

Address: 11A Harefield Drive Batley WF17 0PQ

About the application

Application number: 2025/90003	
What is the application for?:	Change of use from dwelling (C3) to children's residential home (C2)
Address of the site or building:	14, Harefield Drive, Birstall, Batley, WF17 0PQ
Postcode:	WF13 2DH

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	No
<p>Dear Kirklees Council,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the conversion of 14 Harefield Drive into a residential children's home. While I acknowledge the need for suitable accommodations for children in care, I have several concerns regarding the potential impacts this development will have on the local community, environment, and economy.</p> <p>1. Social Impact: The introduction of a children's home in a predominantly residential area will lead to significant social disruption. The presence of vulnerable children, often with complex needs, will increase concerns about safety, particularly in an area that is not equipped to support such facilities. Neighbours are apprehensive about the potential for disruptive behavior, and there is a risk of tension between residents and the children placed in the home.</p> <p>2. Environmental Impact: The conversion of a single dwelling into a children's home will, despite proposals to suggest a rota system, lead to an increase in noise, traffic, and general activity in what is a quiet residential area. Many residents, including myself, work from home during daytime hours. Others are elderly, often spending daytime hours sleeping. Multiple drop off and pick ups, staff shifts, social visits and noise from children, staff and vehicles will be a source of disturbance for nearby residents, affecting their livelihoods and quality of life.</p> <p>Furthermore, the environmental impact of additional cars parked in the area will result in increased congestion. This is especially concerning given the proximity to Windmill Primary School and Batley Girls High School, where parents and carers already park on Harefield Drive, to full capacity and at multiple times across the day.</p> <p>3. Economic Impact: The introduction of a children's home will negatively impact the local economy by reducing the desirability of the area. Properties in the vicinity are likely to experience a decrease in value as prospective buyers will be deterred by the proximity of a children's home, fearing potential disturbances or changes in</p>	

proximity of a children's home, tearing potential disturbances or changes in neighborhood dynamics. This will have a knock-on effect on local businesses as the area becomes less attractive to potential residents.

4. Degradation of Area's Desirability: This application will lead to the degradation of the overall desirability of the neighbourhood. Many people choose to live in residential areas based on their character, which is typically family-oriented, peaceful, and stable. The introduction of a residential children's home will alter the character of the neighborhood, making it less appealing to families, retirees, and other residents seeking a quiet, secure living environment.

5. Strain on Local Services: Additionally, the increase in the number of residents at the dwelling will place a strain on already limited local services and infrastructure, such as healthcare, schools, and public transport. The local area does not have the resources to adequately support an additional number of people in need of specialised care.

In conclusion, while I fully recognise the importance of providing safe homes for children, I believe this location is unsuitable for such a conversion. The proposed change will likely have a detrimental impact on the social fabric, environment, economy, and desirability of the area, which will affect not only the immediate neighbourhood but the wider community as well. I urge the planning committee to reconsider this application in light of these significant concerns.

Yours sincerely