

Search application details

Application number: 2025/CLD/92297/W	
What is the application for?:	Certificate of lawfulness for proposed change of use from dwelling (use class C3
Address of the site or building:	102, Redwood Drive, Bradley, Huddersfield, HD2 1PW
Postcode:	HD2 1PW

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
<p>There is very little information about the type and criteria of the residential home planned making it incredibly difficult to consider the impact this will have on local residents and community. Children who are placed in residential settings are the most vulnerable in our society, they have been exposed to adverse childhood experiences resulting in mental health difficulties, substance misuse, criminality, offending. Unfortunately, these young people have not been able to manage in a foster care environment due to the high level and complexity of their needs. This means they need specialist support from experienced carers who understand how to help young people who are faced with these challenges. There is current discussion around the impact of private companies providing residential care in settings such as this, led by the Children's Homes Association. This identifies the negative impact of new and inexperienced care providers setting up these homes, with an increase in the last year. This often leads to providers charging significant fees for poor quality and unsafe care. In this situation the application has been made by a company who is not established as a child care provider, is not Ofsted registered and has not demonstrated within the planning information how they will ensure that the children in their care will be protected from significant harm with added difficulties in the recruitment and retention of appropriately experienced and trained staff within this sector.</p> <p>This is a completely residential estate with only one way in and out and no through road. Residents have reported antisocial behaviour and criminal activity taking place in this area of the estate due to the location (the dead end adjacent to the business park). This includes cars which have parked there where sexual activity has taken place and where substance misuse / drug dealing is happening. It is clearly documented within police reports and statistical information shared with the LA and residents by the policing team, that this area has a high level of crime. Bradley is under the Ashbrow Ward and has been specifically identified as being an area where gang activity is known and is high, this has had such an impact that the police have tried to target this with an initiative to try to reduce this. It is recognised by the police and LA that there are ongoing risks regarding this. Children and young people who are likely to be placed in this provision will be vulnerable to both criminal and sexual exploitation or will already have experienced being exploited by predatory adults. The location of the</p>	

already have experienced being exploited by predatory adults – the location of the home has already been openly shared on the internet and social media and services advertised. This brings with it the risk of adult exploiters seeking out vulnerable young people in this location, this brings additional risks to the children and young people who are already resident on the estate as well. It is also well known, researched and evidenced that children who are looked after at an increased risk of experiencing this form of abuse and that exploiters actively target children's homes. This is just not a safe location for such a provision.

There is clear evidence from the experience of residents who have lived in close proximity to the LA home , which is located nearby to this location as to the impact this can have on the children and young people placed at the home and the local community. The impact was so extensive and it became clear that it was no longer safe, resulting in Ofsted shutting the home down with children and young people having to be placed elsewhere whilst changes were made. Residents reported antisocial behaviour, verbal abusive, damage to property, increased noise, increased traffic, crime, police attendance on a regular basis, exploiters parked on the street collecting and dropping off the young people they were abusing with staff members feeling unable to act on this. Local residents were exposed to this activity on a regular basis with significant disturbance to day to day lives. This estate where the application has been made has a number of residents who have lived there since it was built, some are elderly and vulnerable, some are grandparents with young children often visiting or in their care, others are families with children of differing ages. There have been significant concerns raised around what the impact would be on residents in light of experiences nearby. There has been no attempt at community engagement from the company making the application which makes it difficult to understand the reality of the business proposed.

There will be an increase in the amount of traffic, noise and parking issues. There is only one way in and out of the estate with no through road onto the business park, this is an attempt to reduce excessive traffic. It is stated that there will be two members of staff at all times and a manager onsite during the day, covering a 24 hour period including overnight which brings about a higher than normal frequency of movements to and from the property. There is only a small amount of off road parking available which will mean cars will need to park on the road outside the home adjacent to the space used to turn around. There will be additional professionals coming to and from the home including social workers, although they will have a minimum frequency of visits this is likely to be higher depending on the circumstances, when responding to crisis and incidents and when a child first moves to the home. Also health providers, education providers, support workers, local charities working with the children and groups of professionals attending for meetings.