

[REDACTED]

From: Contact Centre (CRM) <contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 July 2024 22:42
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Comments - 3/2024/0461 FS-Case-630145207

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Planning Application Reference No.: 3/2024/0461

Address of Development: Dixon House Whalley Road Wilpshire Lancashire BB1 9LL

Comments: Dear Ben Taylor,

I am writing to express concerns regarding the planning permission request for the proposed children's care home at Dixon House, Whalley Road, Wilpshire, Lancashire, BB1 9LL. While I understand the need for such facilities, there are several issues that I believe need to be addressed before approval is granted:

1. Noise and Disturbance - The care home will operate 24/7, which could result in increased noise levels from both the children and staff, especially during the night. This may disrupt the peace and quiet of the neighbourhood, impacting the quality of life for existing residents.
2. Community Integration - Integrating a care home into a residential area requires careful consideration to ensure a harmonious relationship between the care home residents and the local community. It is unclear how this integration will be managed and whether adequate measures will be in place to foster positive relationships.
3. Impact on the Character of the Area - The introduction of a children's care home in a predominantly residential area could alter the character and dynamic of the neighbourhood. The area is currently characterized by family homes, and the addition of a large institutional facility will not be in keeping with the existing tranquil community ambiance.

According to the Office of National Statistics, more than half of the children in care are convicted of a criminal offense. Wilpshire is an area where crime and anti-social behaviour are minimal, and these statistics might cause concern among local residents. [REDACTED] high levels of anti-social behaviour and crime, I am particularly concerned about the potential for [REDACTED] arising in Wilpshire.

My personal experience includes witnessing children riding motorbikes without adequate protection, drugs being dealt in the street, and low-level crime – issues that [REDACTED] While having a children's care home in Wilpshire does not necessarily mean these issues will be replicated, it is crucial that the organization running the home has an outstanding track record of

managing similar homes. In my experience, poor leadership of such institutions can lead to negative outcomes for both the children and the local community. A strong track record would be outstanding inspections by care authorities/OFSTED of other facilities run by the organisation. I note that the party behind this application, Child Action Northwest, cite on their website that they support children suspected of criminal offenses. This indicates a potential for increased anti-social and criminal behaviour, depending on the occupants of the children's care home.

While I appreciate the need for children's care homes and support the concept, I believe that these concerns must be thoroughly addressed to ensure that the proposed development benefits both the children it aims to serve and the existing community. I urge the planning committee to consider these points carefully, conduct a wider consultation, and seek solutions that will mitigate the potential negative impacts.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.