westmoreland and Furness get on fulfilling their statutory obligations

If you need to save money then STOP all the un necessary waste of money vanity projects

The Role and Duty of Councillors

I need to draw your attention to a statement made in the Summer Edition of the Westmorland and Furness Newsletter.

For those who don't have a copy of this document I have scanned the relevant part of Page 18 as Appendix B and I have also copied and pasted the view of the Local Government Association on the Role of Councillors in Appendix E.

As far as I can see a large number of Councillors of all Political persuasions appear to be excluded from carrying out their duty as a Councillor. Councillors are not elected to further the interests of any Political Party; **they are elected to represent the views of the ward they serve.**

I also note that in the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** in several places it states that the Director of Care Service will make the final decision!!!!

- This is in complete conflict with your statement at the top of page 18 in the Summer Newsletter. Shown in Appendix B

- It is in direct conflict with the role of Councillors in the Association of Local Authorities. Shown in Appendix E

- It removes an opportunity for the Westmorland and Furness Councillors outside the Cabinet Tent to hold the Cabinet to Account.

- It also removes any opportunity of redress against the Director of Care Services by the electorate.

- It is undemocratic.

- **And it gives YOU a get out of jail free card when it all goes wrong, which I am sure it will that you and the rest of the cabinet will just blame the Council employees.**

I would suggest that all Councillors should consider their position and represent the views of the people in their Ward. which is what they were elected to do.

When they receive their copy of this Open Letter, none of them will be able to say they did not know what was going on.

I would remind all councillors that the electorate will have an opportunity to let each Councillor know what the electorate think of them in May 2027 Council Elections.

The Westmorland and Furness Council's current financial crisis and impending S114 notice.

I am astounded that the Westmorland and Furness Council is in such a state after only 3 years of the new Unitary Authority. In fact, a famous quotation springs to mind which I paraphrase below

"never in the field of Local Government have so few people spent so much money that they did not have in so little time"

This must qualify for an entry in the Guinness Book of records.

It's the sort of behaviour of a gambling addict who can't stop spending money in the belief it will all come good. It never does!

I demonstrate in Appendix F by reference to the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** that this is **NOT** about Adult Social Care its about scrabbling around looking everywhere to find money to cover up the flagrant profligate use of public money, which is still going on! With Vanity unwanted projects.

The Drop-in Session in Windermere on Monday 29 June 2026

This was well attended by a reasonably large number of Angry People!

From the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** and a Statement made by [redacted] at the drop in session that I attended, it can be clearly seen the preference given to people who live in Kendal.

[redacted] was adamant that despite rehousing the displaced residents of Applethwaite Green in Kendal which will based on your figures use up ALL of the Kendal spare adult capacity, [redacted] was adamant that there would be no drop-in sessions there for the Kendal people to express their views!

Why so much secrecy? Why don't Westmoreland and Furness want the people of Kendal to know about this Consultation and the intention to fill all of the Kendal Care homes with the displaced elderly residents of Applethwaite Green?

Is this something to do with the upcoming local elections in May 2027 and that there could be a snap Westminster election at any time.

History of Applethwaite Green

The Fantasy tick box Consultation Document is silent on the history of Applethwaite Green which clearly shows the shambolic lack of any coherent management.

Applethwaite Green was built in the 1970s and operated by a private owner.

Sometime after that it appears to have been sold to or acquired by CCC. There are Covenants in the Title Deeds on the use of this land. Has anyone in the Cabinet Tent looked at these.

In 1990 Applethwaite Green had 38 residents in (the then) 48 bed home with a healthy spare capacity of 10 rooms.

A full refurbishment was done in 1993 reducing the capacity to 28 beds. During this time staff and residents were split up in different homes; The Abbey, Staveley, Maude's, & Riverside, Kendal & Croftside, Milnthorpe.

This refurbishment took just under 12 months from November 1993, and staff and residents returned September 1994. It is strange that Westmorland and Furness, as Ms Phipps is suggesting in her email, it will take circa 2 years to refurbish Applethwaite Green today. Clearly we are not as good at building today as we were in 1993 or Ms Phipps is talking rubbish and spreading false information

In the 1990's there were approximately 33 residential homes between Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness. That has now been reduced to approximately 17 between the two councils.

7 rooms on the Ambleside unit of Applethwaite Green were closed in 2022 for refurbishment. The council wanted to keep admissions low for when the rest of the home was to be done as they planned to transfer residents and staff to Maude's Meadow, Kendal for 12 months whilst the work was completed. In October 2025 the Adult Social Care Office advised that the refurbishment was not going ahead despite all the costs incurred up to that time and the trauma inflicted on the residents and staff.

