

**Presentation to the Thames Valley Probation Service Board  
18 June 2009  
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Introduction

- Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board again
- We were happy with the efforts on Monday and to have this opportunity again today to follow up

Same issues with Stronger Feeling

- Although Matthew Savage addressed the Board in April little has changed and meetings with the Senior Officers have been misleading, with wrong information communicated to a local MP
- Further research of sites in Kitts Green and Reading has been done. With a greater understanding of how the centre will work has only resolved in strengthening our feeling that Mill Street is appropriate
- We would like to reaffirm that although near good rail links we are not part of the city centre. This is why we have seen a growth of elderly residents, retirees, single woman, and families to our quiet cul-de-sac, which is more like a village than a street in Oxford

Property Search

- Has not been conducted in a thorough manner with opportunities that have been missed, not fully explored and suspended once Trajan House was found. Better and cheaper properties have since come and gone
- Their agents did NOT do a good job having promised to get back to the City Council's Head of Property with a specification. They failed to do so and several other possible sites were missed and continue to be missed. Nor from our understanding did they ask the County Council at the time of their searches. The City and County Councils are the biggest landholders next to the Universities.
- Trajan House is much too bid and is complicated with a further sub-let that may not be able to be filled

Other Options

We currently have four or five other options which are: 28 St Ebbs, Rochester House and Post Office, Macclesfield House, Cooper Callas and the Post Box Pub.

Although these have some barriers, so does the completion and commencement of Trajan House. Trajan House's barriers are indeed perhaps bigger.

What these properties do offer in addition to the same benefits as Trajan House are:

- they are primarily on through roads or ones where there are alternative ways in and out
- they have CCTV coverage

- are closer to the main bus hub on St Aldates
- central policing is in place
- there is ease of dispersal from site
- there are waiting areas and amenities for friends, families and companions
- they are closer to the courts, law firms and police stations with better access for emergency vehicles
- are not in a region that is prone to flooding with the closure of Botley Road to all except residents (with some evacuees in the last two years)

Expectations – Our expectations of you as trustees. Why this is an issue for you?

- Responsibility to probationers
- Fiduciary responsibility to Home Office
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- The ability for services to be offered non-stop (flooding of our area in 2007)

We ask

- For the supervisory board to ensure they hold the management team to account at a time of potential reputational and operational risk to the organisation, ensuring the executive management team does not mislead residents, local MP's or other constituencies as has already happened
- Time for and a commitment that all properties brought forth be fully explored. We fully believe for instance 28 St Ebbs is a great location that meets the needs of all stakeholders and that work could commence in a more timely fashion than Mill Street.