In your application you initially state that there will be two children. Later in the application section: 'Why do you consider that a Lawful Development Certificate should be granted for this proposal?', you state that there will be 3 children. Please can you clarify how many children there will be.

Response: Thank you for reaching out and for reviewing our application.

We would like to clarify that the intention is to accommodate three (3) children in the proposed children's home. We sincerely apologize for any confusion this may have caused. The correct number is three children, please.

Why do you consider that a Lawful Development Certificate should be granted for this proposal:

Response:

At Calmliving Healthcare, our vision is to provide a nurturing, supportive, and safe environment for children who are vulnerable and in need of specialized care. The decision to create a children's home is driven by our commitment to improving the lives of these children, many of whom have experienced trauma, neglect, or other difficult life circumstances. We believe that granting a Lawful Development Certificate for this proposal is essential for several important reasons:

This children's home will have a profound and positive impact not only on the children who reside there but also on the wider community. By providing a safe and structured environment for three children, we are creating an opportunity for them to receive the tailored care and support they need to heal, grow, and integrate into society as healthy, responsible individuals, and have that feeling of inclusion in the community of their choice.

The demand for high-quality, specialized care for children in vulnerable situations continues to grow. There is a clear and urgent need for homes like ours, where children can receive therapeutic care and attention in a family-style setting. By approving this proposal, you will be directly supporting efforts to meet the critical needs of children who may otherwise struggle to find the appropriate care and environment that enables their development, and homely space.

Our proposal has been meticulously developed in compliance with all relevant planning, safety, and care regulations. We are committed to ensuring that the property is used in a way that aligns with local authority guidelines, and the space will be adapted to ensure it meets Ofsted and national standards for children's residential homes. By obtaining this certificate, we can further demonstrate our dedication and

commitment to operating legally, transparently, and within the boundaries of established regulations.

The home will cater to three (3) children, ensuring that there will be minimal impact on the surrounding neighbourhood. The property will be managed by experienced staff, and the daily routines of the children will be designed to integrate smoothly into the community, without causing any disruption. Our aim is to foster a harmonious relationship with the local area, where the children can feel part of a stable and supportive community.

The stability and security offered by a well-regulated children's home are crucial to the development of children in care. These children will benefit from a structured environment where they can feel safe and supported, allowing them to build trust and form healthy relationships. Granting this certificate will facilitate the provision of high-quality care that encourages emotional and psychological well-being for these children.

We are committed to collaborating closely with local authorities, schools, healthcare providers, and other community stakeholders to ensure the children have access to all necessary services. This partnership approach will help the children feel integrated into their community and supported in their development. Granting a Lawful Development Certificate would enable us to formalize these relationships and continue building strong connections with the local area.

Finally, our proposal is not just about addressing an immediate need; it is about creating a lasting legacy of care and support for children in need. By approving this certificate, you will be allowing us to set up a long-term, sustainable home that will have a positive impact on the lives of children for years to come. The care provided in this home will empower children to overcome their past challenges and build bright, hopeful futures.

In summary, we respectfully request the granting of a Lawful Development Certificate for this proposal, as it will enable us to provide essential, life-changing care for three children in need. This home will serve as a place of healing, stability, and growth, ensuring that vulnerable children are given the best possible chance to thrive in a supportive environment.

What will be the average length of stay of young persons?

Response:
The average length of stay for young persons at our children's home will vary based on the individual needs and circumstances of each child. However, we estimate that the typical duration of stay will range from 2yrs to 8 years.
This time frame allows us to:

- Provide the necessary therapeutic interventions and emotional support.
- Work closely with the young person, their families, and relevant agencies to develop and implement personalized care plans.
- Ensure a smooth transition, whether the young person is returning to family, moving to a more independent setting, or transitioning to another supportive environment.

Our focus is on fostering stability and growth, so the length of stay is carefully tailored to ensure the young person's needs are fully met before they move on.

What are the expected support needs of young person's likely to include?

