

## **POLICY 71 COMMUNITY CARE**

**Development of community care facilities for the handicapped and elderly will be encouraged in residential areas provided:**

- (a) schemes incorporate adequate space for necessary ancillary services, amenity and visitor car parking; and**
- (b) there is no over-concentration of community care facilities.**

**Only large detached premises will normally be accepted for conversion.**

### Reasons

- 71.1 The emphasis in care of the handicapped and the dependant elderly is switching from institutions to supported community locations. In particular it is necessary to accommodate housing projects for people returning to live in the community from long stay institutions. There is also a need for 'half way houses' for drug addicts. Community care necessitates living in a residential environment, preferably near shops and passenger transport routes. The nature of 'homes' large enough to require planning permission, is such that a careful choice of property capable of accommodating special facilities and needs is required. An over-concentration of community care homes can lead to an undesirable change in the residential character of an area and its amenity; in addition it can deny to the new residents the opportunity to live in a balanced residential community.