

Consultation Response from KC Children - Commissioning
2025/93366 2, Kaffir Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield, HD2 2AN
Change of use from residential to C3 (b) children's care facility (within a Conservation Area)
Date Responded: 24.02.2026
Responding Officer: Children's Commissioning Team
Responding Ref:
RE: Change of use from residential to C3 (b) children's care facility (within a Conservation Area)

Thank you for your request for consultation regarding the above application. I have reviewed the application and supporting documentation available via the Planning Portal.

Kirklees Children's Service have had an initial enquiry by the applicant regarding this proposal, our comments regarding the application are;

- The type of children's home being proposed as per the management plan "*Children's Needs (Low-Risk Only) The home will care for children with: Low-moderate emotional/social needs Mild trauma histories Children needing long-term residential stability*" We would not place children looked after with this profile of need in a children's home, there needs would be better met in a family setting, with foster carers.
- The location of the home is not in line with feedback children looked after have told us regarding where they want to live.

Kirklees Children's Home Market - There is a significant over provision of children's homes in Kirklees that far exceeds our children's home placement needs. We have seen a significant growth in new children's homes opening over the last three years. The majority of the new home are not in line with our children's home requirements. The over provision of children's home provision in Kirklees leads to children from other local authorities being placed in Kirklees, this is not in line with government policy; [Keeping children safe, helping families thrive - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/keeping-children-safe-and-helping-families-thrive)

The government proposes "*as part of Ofsted's registration assessment for new provision, we are going to strengthen the location assessment by including a requirement for an application to register a children's home be accompanied by an endorsement from the relevant children's services team that they have determined that there is a local need for the proposed children's home. This will give local authorities a greater say on the type and quantity of provision they need in their area and will allow Ofsted to refuse registration where provision is deemed not needed.*"

Therefore based on the information in the planning application Kirklees Children's Service does NOT support this application.

Kirklees Children's Service are keen to work in partnership with providers to ensure only the right, high quality, value for money provisions in the right locations that meets our placement needs are developed in Kirklees.

We encourage all providers who want to work with Kirklees Children's Services **to get in touch at the earliest opportunity before submitting a planning application to discuss your proposal / plans and make sure they meet our needs.**

Please contact: Childrens.Commissioning@kirklees.gov.uk