The expected support needs of children and young persons in care can vary widely depending on their individual backgrounds, experiences, and challenges. However, the following are common support needs that are likely to be encountered:

We develop individualised care plans for each child in consultation with them and their relevant stakeholders. These plans outline specific goals, support needs, and interventions required to address their unique circumstances.

- **Emotional and Mental Health Support:** We provide access to trained professionals, including counsellors and therapists, to support children's emotional and mental well-being. Regular check-ins, counselling sessions, and therapeutic interventions are available as needed.
- **Enjoyment and Achievement:** We ensure that all children can engage in fun activities and hobbies that interest them. We place a high priority on active and involved children.
- **Attachment and Trust Issues**: Many young people may struggle with forming healthy relationships due to disrupted attachments in their early years. They may need support in building trust with caregivers and peers.
- **Managing Challenging Behavior**: Children and young people may exhibit challenging behaviors such as aggression, defiance, or emotional outbursts. They may require support through behavioral management plans, including Positive Behavior Support (PBS), to encourage more adaptive behaviors, manage and calm these situations effectively.
- **Re-engagement with Education**: Some young people may have missed significant amounts of school due to their circumstances, leading to educational gaps. They may need individualized education plans (IEPs), tutoring, or support in re-engaging with formal education.
  We collaborate with educational institutions and vocational training providers to offer educational support and empowerment for children.

- **Special Educational Needs (SEN)**: Some children may have learning disabilities or cognitive impairments, such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or ADHD, requiring tailored educational support and accommodations.
- **Physical Health Needs**: Some children may have medical conditions or disabilities that require regular medical attention, medication management, or assistance with daily living activities.
- **Nutrition and Well-being**: Ensuring that children receive adequate nutrition and promoting healthy lifestyles will be essential to their overall well-being. Some children may require help in understanding healthy eating habits and routines.
- **Independent Living Skills**: As children grow older, particularly those transitioning to semi-independent living, they will need support in developing essential life skills, such as budgeting, cooking, cleaning, and personal care, to prepare them for adulthood.
- **Protection from Harm**: Children and young persons who have been exposed to risky environments, exploitation, or abuse may need tailored safeguarding plans to protect them from harm. This includes risk assessments and safety planning.
- **Substance Abuse Support**: Some young persons may have been exposed to or experimented with drugs and alcohol, requiring interventions to support them in making healthier choices and accessing substance misuse programs, if necessary.
- **Cultural Support**: Children from diverse ethnic, cultural, or religious backgrounds may need support in maintaining their cultural identity and engaging with practices that are meaningful to them.
- **Positive Role Models**: For children without strong family connections, they may need trusted adult figures in their lives who can serve as positive role models and provide guidance.
- **Crisis Intervention**: Some children may experience frequent crises related to their mental health, behavioral challenges, or difficult life events. They may need rapid interventions and access to emergency support services.

Will there be provision for young person with challenging disorders and behaviours e.g.Emotional and Behaviour Disorder (EBD)?

Response:

Yes, Calmliving Healthcare will provide specialized support for young persons with challenging disorders and behaviors, including those diagnosed with **Emotional and Behavioural Disorders (EBD)**.

Key Provisions for Young Persons with EBD and Challenging Behaviors:

1. **Specialized Therapeutic Support**

Access to one-on-one counseling sessions with trained therapists to help young persons process emotions, manage behavior, and work through trauma or underlying issues contributing to their EBD.

Therapeutic group sessions to promote social skills development, emotional regulation, and peer support.

Staff trained in trauma-informed approaches will ensure that the emotional and behavioral needs of each young person are met in a compassionate and understanding way.

2. **Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Plans**

Each young person will have a Positive Behavior Support (PBS) plan tailored to their specific needs, helping staff understand triggers, identify positive reinforcements, and implement strategies for de-escalating challenging behaviors.

Clear and consistent boundaries will be set to help young persons understand acceptable behaviors, with regular reinforcement through positive interactions.

