



I wish to object to the planning application in relation to 14 Harefield Drive, Birstall, WF17 OPQ relating to a change of use to a children's residential home.

Harefield Drive is an area of privately owned, well maintained residential properties, many of which house families and elderly residents. All residents in the immediate vicinity deserve both peace and privacy and not only will there be no benefit to the existing community from this proposed change of use but it has the potential for numerous issues. We have been given no information re the background of the young people who will be housed here and this causes much concern for the safety of all the community, with the potential of anti-social behaviour, noise and perhaps worse.

Whilst the above is the primary concern another potentially major issue is parking on the road. The application gives information regarding the number of vehicles that will be parked at the property on a regular basis stating two staff who will park on the property grounds, however what assurances do we have re additional cars for visitors such as social workers, owners etc? We have recently already (and this is before the property is occupied) seen instances where some residents are unable to get onto their driveways due to the inconsiderate parking of visitors to this house. If this is the case, it is doubtful this will improve should permission be given for go ahead. The street is already a 'car park' for the two busy businesses located at one end (there is a vacant shop premise and should this open in the future on-street parking will increase further). The road is used as an overflow car park for parents dropping off/picking up their children from the nearby infant and primary schools around the corner. Very often it is difficult to get onto your own driveway already without the additional issues potentially caused by this change.

The property in question was built for use as a privately owned, residential house and as such should continue to be used for this. Putting a care facility in the centre of an existing residential street is not suitable, sensible or safe. Whilst it is appreciated the need for housing for these young people, this proposal means the local area will become a potential 'social care' spot.

There should be concerns that as a business owned property, upkeep will be minimal and as such there is the potential for environmental issues.

An additional concern is that as a privately owned care home, who will monitor and police any problems? What assurances are the business owners willing to give.