



I am writing to formally reject the application for the establishment of a children's home at 14 Harefield Drive. While I appreciate the intentions behind providing care and shelter for children in need, I must strongly object to this proposal due to several serious concerns about the potential negative impact it could have on our community, as well as my own deeply personal experience with the workings of several children's homes.

Having previously worked in a children's home, I am acutely aware of the challenges and risks involved in such establishments. My personal experience was particularly harrowing, as I endured physical abuse while working there. The trauma left me with lasting physical consequences, including blood clots in both my arms and legs, induced significant sleep deprivation and impacted mental health. This experience has shaped my understanding of the inherent dangers and failures within certain care systems which I inevitably walked away from.

It is crucial to acknowledge that not all children's homes are equipped to adequately safeguard both the children in their care and the staff working there. Inadequate training, poor oversight, and insufficient resources often lead to neglectful and harmful environments. Unfortunately, my experience, coupled with documented failures within the system, reveals that many children's homes can inadvertently become breeding grounds for further abuse, rather than places of refuge. Having family live across the road from the potential dwelling will induce further anxiety, fearing for the safety of

Further, the establishment of such an institution in our community would have broader implications. The social dynamics of the area could be destabilized, and it might attract criminal elements seeking to exploit vulnerable individuals. The stigma that often accompanies such facilities can also lead to decreased property values and a general sense of unease among local residents.

While it is essential that we continue to support children in need, I urge you to reconsider this approach and explore alternative means that are more sustainable, secure, and in the best interest of the children, their caregivers, and the community as a whole. Children deserve a safe, nurturing environment—something that I fear this proposal does not adequately guarantee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust you will give careful consideration to the potential consequences of this application and its impact on our community.