

Acacia Court (formerly Kiln Court) Stakeholder Meeting
Wednesday 17th June 2026, 2:00pm
MS Teams Meeting

Agencies and Services in attendance
KCC, UAS Children's Service
FTC, Councillor
KCC Prevent

Kent County Council (KCC) - Faversham Town Council (FTC) - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UAS Children)

Introduction
Introductions made and agenda shared.
Overview
A KCC representative welcomed everyone to the meeting. As all those in attendance had been to previous meetings, the representative did not repeat the background to the centre. The representative noted that things had been wonderful at Acacia over the past month and confirmed that there were currently around a dozen unaccompanied minors aged 16-17yr olds at the centre. These young people were moving quickly to new placements on the National Transfer Scheme (NTS) whilst they apply for asylum in the UK. A KCC representative noted that with an extended period of good weather ahead and a possible rise in the number of small boat crossings and those putting themselves into danger, it was expected that the numbers at the centre would increase. However, the young people at the centre were working hard, keen to learn, well behaved, and getting along well despite their different cultures and backgrounds. A KCC representative confirmed there had been no incidents involving the young people or protest-related issues at the centre. Although some isolated, pre-planned protests had taken place elsewhere in the county, none had occurred in or around Acacia Court.
Stakeholder Feedback
An FTC Councillor confirmed they had no updates for the meeting and it was good to hear that there had been no problems over the past month. An FTC Councillor agreed that it was good to hear that it had been quiet at the centre. However, the representative reported that a group of far-right protesters had recently attended a Town Council Meeting. It had not been a pleasant experience, and the group had eventually been expelled from the building. A KCC representative commented that it was useful to be informed of protests related incidents occurring in the wider community and noted that it appeared the situation had been managed well by staff. A KCC Prevent representative shared a local news link about the incident and confirmed that measures were being considered to support staff at future FTC and Swale Borough Council meetings and events. Stakeholders were reminded to report any notable concerns, including planned protest-related incidents

to KCC Prevent.

A KCC Prevent representative noted that although the centre had been quiet, the wider UK context remained challenging. A protest in Maidstone on 13th June had attracted around 150 anti-immigration protesters and 50 counter-protesters, resulting in a small number of arrests, which police managed well. Similar tensions were reported in Brighton and also Lydd, where KCC is due to open a new UASC children's home. In Lydd, three visiting military officers from Oman were seriously injured after reportedly being mistaken for young people from the yet unopened centre. The representative noted that significant time was being spent addressing community misinformation, including AI-generated images and videos. Kent Police had issued a press release and updates through My Community Voice to inform the Lydd community, and KCC had taken the unusual step of releasing a press statement to address concerns about the new centre.

A KCC representative noted that staff at the centre were well prepared to manage protest-related incidents. While such incidents were not welcome at the centre or elsewhere, staff had every faith in Kent Police's ability to manage migrant protests effectively.

A KCC representative reiterated that it was sad to hear about the incident at the Town Council Meeting and thanked everyone for attending the meeting and their continued support.

AOB

No other business was raised, and the meeting was concluded.