About the application

Application number: 2025/93043	
What is the application for?:	Prior notification for change of use from commercial/business/service to 4 dwell
Address of the site or building:	14B, Holly Bank Road, Lindley, Huddersfield, HD3 3JE
Postcode:	HD3 3JE

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

Dear Sir/Madam,

Objection to Planning Application No. 2025/93043

I am writing to register a formal objection to the above planning application, which proposes the change of use of the existing nursery premises to four flats. I live in the community of Lindley (HD3) and feel strongly that the application is not appropriate for the site or the needs of the local area.

Critical Need for Early-Years Childcare

First and most importantly, the nursery currently on the premises serves a vital role in our community. The provision of early-years childcare is absolutely critical in supporting working parents, enabling employment and contributing to the wellbeing of local families. By removing this facility and replacing it with residential flats, the application would erode local support infrastructure when we really need to be enhancing it.

Over-expansion of Housing with Inadequate Infrastructure

Since 2020 our HD3 postcode area has seen the construction of approximately 1,500 new houses (local figure) and continues to grow rapidly. This influx places tremendous strain on local infrastructure: roads, schools, health services, childcare provision and community facilities are already under pressure. The recent expansion of the Ainley Top Roundabout is a welcome step but is widely regarded as a very modest improvement which will do little to ease widespread congestion and overcrowding.

Against that backdrop, converting a nursery into flats makes little sense. Instead of providing much-needed community resource, we lose one and add additional residential units, thereby exacerbating overcrowding in Lindley village and intensifying demand on already stretched local services.

Inappropriate Use of the Site for Flats

The site proposed is not well-suited for conversion into four self-contained flats. The building's layout, likely access arrangements and local traffic/parking context do not appear to support a change of use of this scale. Should the site be approved, a more modest alternative—such as bedsits or fewer units—would be far more appropriate given the limitations. Four full flats represent too dense a conversion for this location, and the proposal fails to demonstrate that the infrastructure (parking, access, amenity space) is adequate.

Impact on Local Community

Losing the nursery means fewer early-years spaces at precisely the time when housing growth means more children will need them.

Additional flats increase the number of households using local roads, parking, public transport and other services, without corresponding investment in those services.

The cumulative effect of these housing developments in HD3 means the community is facing a tipping point of demand; therefore every change from a community facility to pure residential use should be scrutinised heavily—and this application fails that test.

Conclusion

For these reasons I respectfully ask that Kirklees Council refuse the application in its current form. If the applicant wishes to convert the building, it should consider alternative uses which support community needs (for example extended childcare, community facility) or a significantly reduced number of residential units (bedsits rather than full flats) so that the local infrastructure is not further strained.

I trust that these considerations will be taken into account in rendering your decision.