This shows the total shambolic management of Applethwaite Green going back to CCC days

1. **My Summary, Conclusions and Recommendation**
    a. The whole secret plan to sell Applethwaite Green and use the money to cover up some of the losses has failed.

    b. It failed because of incompetence by the person who masterminded the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** and blatant attempts to influence the outcome.

    c. I don't think you have time to do a proper review of Adult Social Care before the incoming S114 hits. The good thing about the issue of a S114 agreement is that the Council will only be allowed to spend money on Statutory Services. E.g. Adult Social Care. The bad news is that all the money being spent on unnecessary Vanity Projects will have been wasted

    d. I believe that. ignoring your attempt to asset strip Adult Social Care in Windermere/the National Park you have created a critical situation with the provision of social care in general, which may manifest itself with you having to ship people out to other areas in the country to meet your statutory obligations as there will be NO spare capacity here.

    e. What you need is more spare capacity NOW and so any new build or major refurbishment is a non-starter, and anyway once the S114 hits you won't be able to commit to any new construction work and I doubt that any reputable Construction Company would work for a quasi-bankrupt organisation.

    f. What you need to do NOW, today, is bring back into operation any mothballed capacity. I don't know what is out there, I only know about what is within your grasp at Applethwaite Green.

    g. If it were me, I would get builders, painters, electricians, plumbers etc back into the closed off wing of Applethwaite Green and bring it back into use with minimum cost. I would NOT involve any Architects, Quantity Surveyors, Structural Engineers or Building Services Consultant to do any design work apart from giving advice on compliance with regulations. To bring this bunch of people on board will cost hundreds of thousands of pounds, add

nothing and delay any work for at least 12 months **You don't have 12 months!!**

h. While the limited refurbishment works were underway, I would announce that, after consultation with the local residents, you have decided to make Applethwaite Green the titular head of adult services in the National Park Area of Westmorland and Furness and that you are recruiting permanent, experienced care staff so in a few weeks, when the mothballed wing is ready to receive residents, you have staff to run it.

i. In parallel with bringing the mothballed rooms back into service I would also bring the former day care that used to be there and now appears to also be shut up, back into use. This would possibly allow people with dementia to stay with their families for longer before they need full time care. Every little helps.

Yours faithfully

[redacted]

Appendix A

A. email dated 24 June 2026

Sent from my iPhone

On 24 Jun 2026, at 17:10, Care Consultation <care.consultation@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I hope you are well and enjoying the warmer weather. I wanted to take some time to update you on several areas around Applethwaite Green, and I am hoping that this message is reaching you in a timely way.

The consultation
The consultation was opened on 14 May and was to run for 12 weeks to 5 August. We have made the decision to clarify some of the information and extend the consultation period so it will now run until 19 August.

The decision was made after listening to community views and concerns at information drop-in sessions and assessing the responses received so far to the consultation surveys for both homes. The survey responses indicated that some people were preferring the "refurbishment" option because they understood it would allow current residents to remain in the home during the work, and therefore it would be one of the least disruptive options for the residents.

The public consultation materials in print and online stated that refurbishment would mean "extensive remodelling and refurbishment" and that the option would be "highly disruptive to current residents", but did not spell out that the extent of structural work required for a complete remodelling of the home, which would include installing new plumbing and wiring, and updating mechanical and electrical installations and, would mean the home would have to close for an extended period.

We are clarifying that the option to "refurbish" Applethwaite Green in Windermere would mean the home would have to close for an estimated 12 to 24 months, with current residents having to move temporarily or permanently to an alternative home. It would not be safe or practical for residents to remain in situ during this period of time: in simple terms, the building would be stripped back and be a building site for an extended period.

We have also clarified that the option to rebuild care homes on their current sites would mean residents having to move temporarily or permanently to an alternative home for two to four years.

Anyone who has submitted a response already will be given the option to either submit a further response or, use the new response as a replacement for the one that has been previously submitted.

There will also be 2 further meetings organised in line with both the extension but also to provide equity with the consultation that is being undertaken consecutively with Grisedale Croft.

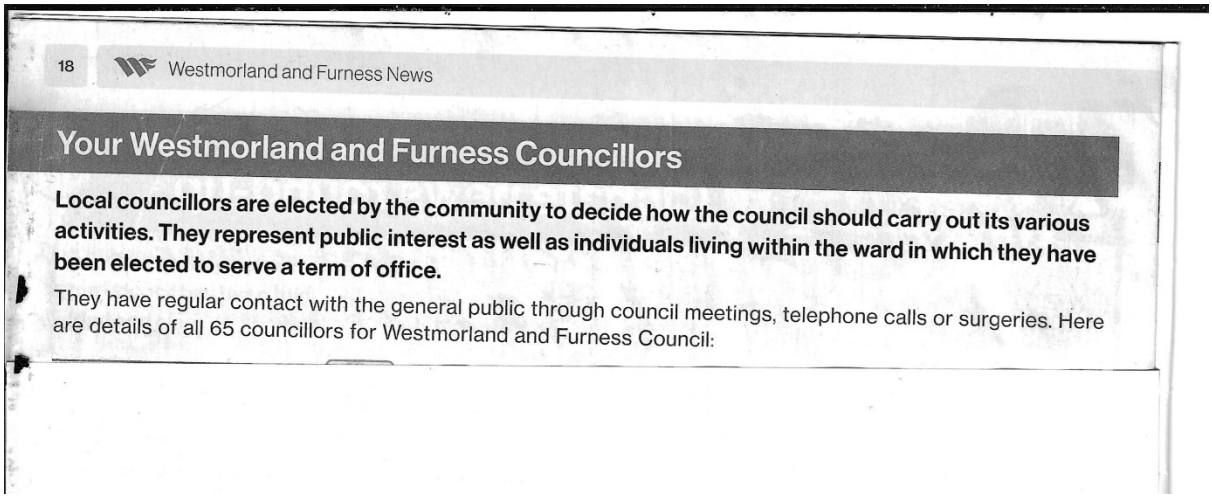
The dates that we currently have planned for drop-in sessions are:-

