

21st February 2024

**Karen Birch
Northern Healthcare,
Barton Hall Business Park,
Hardy Street,
Eccles,
M30 7NB**

Dear Karen & Peter

Re: Helena's House Re development

I can confirm to Northern Healthcare and Encircle Housing that in principle Knowsley Council support the redevelopment opportunity at 6 Roby Road, Huyton, L36 4HE for a total of 16 apartments; 8 for Enhanced Supported Living (SSH), 7 apartments for Step down Specialist Supported Living, and 1 Assessment SSH apartment to meet the needs of individuals with Mental Health and /or Learning Disabilities and/or autism.

This would be based on all parties agreeing the final specification and plans for the site, and that the final rents are to be agreed with Housing Benefit. Through our work to date I can confirm that provisional gross rents of £451.30pupw provided by Encircle Housing have been reviewed by Knowsley Housing Benefit, who acknowledged that whilst high, are acceptable at this amount given the need to ensure this service type is available for Knowsley residents.

We feel that the proposed scheme with on-site site care support from Northern Healthcare and housing management from Encircle Housing would work well and deliver positive outcomes for individuals, including increasing independent living skills, and an enhanced positive experience of care and a reduction in the need for paid support where appropriate. The new provision would be designed and designated to meet an identified specialist housing need in the borough, and for individuals for whom the alternative in many cases could be more expensive and unnecessarily restrictive settings, including potentially care homes.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

S. J. Baker

**Steve Baker
Commissioning and Contract Officer (Whole Life Commissioning Team)**

PP. Stephanie Walters, Commissioning Manager

CC: Peter Aviston, Managing Director Encircle Housing