

In response to your request for background into the change of use of 7 Market Street from residential to commercial, I'd like to make the following points;

Kirklees Community Association owns a block of 14 houses on Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth, running from number 112 to number 128a. At the rear of these properties on Market Street there are 5 under-dwellings, each offering single occupancy. The under-dwellings open directly onto the large co-op car park in the centre of Holmfirth and can be affected by noise, fumes and light pollution.

Historically these properties have been difficult to let as they have limited access to natural light, tend to suffer from damp, only have one single bedroom, a small living/cooking area and no outside space.

As a result of their unpopularity these properties are often offered as the accommodation of last resort to vulnerable tenants and often attract people unsuited to this kind of living.

With all this in mind, and following KCA decided to trial the change of use of one property, number 7, to see if there might be a more practical use for the property. In order to compensate for the loss of this one bed, KCA has acquired a dilapidated shop in Dewsbury and is in the process of applying for a change its use to a two bed residential property.