Monday 29 June	*10.30 - 12.30*	*Windermere Library*
Wednesday 1 July	*10.30 - 12.30*	*Ambleside Library*
Thursday 16 July	*14.00 - 16.00*	*Windermere Library*

Nikkie Phipps
Assistant Director – Care Services
Adult Social Care | Westmorland & Furness Council
South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4DQ

Appendix B

B. The Role of Councillors from Westmorland and Furness Summer News letter



18 Westmorland and Furness News

Your Westmorland and Furness Councillors

Local councillors are elected by the community to decide how the council should carry out its various activities. They represent public interest as well as individuals living within the ward in which they have been elected to serve a term of office.

They have regular contact with the general public through council meetings, telephone calls or surgeries. Here are details of all 65 councillors for Westmorland and Furness Council:

Appendix C

C. Analysis of Adult Care needs into the Future in WESTMORLAND AND FURNESS and The case for keeping Applethwaite Green.

Data from Cumbria Observatory Population Reports		
	Windermere & Ambleside Coniston and Hawkshead Bowness and Lythe Upper Kent	**22. Kendal Castle 23. Kendal Highgate 24. Kendal Nether 25. Kendal South 26. Kendal Strickland and Fell**
Population	**15935**	**32167**
Number Over 64 years	**5988 (37.6%)**	**8346 (26%)**
Dementia (incidence 7% in this age group)	**419**	**587**
35 to 45% of people over 64 with dementia will need Adult Social Care	**146 to 189**	**206 to 264**
Range of number requiting residential nursing care	**147 to 125**	**294 to 263**
Range for nursing and dementia Care	**= 293 to 314**	**= 500 to 527**
Beds Capacity from Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document	**34 (assuming mothball rooms brought back into use) 7 (if Applethwaite closes) 0 (if Applethwaite Green and Twin Oaks Close)**	**479**
Shortfall of places	**293 to 314**	**21 to 48**

Observations from above data

1. The Population of the area inside the National Park is forecast to be circa 50% of the population in Kendal
2. The percentage number of people aged over 64 is far higher outside Kendal than inside
3. Examination of the map on page 10 of the Fantasy Tick Box consultation and comparison of 1 and 2 above shows clearly how WESTMORLAND AND FURNESS and their predecessor CCC have shown favour to Kendal and neglected the Area outside Kendal
4. The existing available Nursing Care outside Kendal, even if Applethwaite Green was retained, falls far short of what is forecast and that ignores the forecast unquantified need for Adult Dementia Care outside Kendal

5. The analysis in Appendix D shows that the current availability of places in Kendal and the area outside will be at breaking point if Applethwaite Green is closed and this completely ignores the forecasts above

Appendix D

D. My Calculation of Capacity and Availability from The Data in the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document

From bottom of Page 5 in the section headed alternative Provision to Applethwaite Green

Capacity of Homes shown on table on page 9 = 479

Available Vacancies of homes shown on page 9 = 29

But some of the homes are inaccessible for the

Displaced residents of Applethwaite Green e.g.

Grange Cottage Grange = -2

Hartland House Milnthorpe = -2

Croftside Milnthorpe = -3

[redacted] = -5

True Availability = 29 – 12 = 17

But there are 16 people at Applethwaite Green

Plus two at Twin Oaks that would need a place

If these close, therefore there would be 18 places required. Therefore the care homes in Kendal would be one place short. This also assumes that any new people would have to be housed in Milnthorpe or Grange

Will the voters in Kendal be happy with this AND there would only be 4 spare Places.

This is a critical situation in terms of adult service care NOW !!!!!

The analysis in Appendix C shows the situation would be much worse if future needs are taken into account.

Appendix E

E. The Association of Local Government's View on the Role Of Councillors

Local Government Association

What responsibilities do councillors have?

A councillor is an elected representative who serves on a local government council to represent the interests of the residents in their specific ward or division. Their core responsibilities revolve around community advocacy, policy-making, and holding the local council accountable.

Key duties include:

- **Handling Casework:** Acting as a bridge between the public and the council by listening to residents' concerns, answering inquiries, and helping to resolve local issues.
- **Policy and Decision Making:** Attending formal meetings to develop local policies, strategies, and budgets that shape the future of the area (such as housing, transport, and waste).
- **Scrutiny:**

Monitoring and reviewing the decisions and services provided by the council leadership to ensure public money is spent effectively.

- **Representing the Community:** Voicing the needs of constituents during council debates and acting as the council's representative on outside bodies like charities or local partnerships.

Appendix F

F. My abridged thoughts and views on the Fantasy Tick Box Consolation Document

1. The Consultation is a Quasi Referendum as it requires people to express a preference of defined options. However, the option listed exclude very important options and the wording of the options listed are ambiguous. I would suggest that the options I set out in 6 below would be more appropriate.

2. The Fantasy Tick Box Document is silent on how the results will be analysed or if Westmorland and Furness will accept the view of the majority. Also, I don't think a first past the Post System is appropriate in this case and I would suggest that if there is no overall majority then the second preference of participants should be taken into account.

