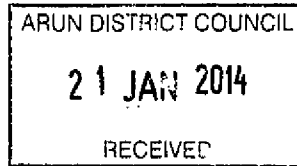


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90a Nyetimber Lane
Rose Green
Bognor Regis
PO21 3HL

Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 5LF



18th January 2014

Dear Mr Davis,

Re:Planned Closure of The Russell Hotel

I have just read an article in a recent edition of the Bognor Observer outlining the proposals submitted by Livability. Having already written to express my devastation at the imminent closure of this hotel, following this latest update I now feel the need to write again.

The Russell Hotel was **purpose built** for the visually impaired, in fact the first of its kind in England. It is fully equipped to accommodate guests and visitors, who are partially sighted, therefore, NEVER intended to be a care home. Over 75% of guests who left a review on Trip Advisor rated this hotel as 'Very Good' or 'Excellent'. There are only four similar hotels in the UK dedicated for the visually impaired. It seems a travesty that this number will now be reduced to a mere three for the sake of one third of the building being in use; Livability intends to use only a third of the available space whilst the remainder is apparently "mothballed".

Due to a hereditary eye disorder, I have very limited vision. Without the help from family, friends and local services dedicated to the visually impaired, I would be destined to remain behind my own front door. The Russell Hotel has been invaluable to me during the past 10 years as it offers the opportunity to socialise with people who suffer from similar eye conditions. I have used the swimming pool every week, this offers me the social recreation that I enjoy, together with priceless independence I crave. The pool is level depth and I feel safe swimming here. There is NO alternative, appropriate facility available in the Bognor Regis and surrounding area.

I sincerely hope that my voice is heard together with the voices of many other visually impaired members of the Bognor Regis community. I urge you to reject the formal plans submitted by Livability and create the U-Turn I am dearly hoping for.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Mrs P S Holmes.

Mrs P S Holmes