

# Knowl Park House Planning Statement

## Dementia Daycare Centre & Centre of Excellence





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# INTRODUCTION

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Council are to remain in the business of owning and managing the provision of Dementia Day Care and will retain the provision of 25 day care places in the North, at Knowl Park House, Mirfield. The site is a former residential care unit constructed during the 1950s and 1960s. The building is two storey and is suffering from deterioration and is expensive and difficult to maintain. In addition, the heating and general maintenance costs are increasing and are inefficient in some areas.

The current layout of the site reflects its former residential status which is not ideally suited to the management and provision of dementia day care. To adapt to the changing needs and demands of dementia day care, and to provide services appropriate for the 21st century it is essential to seek total replacement of the building with a more modern facility with appropriate construction. This supports the commitment of the Council to retain these services in-house for the foreseeable future and will enable the experienced and skilled staff to deliver the best quality care in appropriate environments.

The aim of the scheme is to create a purpose designed day care centre and centre of excellence for dementia sufferers, their families and carers to learn about dementia, and how they can adapt their own surroundings to adjust and live with daily life challenges. The Day centre will provide valuable surroundings and activity spaces for individuals and small groups. This will focus on four key areas; Home Therapy, Craft and activities, Wellbeing and Garden. These zones will create a variety of spaces in order to engage in activities.

The building and garden will provide facilities for the local population of Mirfield to engage with vital care services, maintaining an existing service with improved facilities.

Refer to the Design and Access Statement for further information

# STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## 2.0 CONSULTATION

The Adults Capital Programme Team has co-produced this project with a range of partners, stakeholders and other services in health and social care. In particular, the staff team at Knowl Park House have supported and listened to hundreds of service users and families with a range of different types of dementias exhibiting a wide range of needs. They have regularly fed in this vital learning around what works for people with dementia needing day care and what doesn't work, which has directly influenced the design of this building.

As part of the drive for continuous improvement and development of this site, over the last 2 years, the capital team have collaborated closely with a range of professionals to ensure that an exemplary level of dementia design elements are embedded throughout this scheme. This includes Stirling University's Dementia Services Development Centre who have an international reputation for dementia design. They have worked closely with occupational therapists, movement and handling advisors, colleagues in Adult Social Care (Operational and Commissioning), liaised with Unions, the CCG's, SWyT, Children's Services, Calderdale and Kirklees Alzheimer's Society, and have continued to raise awareness at various senior management and leadership meetings across the council. They have regularly updated ward councillors and have continued to take on board feedback and made amendments to the design where appropriate to ensure there is a shared approach to the whole process.

Opportunities have regularly been provided for people with dementia and professionals to influence and shape this development by regular contact with the Kirklees Dementia Practitioner's Forum, The Kirklees Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project and the Kirklees Dementia Friendly Communities Steering Group (people with dementia, carers, families, local organisations and council services). This gave the opportunity for people and organisations to influence the development of the design brief which is a well-informed approach and is firmly based on the experiences and outcomes of people with dementia and their families and the professionals who support them.

# CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT

## 3.0 CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT

Refer to separate report by ESD ‘Sustainability and Energy Strategy’