3. It is clearly a box ticking exercise so Westmorland and Furness Cabinet can say they have consulted on their proposals. It is also clear to me that it is a COVERT box ticking exercise by Westmorland and Furness Councillors in the Cabinet Tent not distributing it widely and the fact that they are actually trying to keep it secret from people in Kendal.

4. It is clear from this amateurish document that Westmorland and Furness Cabinet have already made up their minds to close Applethwaite Green and sell the site to raise cash to plug the deficit mentioned in the media. It is my opinion that Westmorland and Furness Councillors in Cabinet Tent thought that the people of Windermere would just accept the proposal to close the Applethwaite Green Care home by default.

5. It is clear to me that [redacted] attempted to change the consultation document choices after she snooped on the responses so far, without waiting for the closing date, when she discovered that people were not ticking the box that Westmorland and Furness Councillors in the Cabinet Tent wanted or naively expected to happen.

6. **The Tick Box Options**
   The options given for participants to choose from are not comprehensive and are ambiguous and I would suggest the following would be more appropriate in any future re run of the fiasco.

   1. Do Nothing (As in keep it going as it is)
   2. Manage the facility better and do some maintenance
   3. Bring back the mothballed rooms into service with minimum works while residents remain.
   4. Full Refurbishment of Applethwaite Green with Residents remaining in situ.
   5. Move all residents out and do a full refurbishment then move the residents back in and professionally manage the move and refurbishment.
   6. Demolish and rebuild Applethwaite Green (which would involve the displacement of all residents and making all existing staff redundant).

7. **Note closing down Applethwaite Green is NOT an option see social care needs forecasts, capacity and availability in appendix C and D.**

   To close down Applethwaite Green based on the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document would demonstrate the incompetence of the Westmorland and Furness Cabinet and all those in the Tent.

8. **Forecast data on Adult Social care needs**
   It is nowhere near being an analysis of ongoing care needs going forwards in Westmorland and Furness. It is a poor statement of what is the situation now. The person who put this together has not even done any sensible analysis of the data quoted in the document, See appendix C and D below which are an analysis of the data in the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document and Published Credible Forecast of Adult Social Care. I suggest that you should consult data from Cumbria Observatory Population Reports which forecasts Future Care needs in Cumbria.

9. **Exploitation of the Lake District National Park by Westmorland and Furness Cabinet, the previous CCC and the now defunct SLDC.**
   This **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** is yet another example of Westmorland and Furness Council, the previous CCC and SLDC asset stripping the National Park and using it as a cash cow. This time it is to raise cash to cover up an epic overspend. And to cover up the overspend the LDNP is being asset stripped yet again. The complication this time is that it will have a negative effect on Adult Social Care provision in Kendal hence the desperate frantic attempt to keep it secret from the people in Kendal as if they knew it may well affect voting choices in the upcoming Council elections in May 2027.

10. **Inaccurate and mislead Information**
    The **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** is a collection of misinformation and wild unsupportable statements made with no credible evidence to support them.
    1. **See para 2 on page 2** Applethwaite Green does Not have 27 rooms it has 16 as Westmorland and Furness Council mothballed 11 of them in 2022 on the pretext of refurbishing them and then did not do the work. This left Applethwaite Green with fixed costs for a 27 room Adult Care home but only income from 16 rooms.

    2. The **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** implies that the residents will be moving to much better facilities with larger rooms all with ensuite bathrooms. This is just not the case I have researched the websites of the care homes in Kendal and only a few of them say they have ensuite bathrooms. Why does the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** not provide details of room sizes, number of ensuites in the homes where the displaced residents will be decanted to? There could be two reasons for this; firstly, the person producing the document's lack of knowledge does not appear to have restricted their artistic licence or the person producing the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** knew what the other homes provided and they decided to provide misleading information. Why don't you provide full details?

    3. The statement "Making operating costs too high" is mis leading **see also statements in para 4, 5 and 6 on page 5.**
       It just compares operating costs with Council Run Care homes and ignores the private run ones. Analysis of operating costs of the private

run homes can be found it their Statutory Accounts and comparing that with the number of rooms will give the cost per room/resident This analysis would demonstrate just how incompetent Westmorland and Furness are at running their care homes.

4. **In Para 1 page 5** there is a statement that there is a falling demand! Anyone who makes such a statement clearly does not understand what everyone else knows, that there is a rocketing demand for Adult Social Care. See the analysis in Appendix D. The fall in the number of residents was caused by Westmorland and Furness Council closing 11 rooms.

11. The whole basis of the document is flawed. It pretends to be a review of Adult Social Care needs in South Lakeland. **But it isn't.** It is a fundamentally flawed appraisal of what is here now and **NOT** an appraisal of the future needs based on forecast demographics and care needs in say the next 10 years.
It appears that whoever produced this document has made no attempt at forecasting future need. There is only one reference to the future which is one word slipped into a sentence probably by mistake on page 2, 3 paras up from the bottom of the page where it refers to " Our wider vision for the future care" This document is nothing to do with a vision for future care it is a shambolic collection of mis information to tick a box so the Council can quickly raise funds to plug their flagrant overspend of council tax and business rate payers' money.
The document attached in Appendix C is an analysis of Adult Social Care needs in Westmorland and Furness based on Government's forecast demographics and numbers of people requiring Adult Social Care and Dementia care in the near future. Clearly whoever put together the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document either had no idea that this published demographic data exists OR they chose to ignore it to serve the real purpose of raising cash to cover up the huge financial mess.

