

## 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>I am submitting an objection to the conversion of 14 Harefield Drive, Birstall WF17 0PQ from a residential property to a children's home on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Occupancy - This application states that only two children will be in residency at any given time however this property has significant scope to be extend both at the side and back. An application for which I believe would follow soon after approval resulting in more residents, staff and subsequently visitors of multiple natures.</li><li>2. Anti social behaviour- although I am fully appreciative of the need to provide residency for children who are unable to stay at home for a variety of reasons, this has potential to lead to unwanted behaviour in the area from residents and their associates. Harefield drive and the surrounding streets is a neighbourhood with a variety of families and a significant number of elderly residents who have built a community.</li></ol> <p>In addition there are residents of the surrounding area who work / have worked in youth services including but not limited to the remand system. Though it should not be assumed that the residents of this home have been through such processes it cannot be ruled out, potentially putting the safety of these local residents and their families at risk.</p> <p>This is not the correct location for a residential home. Although I appreciate that this application is not being made by Kirklees council, the children requiring residence will come through your systems. It should be acknowledged that a number of properties have been recently sold off by Kirklees council that would have made very suitable children's residential homes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Parking/ visitation - In agreement with a number of other objections already posted the parking is already an issue on Harefield drive made worse by both shops and school in the area. The solution to utilize local parking to park outside residents</li></ol>	

school in the area. The solution to utilise local parking i.e park outside residents houses should the parking at 14 Harefield Drive be taken is not an acceptable alternative. Kirklees council should be acutely aware of the ongoing parking issues around both the primary and secondary schools in the area which this would add to. In addition, the nature of the service to be provided from 14 Harefield drive will naturally result in increased traffic from staff, visitors of a number of kinds (including social services), and emergency services on a more regular basis than normal for the area. The application states that there will be no disturbance throughout nighttime hours but children can unfortunately be taken into care 24 hours 7 days a week and require placement at this point.

4. Property value / future sale- The presence of a children's home will have a negative impact on any potential sale of surrounding properties that owners may wish to make. In addition to this (some) mortgage lenders will not lend on or require additional documentation to support the purchase of properties that are next to a "non residential" property either preventing or significantly slowing down a sale.

5. Company Legitimacy- "You'n'us" Residential does not exist as a registered company. The closest any research into the business will bring you is Alma Care Services which appears to have at some point provided elderly residential care. Though seemingly no longer operating and has no involvement with children's residential care. As residents we would hope that Kirklees council have made a full investigation into the legitimacy of a company before looking to approve a planning application submitted, and subsequent care of vulnerable children.

Thank you for taking this objection into consideration