



Knowsley Council

Website: www.knowsley.gov.uk/environment/planningandbuilding/

Directorate of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Housing, Planning and Building Control
PO Box 26
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Huyton Knowsley
Merseyside L36 9FB

Tel: (0151) 443 2381

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use or Development

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Location

Disclaimer: We can only make recommendations based on the answers given in the questions.

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Town/city

Postcode

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x) Northing (y)

Description

3 bedroom semi-detached

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Mr

First name

Paul

Surname

Burnett

Company Name

United Futures Ltd

Address

Address line 1

91 Easton Road

Address line 2

Address line 3

Town/City

Liverpool

County

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

L36 4NZ

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Description of Proposal

Does the proposal consist of, or include, the carrying out of building or other operations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Does the proposal consist of, or include, a change of use of the land or building(s)?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If Yes, please give a full description of the scale and nature of the proposed use, including the processes to be carried out, any machinery to be installed and the hours the proposed use will be carried out

The proposal involves a change of use of the property from a private residential dwelling (Use Class C3(a)) to a small children's residential care home falling within Use Class C3(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended).

The property will provide 24-hour care and accommodation for up to two looked after children who will reside at the property as their sole and primary home. The children will live together as a single household, with care and support provided by a small team of professional staff working on a shift basis. This arrangement is designed to replicate the structure and atmosphere of a typical family home.

There will be no structural alterations, no machinery installed, and no commercial or institutional processes undertaken at the property. The care provided will focus on the children's day-to-day needs, such as meal preparation, education, bedtime routines, recreation, and emotional support—all of which are consistent with standard family life in a domestic setting.

Staffing will typically involve two carers per shift, with two staff members remaining on-site overnight. This will consist of one waking night staff and one sleep-in staff member, ensuring continuous support and supervision in line with care regulations. The home will operate on a 24-hour basis; however, the nature and rhythm of activity will mirror that of any standard family household, maintaining a domestic and non-institutional environment.

The appearance and residential character of the property will remain unchanged. The use is intended to remain small-scale and consistent with the surrounding residential environment. The home will be registered with Ofsted and will operate in compliance with all applicable safeguarding and care standards.

As such, the proposed use is considered to fall squarely within the scope of Use Class C3(b), which permits up to six residents living together as a single household where care is provided, and does not result in a material change of use from the original lawful use of the dwelling.

If Yes, please fully describe the existing or the last known use, with the date when this use ceased

The existing use of the property is as a private dwelling house, falling under Use Class C3(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). It has been used as a standard family home for residential purposes.

The property remains in residential use and has not ceased to be occupied for that purpose. The proposed change is from Use Class C3(a) to Use Class C3(b), which also falls within the same overall residential use class, but specifically allows for up to six residents living together as a single household where care is provided.

There has been no break in the lawful residential use of the property, and the change of use will continue to reflect a domestic character with care provided in a family-style environment for up to two looked after children.

Has the proposal been started?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Grounds for Application

Information about the existing use(s)

Please explain why you consider the existing or last use of the land is lawful, or why you consider that any existing buildings, which it is proposed to alter or extend are lawful

The existing use of the land and building is as a private residential dwelling, falling within Use Class C3(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). The property has been continuously used as a lawful single-family home, and there is no record of any material change of use, unauthorised development, or planning enforcement action associated with the premises.

No physical alterations, extensions, or structural changes are proposed as part of this application. The property remains in its lawful original form as permitted under its initial planning approval or subsequent permitted development rights. The layout, external appearance, and residential character of the building will remain unchanged.

The proposal seeks to change the use of the property from a C3(a) dwelling to a C3(b) use, which allows for up to six people living together as a single household where care is provided. In this case, the proposal is to provide 24-hour residential care for two looked after children, who will live at the property as their sole and main residence. Care will be delivered by a small, rotating team of staff, with the intention of replicating the rhythms and routines of family life.

The residential character of the property will be preserved, and the nature and intensity of use will remain comparable to that of a typical family household. No machinery will be installed, and the care provided will be consistent with that of a supportive, nurturing home environment.

Given that both the current use of the property and the proposed use fall within the C3 use class (specifically, from C3(a) to C3(b)), and that there are no physical alterations proposed, the existing use and built form of the property are considered lawful under planning legislation.

Please list the supporting documentary evidence (such as a planning permission) which accompanies this application

Select the use class that relates to the existing or last use.

C3 - Dwellinghouses

Information about the proposed use(s)

Select the use class that relates to the proposed use.

C3 - Dwellinghouses

Is the proposed operation or use

- ☒ Permanent
☐ Temporary

Why do you consider that a Lawful Development Certificate should be granted for this proposal?

The proposal seeks confirmation that the intended use of the property as a residential children's home for up to two looked after children, with care provided by a small number of rotating staff, constitutes a lawful use under current planning legislation.

The proposed use is consistent with Use Class C3(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended), which permits up to six individuals living together as a single household where care is provided. In this instance, the two children will live at the property as their main and only home, forming a single household with care and support delivered in a domestic setting.

Care will be provided by a consistent team of staff working on a rota basis to ensure 24-hour support. Staffing arrangements will include two staff members during the day, and two staff members overnight—one sleep-in staff member and one waking night staff member. This setup ensures that appropriate supervision and support are available at all times, in line with the children's needs and safeguarding requirements.

The daily routine and activities within the home will reflect those of a typical family environment, including school attendance, shared meals, recreation, and personal care, thereby maintaining a domestic and non-institutional character.

There are no physical alterations proposed to the building, and the property will retain its existing layout, appearance, and function as a dwelling house. No machinery will be installed, and the operation of the home will not introduce any features inconsistent with a residential use.

Given these factors and its alignment with Use Class C3(b), planning permission is not required. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that a Lawful Development Certificate be granted under Section 192 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as the proposed use is lawful and does not constitute a material change in the character of the property.

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact?

- ☐ The agent
☒ The applicant
☐ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has assistance or prior advice been sought from the local authority about this application?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff
- (b) an elected member
- (c) related to a member of staff
- (d) related to an elected member

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Interest in the Land

Please state the applicant's interest in the land

- ☒ Owner
- ☐ Lessee
- ☐ Occupier
- ☐ Other

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Lawful development: Proposed use as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.

I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.

I/We also accept that, in accordance with the Planning Portal's terms and conditions:

- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be published as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Paul Burnett

Date

13/04/2025