12. The interesting thing about the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document**, is that it provides information that clearly demonstrates the plan to close Applethwaite Green and all the Adult Social Care outside Kendal.
It is fundamentally flawed. Using the document's data the only conclusion any sensible reasonable person interested in providing good Adult Social Care could come to is not to close Applethwaite Green but to maximise the

available resource. See my suggested only course of action at the end of this letter.

13. If you look at the map on page 10 of the Fantasy Tick Box Document, it clearly shows that the only credible Adult Social Care outside Kendal is Applethwaite Green. There is no mention of what people in Bowness, Coniston, Hawkhead, Ambleside or Grasmere and the rural areas around them have to do to get care local to where their support group exists. Why is there no mention of these areas?

14. There is also no mention that 4 of the residents in Applethwaite Green come from Ambleside and one comes from Hawkhead. The question is that was the omission intentional or did no one check where the residents came from?

15. Perhaps someone could explain, what is obvious from the map on page10, why there is such a provision for Adult Social Care in Kendal and such a dearth outside of Kendal. Could it be that people in Kendal need more care than people in the National Park or could it be some other reason. The population outside Kendal is a bit more than half the population in Kendal. Why is there only a capacity of 21 places outside Kendal in 2 homes and a capacity of 479 in 12 homes in Kendal. The data in Appendix C shows there is a greater need in Windermere and surrounding area outside Kendal per Capita.
The data in Appendix D is clear that there is in per capita more people outside Kendal over 64 where there is a greater need for Adult Social Care. This makes the disparity between Kendal and the areas outside Kendal even worse.

16. Have the people in Kendal been advised that most if not all of the spare care provision in Kendal would be used up if the 16 current residents were moved to Kendal or is that why the circulation of the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation distribution was carefully curated such that people in Kendal, who will be seriously affected by the closure of Applethwaite Green, are being kept in the dark and, in the main, excluded from the consultation.

17. On page 12 of the document, it lists the time and venues for Community Drop ins. They are all in Windermere with one in Ambleside. There does not appear to be any Community Consultation in Kendal.

Because the people in Kendal appear to have been kept in the dark about the effect of this i.e. that it will leave Kendal with little if any spare capacity, I see no alternative other than for the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document to be withdrawn until the people in Kendal have been consulted as well.

I would imagine not consulting the people in Kendal and explaining that the move of 16 displaced people from Applethwaite Green would use up all but 1 of the Kendal spare capacity and the clear omission of them from the consultation would seriously affect the core vote in both the next local elections in May 2027 and any Westminster Snap General Election.

18. Whist I am not a qualified accountant I do have a Doctor of Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration Degree so I do understand Management and Statutory Accounts. Sadly, you can't get your hands on the Management Accounts until it's too late. Also, Statutory Accounts are usually not available for several months after the end of an organisation's Financial Year.
However, I did go to the trouble to get the latest Statutory Accounts for the owners of the Care Homes listed in the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document from Companies House.
Some of what I discovered from what the Forensic Accountants call a 'quick and dirty investigation' was as follows:-

1. One of the owners is a private business and their accounts were not available.

2. I discovered that one of the providers had a **liquidator appointed on the 9 March 2026 of this year** (circa 8 weeks before the production and distribution of this Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document. It was not clear to me how this company is still trading but there did appear to be a new owner in place. Due to the delay in having to publish Statutory Accounts I have no way of knowing what is happening,

3. I understand that one of the providers on the list has been up for sale for a while and does appear to only accept people for rest spite care, but this is hearsay and needs checking.

4. The ultimate owner of another provider is based in the Cayman Islands which some people would argue is OK. I personally would run a mile from any business owned by a Cayman Island Company.

5. As a general comment, most of the Adult Care Homes appear to be separate Ltd Companies. I did not see any mention of parent company guarantees for the subsidiary companies who were part of larger groups. I understand why parent companies are reluctant to give guarantees or even let it be known that they exist. My experience is that you could not identify if there were a parent company guarantee unless the subsidiary was trading with negative equity which would require someone to make a guarantee in Statutory Accounts. i.e. This company is trading with the support of XXXX

6. In my opinion Westmorland and Furness Council are at risk if any one of their larger providers in Kendal decided to give up providing adult care.

7. I have other concerns about available data which someone more qualified than me would need to look at and who is familiar with Ratio Analysis.

The Question is 'has Andrew Jarvis Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Minister for Finance done any investigation into the finances of the companies currently providing care for Westmorland and Furness Council and has he done a risk assessment for the Council and is he happy with his findings?'. It is pointless asking for this analysis as the response would be " It is confidential commercial information"

It would also be folly to consider closing Applethwaite Green without doing a risk analysis

19. Forecasting Demand for the future

Again, it is my opinion that moving 16 residents from Applethwaite Green to Kendal and closing Applewhite Green is complete folly particularly as the **Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document** make no attempt to forecast demand in the future.

The forecast of future demand from a credible source is given in Appendix C. This shows that there is a critical low level of Adult Social Care in Westmorland and Furness.