3. **Highly Trained Staff**

Staff will be trained in managing challenging behaviors, including the use of de-escalation techniques, therapeutic crisis intervention (TCI), and understanding emotional and behavioral triggers.

Staff will use empathetic and therapeutic communication approaches to foster trust and emotional security for young people struggling with EBD.

4. **Therapeutic Environment**

The home will include quiet, designated areas where young persons can go to self-regulate and calm down when feeling overwhelmed.

Sensory tools and calming techniques may be provided to help young people regulate their emotions and behavior in a supportive environment.

5. **Multi-Disciplinary Approach**

The care team will work closely with psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and other professionals to develop and implement care plans for young persons with EBD.

Each young person's care plan, including behavior management strategies, will be regularly reviewed and updated based on their progress and changing needs.

6. **Crisis Intervention and De-escalation**

Crisis intervention strategies will be in place to address severe behavioral episodes, ensuring the safety of the young person and others.

Staff will be trained to use de-escalation techniques that are compassionate and non-confrontational, minimizing the risk of physical restraint.

7. **Emotional and Social Development**

Programs and activities designed to promote emotional and social development will be integrated into daily routines, helping young people learn how to manage relationships and communicate effectively.

children will be supported in learning conflict resolution techniques to help them manage frustration and anger in a constructive way.

8. **Tailored Educational Support**

Where necessary, Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) will be created to ensure that their educational progress is not hindered by their emotional or behavioral challenges.

The provision for young persons with Emotional and Behavioural Disorders (EBD) at Calmliving Healthcare will include a comprehensive, individualized approach that addresses the root causes of their behaviors while promoting positive emotional development. The combination of therapeutic support, skilled staff, and behavior management strategies will ensure that each young person is given the care and guidance they need to thrive in a safe and supportive environment

What are the shift patterns of the support staff? E.g. The shifts will start at 8am and finish at 8am.

Answer:

Day Shifts
Shift Start Time: 8:00 AM
Shift End Time: 8:00 PM
Duration: 12 hours

Duties:

During the day shift, staff will:

- Support children with daily activities such as personal care, meal preparation, and school drop-offs/pick-ups.
- Oversee educational routines, homework, and recreational activities.
- Attend any scheduled appointments (medical, educational, or therapy).
- Provide emotional and behavioral support to ensure a nurturing environment.
- Conduct necessary administrative tasks, including updating care plans and daily logs.

2. **Night Shifts (Waking Nights)**

    - **Shift Start Time:** 8:00 PM
    - **Shift End Time:** 8:00 AM (following morning)
    - **Duration:** 12 hours (Waking Night shifts)

Duties:

Night staff will be responsible for:

- Monitoring the children to ensure they are safe and well-rested throughout the night.
- Handling any emergencies or nighttime needs, such as comforting distressed children or attending to personal care.
- Completing nighttime logs and handing over any important information to the day staff.

3. **Weekend Shifts**

    - Shift Start Time: 8:00 AM
    - Shift End Time: 8:00 PM
    - Duration: 12 hours

Duties:

During weekends, staff will:

- Plan and oversee recreational activities, outings, and social engagement for the children.
- Provide personal care and ensure that children maintain their routines during the weekend.
- Maintain a structured and safe environment while offering support for any behavioral or emotional challenges.

4. **Shift Handover**

A thorough handover will occur at the beginning and end of each shift to ensure continuity of care and communication between staff regarding the children's well-being, any incidents, or specific needs.

Staffing Rotation:

- Staff will typically work on a **4 days on, 4 days off** rotation or similar shift rotation patterns, allowing for adequate rest while ensuring consistent care and supervision.
- The rota will ensure a balanced mix of experienced staff on each shift to maintain high-quality care and support.

Night staff will also provide emotional reassurance during bedtime routines and ensure a calm, stable nighttime environment for the children.

These shift patterns are designed to ensure that the children's home is staffed 24/7 with dedicated and compassionate care and support worker, fostering a stable, safe, and nurturing environment for the children. Each shift will ensure the children's needs are met, with staff available to respond to any emotional, behavioral, or physical care requirements.