In my opinion the ONLY option at this time, given that Westmorland and Furness are about to have to issue a 114 notice, due to profligate spending is to bring out of moth balls the rooms at Applethwaite Green that disappeared in 2022. Because of the imminent crisis this needs to happen before winter and with the minimal cleaning, wiring, plumbing and decoration to restore them to a 'good enough' standard as the existing operational rooms. The current residents are very happy with this standard.

20. I now move onto the completely inaccurate statements about running costs on page 8. I touched briefly on this, in section 8 sub para 3 above. Para 6 on page 8 of the document tries to make out that the cost per person at Applethwaite Green are double those in Kendal. It makes no reference to how much residents in Applethwaite Green pay per week and how that compares with the cost per week in the care homes in Kendal. If you follow the link below you will find details of prices for all care homes in Cumbria plus a chart that shows that the cost of Adult Social care per week inside the National Park is in fact more expensive than outside in surrounding areas

Older Person Care Homes Cumbria | 2,025 Reviews

I spent time ringing round the care homes in Kendal and several of them have a range of prices, so comparison is difficult.

I explained above how to find out the cost per capita of all the care homes from their statutory accounts and before making comparisons with the cost of care in Council owned homes. Perhaps a comparison between Applethwaite Green on circa half capacity with privately run homes would be useful.. I would suggest that the different operating costs relate to incompetent management by Westmorland and Furness Council.

You don't have to be brain of Britain to see that by reducing income from residents by half and still having the fixed costs for 27 residents and frightening permanent staff that they were going to lose their jobs was going to cause a financial crisis.

Now the questions are who decided to incur costs emptying half of Applethwaite Green of residents and preparing the empty rooms for refurbishment and who then decided to stop the works and frighten permanent staff into leaving and was it some machiavellian plan to close Applethwaite Green by stealth which has back fired.

21. Bequest to Applethwaite Green

Interestingly the other day, whilst writing this letter it came to my attention that an old lady in Windermere had died and in her will she left £125,000 to Applewhite Green. I did ask Ms Phipps about this and she did confirm that Westmorland and Furness Green did know about it.

This just shows how much local people care about Applethwaite Green.

22. The Residents of Applethwaite Green

Despite Westmorland and Furness Councils threats to close Applethwaite Green and fearmongering, the residents at Applethwaite Green are very happy and don't want to move.

If they wanted a bigger room with an en suite they could have moved to Kendal.

There is no analysis of how many of the existing residents are able to use en suite facilities

Despite all the false claims about the facilities at Applethwaite Green it still manages to achieve the same CQC rating of Good just as do the ones in Kendal.

Ms Phipps at the Drop-in Session did say that one of the reasons they wanted to close Applethwaite Green was that it would not be possible to get a higher CQC rating because of the room sizes and lack of ensuite bathrooms. For the record the residents in Applethwaite Green are not interested in an Excellent rating they just want to be left alone by Westmorland and Furness Council. Can I suggest that you STOP causing old infirm people considerable stress by trying to evict them from their home!

23. Birthwaite Gardens

At the bottom of page 8 last paragraph there is a statement about Birthwaite Gardens. This clearly demonstrates that whoever put this document together clearly has no idea about the level of care given at Applethwaite Green and the lack of care given in extra care facilities.

24. Best Use of Tax Payers' money

Page 8 7th Para down. For Westmorland and Furness to talk about best use of tax payer's money is an insult given that the Councillors in the Cabinet Tent have managed to overspend in 3 years mainly on Vanity Projects.

25. Spare capacity in Kendal

At the bottom of page 8 a section starts purporting to demonstrate that there is adequate spare capacity in Kendal to accommodate the 16 displaced residents from Applethwaite Green. It ignores the two residents at Twin Oaks in Windermere which is believed to be on the market. This is complete rubbish see a sensible Analysis in Appendix D.

26. Public Transport

The Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document suggests that getting to the care homes in Kendal by Public Transport for visitors is easy including to Haverthwaite, Milnthorpe and Grange.

I would suggest that this is not the case and suggest that whoever wrote the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document gets a bus Timetable for Coniston, Hawkhead, Ambleside, Bowness, Windermere and Grasmere to Kendal and back for Summer and, out of the tourist season in Winter. Once you get to Kendal it is a long walk from the bus station to several of the Kendal Care homes. The people who visit residents in Care homes by public transport tend to be brothers, sisters, wives, husbands and friends. These are not a demographic capable of long walks up hill in many cases.

27. The Health and Care Act 2022 States

Local authorities must promote wellbeing when carrying out any of their care and support functions in respect of a person. This may sometimes be referred to as **'the wellbeing principle'** because it is a guiding principle that puts wellbeing at the heart of care and support.

It also states that the views of the people needing care must be taken into account.

The 16 People in Applethwaite Green are very happy, they don't want to move. However, the Councillors in the Cabinet Tent are just ignoring this as all they are interested in closing Applethwaite Green to sell it to raise cash to cover up the massive overspend they have run up.

28. The True Reason for the Consultation

I now move onto what I believe is the real purpose of the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document. The whole document is what is usually referred to as a 'Snow Job'. In other word it's a document full of rubbish but concealed with in it is the actual Machiavellian reason.

This can be seen in the last Paragraph on page 8 hidden away is the real purpose of the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document **" It could also be sold which would release funds --- to relieve pressure on overall council finances!!!!!! QED**

29. Page 8 first section For Residents and Staff

First Bullet point

The residents have and are still are very happy with the care and facilities they have at Applethwaite Green. They **DO NOT WANT TO MOVE**. They don't want their care requirements reassessed as they get this on a regular basis by people who know them and know what they are talking about.

The only people who will benefit from them being relocated are the, in my view, incompetent councillors in the cabinet tent who have bankrupt a new council in 3 years. They want to sell Applethwaite Green to try and hide the scale of the overspend.

It is my opinion that the pressure being exerted and the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document is trying to justify the un justifiable.

30. Second bullet point

I believe that anyone who believes this statement is living in a dream world. No matter what they say the Council will take the opportunity presented by the closure of Applethwaite Green to reduce staff numbers and costs.

31. Third bullet Point

It is clear to me that the timetable has already been set i.e. to close Applethwaite Green and sell the site before the incoming S 114 Notice hits. This is a tough call for a capable bunch of Councillors. It is my belief that the Councillors in the Cabinet Tent will destroy a much-loved safe place for absolutely nothing because the incoming S114 notice will hit before they sell Applethwaite Green.

32. This begs the question

Has the council or any councillor or any person acting on behalf of the council or independently has had or has any planned meetings,

correspondence or discussions with any party about disposal of the Applethwaite Green site?

33. **Page 8 Second section For the Council!!!! Should this not say for the Council Tax and business rate payers??**
I can't help thinking that the councillors in the cabinet tent have forgotten who they represent!!!

34. **Second Bullet Point**
It is clear to me that the Councillors in the Cabinet Tent don't have any strategy whatsoever and appear to be oblivious to the fact highlighted in the Fantasy Tick Box Consultation Document that they have an imminent crisis in the Adult Social Care in the South Lakes area.

I believe that the Councillors inside the Cabinet Tent's plan is to expect vulnerable elderly people who need care to spend circa 20 hours a day on their own in their own homes with flying visits from agency care staff selected because they were the cheapest!!!! This drives down the wages of the visiting care staff and limits the time they get per visit.

35. **Third Bullet point.** I believe that this is a lie. The only word of truth here is that they are planning to sell Applethwaite Green and use the money to cover up the massive deficit that they have created from a standing start in circa 3 years. I repeat the question that the Cabinet and other Councillors need to answer -
Has the council or any councillor or any person acting on behalf of the Council or independently has had or has any planned meetings, correspondence or discussions with any party about disposal of the Applethwaite Green site.

36. **The impending Section 114 notice**
From reading the newspapers it is clear to me that the issue of a Section 114 notice is imminent.
For those of you that don't understand a Section 114 Notice it is the same as calling in a receiver/liquidator in the world outside Local Government.

A local authority can't go bankrupt, so the section 114 notice provide for a Council becoming insolvent. I have not researched this but on the basis that it deals with insolvency of an organisation I imagine it has a lot of rules

regarding the conduct of Councillors and Officers of the defaulting Council in the run up to the issue of a section 114 notice being issued and afterwards. In the case of a company or person becoming insolvent in the private sector failure to comply with ALL the rules can leave an individual personally responsible for the debts. Before any action is taken on Applethwaite Green I would advise all Councillors to obtain the legislation pertaining to a Section 114 notice and read it and understand it and how it applies to them personally.

If I was a Councillor, I would be unhappy about selling or making an agreement to sell any asset that would affect the ongoing statutory obligations.

Copies to:-

- All Elected Westmoreland and Furness Councillors by email
- All Windermere Town Councillors, by email
- All Coniston Parish Councillors by email
- All Hawkshead Parish Councillors by email
- All Lakes Parish Councillors by email
- Westmorland Gazette by post and email **joy.yates@newsquest.co.uk**
- BBC by email **nwt@bbc.co.uk.**
- **yourvoice@bbc.co.uk**
- ITV by email **granada.reports@itv.com**
- GBNews by email **newstips@gbnews.com**
- The PM and Leader of the Labour Party Elect Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP by email **andy.burnham.mp@parliament.uk**
- The Rt Hon Mrs Kemi Badenoch MP Leader of the Opposition and Conservative Party by email **kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk**
- The Rt Hon Sir Ed Davey MP Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party by email **edward.davey.mp@parliament.uk**
- Nigel Farrge MP Reform UK Party by email **nigel.farage.mp@parliament,uk**

From: [redacted]
Sent: 23 July 2026 08:53
To: Cllr Barbara Jayson <Barbara.Jayson@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Dyan Jones <Dyan.Jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Helen Ladhams <Helen.Ladhams@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Neil McCall <Neil.McCall@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Bill McEwan <Bill.McEwan@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Ian Mitchell <Ian.Mitchell@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>; Cllr Jane Murphy <Jane.Murphy@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: Westmoreland and Furness Councils Attempt to Close Applethwaite Green Car Home Windermere

Dear Cllrs

It is with great disappointment that I find the need to copy you all in on my Open letter to Cllr Brooks regarding the misguided attempt to close the last but one Adult Social Care home outside of Kendal. The Cabinet under the Leadership of Cllr brooks are conducting what I can only describe a “Covert” Consultation process. I describe it as this as very few people have been sent this document and thos conducting the Consultation made it very clear at a drop in session that there would be no active consultation with the people of Kendal.