What will be the frequency and number of visits by social workers per day/week/month etc

The frequency and number of visits by social workers to the children's home will vary depending on the individual needs of the children, their care plans, and legal requirements. Below is an outline of typical expectations regarding social worker visits:

Frequency of Social Worker Visits:

1. **Initial Placement Visits:**

Frequency: Weekly for the first 6 weeks following a child's placement in the home.

Purpose: To ensure the child is settling in, their needs are being met, and the care plan is being followed. Social workers will assess the child's well-being and discuss any concerns with the child, staff, and potentially the family.

2. **Routine Visits (After Initial Period):**

Frequency: Every 4 to 6 weeks (monthly).

Purpose: Routine check-ins to review the child's progress, well-being, and the effectiveness of the care plan. Social workers may also observe the child's interactions with staff and peers and discuss the child's goals and any changes to the care plan.

3. **Statutory Visits (Legally Required):**

Frequency: At least once every 6 weeks, as per statutory requirements

Purpose: To ensure compliance with statutory obligations, ensure the child's safety and well-being, and ensure that the child's views are being heard. The social worker will also review the care environment and support provided by the home.

4. **Child Protection Visits:**

Frequency: As required, depending on the risk level (can range from weekly to monthly).

Purpose: For children under child protection plans, social workers may visit more frequently to assess ongoing risks and ensure that safeguarding measures are in place.

5. **Unscheduled Visits:**

Frequency: As needed.

Purpose: Social workers may conduct unannounced or ad hoc visits to check on the child's well-being or to address concerns raised by the child, family, or staff.

6. **Visits During Care Plan Reviews:**

Frequency: Every 6 months or as part of the child's formal care plan review process.

Purpose: To review the child's overall care, progress, and any necessary changes to the care plan, involving all relevant parties such as the child, staff, family, and other professionals.

These visits ensure the child's welfare, development, and safety are being monitored consistently. The frequency of visits can be adjusted based on the individual child's needs, the level of risk, and any concerns raised during their stay in the home. Social workers will also collaborate with the home's staff during these visits to ensure a holistic approach to the child's care.

What will be the frequency and number of other professional visitors to the site such as therapists, medical professionals, tutors, etc – the number and frequency of visitors and purpose of visit e.g. Child In Care Review may include 4-5 professionals in attendance at one time.

- As we all know that professional visitors play a crucial role in supporting the welfare and development of the children. However as above the frequency and number of these visitors can vary based on the needs of the children and the specific circumstances.

Will there be any building works or modifications to the property?

No, there will not be any building works.

However, to ensure the accommodation meets all requirements with relevant safety, and care standards.

These modifications are essential for creating a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for the children.

Safety Enhancements:

- Fire Safety Systems: Installation of updated fire safety measures, including smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, and fire doors, as required by regulations.
- Emergency Exits: Ensuring clear and accessible emergency exits and routes are in place.
- Window Restrictors: Installation of window restrictors to prevent accidents, especially for higher floors.
- Safe fire doors

Bedrooms and Living Spaces:

- Room Adaptations: Modifications to create age-appropriate and comfortable living spaces for the children, ensuring each child has a private bedroom that meets space and privacy requirements.
- Personalization Options: Rooms will be adaptable so that children can personalize their space to make it feel like home.
- Communal Areas: to be adapted to children friendly environment to ensure they are child-friendly and conducive to positive social interactions.

What provision is there for parking vehicles at the property?

Response:

The property provides adequate parking facilities to accommodate the needs of staff and visitors. Specifically:

Garage: There is a garage available that can accommodate 1 car.

Driveway: The driveway has space to accommodate 2 cars comfortably.

In total, the property can provide parking for 3 vehicles (1 in the garage and 2 on the driveway). This should be sufficient for the staff working at the children's home, as well as for any visitors, such as social workers or external professionals.