I have had to break off enjoying my retirement to spend considerable time analyzing the Consultation Document in detail and my conclusion is that it is a document of miss leading and untrue statements which bear no relation to an appraisal of what is needed for the future of Adult Social care which is a Statutory obligation of all Councils. I am appalled that the person conducting this sham, of a consultation publicly stated that the demand for adult social care is falling!

I personally believe that this proposal to close Applethwaite Green to try to plug the eye watering deficit run up my the Council Cabinet from a standing start 3 years ago

I attach the first version of the consultation document that was withdrawn and amended and re issued half way through the consultation process when the person managing the consultation looked at the response received and realized that the respondents did not want Applethwaite Green to Close so they changed the wording of the options! I believe this is on a par with changing the wording of a referendum half way through the count when it was obvious that it was not going to produce the right result.

I could go on. Can I ask you Cllrs out there who are not in the Cabinet Tent!

Read the document that was issued and my analysis and do what you were elected to do which was to represent the views of those who voted for you

For those of you who represent Kendal Wards you should DEMAND that the people in Kendal are made aware that closing Applethwaite Green and moving the 16 displaced people into the very limited spare capacity in the Kendal Care homes will (based on the numbers in the Consultation Document) wipe out almost all of the Kendal spare capacity

For the avoidance of doubt I did not vote for any of you and spoilt my ballot paper as I have done in General and Council Elections for some time as I did not and still don't think any of you were up to it. Here is your chance to prove me wrong

Do have your best day

[redacted]

PS I am having to send it out in batches

From: Care Consultation <care.consultation@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Sent: 26 August 2026 13:05
To: [redacted]
Subject: Applethwaite Green consultation correspondence

Dear [redacted]

We are compiling our Applethwaite consultation findings report from responses received via the consultation survey form (online and in print), and from direct correspondence to officers and members pertaining to the consultation.

As well as a summary report this will include an appendix of all responses and correspondence, with names and other identifiers redacted by default.

I have a copy of your open letter to Cllr Jonathan Brook dated 11 July, copied to others as listed.

I also have a copy of an email from 23 July to Cllr Barbara Jayson and others, which I think is part of your process of copying the open letter to W&F members, but which contains a covering email making further points about the consultation and the consultation process.

I would be grateful if you could let me know if you wish the full open letter to be put on the record as provided by you (with phone already redacted), or if you would like any redactions of your name or other identifying details. Also for the email of 23 July.

Please could you also let me know if there is any other substantive correspondence that I have not included that should be in the consultation record.

Kind regards

From: [redacted]
Sent: 28 August 2026 08:53
To: Care Consultation <care.consultation@cumbria.gov.uk>
Cc: Andrew Jarvis <Andrew.Jarvis@eden.gov.uk>; Cllr Jonathan Brook <Jonathan.Brook@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Applethwaite Green consultation correspondence

I see that Westmoreland and Furness are continuing to play games with the Fantasy Tick Boc Consultation.

My analysis of your email and proposal to include all objections over and above the Fantasy Tick Box Document Second edition and the comments is that everybody who responded wanted to refurbish or rebuild Applethwaite Green Which if you used only those responses any honest person would struggle to go against the response.

I believe what you are now trying to do is to include all the written objections so that you can divert attention from your response to the fantasy Tick box fiasco with all the written objections which no

doubt you have responded sufficiently and played the game enough to say that we have taken them all into consideration and the proposal are not possible.

No doubt you will say there is no money which would be funny if the profligate Council Cabinet had not blown £30 going on £40m of our money that did not exist! I expected nothing less as this is in line with Westmoreland and Furness complete disregards for the Council Tax Payers who Pay you your Salaries and who will be paying off the eyewatering overspend for years to come!

For the avoidance of doubt, I would like all correspondence from me to Cllr Brooks, Ms Phipps and Tim Farron included in the objections. I would also like this email included in the objections Cllr ([redacted] Brooks was copied into all my emails to Tim Farron so you can get copies from him

I would also place on record that in my letter to Councillor Brooks asked several questions. To date Councillor Brooks has not replied to my letter, and I wish to have a response. I am one of the many people who pay his expenses so replying to any correspondence is a requirement!

I have no problem with anyone knowing who I am and any contact details that I included on any correspondence from me unlike you people part of whose salary I pay.

I see that Cllr Andrew Jarvis who, is supposed to represent the views of the Council Tax Payers in Windermere and Ambleside (unless it in conflict of the Lib Dems) and who is responsible for Finance, Has announced that he is bringing forward the Budget Review to Nov of this year so that items such as Adult Social Care can be discussed and there will be time for the residents to be consulted.

What another sham consultation?

What you people are doing is not only a sham it is yet another waste of public money **IF** what Cllr Jarvis says that the Council will have time consult the Council Tax Payers in November.

Councillor Jarvis has also been responsible for personally overseeing the £30m soon to be £40m eyewatering overspend since the creation of the spendthrift Westmoreland and Furness Council *(For those of you who don't know what Spendthrift means it is "a person who wastes money through reckless and extravagant spending that goes far beyond what they can afford")* If he had any integrity he would apologise to the Council Tax Payers and resign as a Councillor immediately

[redacted]