

## Planning Application Statement

**Site Location:** 139 Longmeadow Rd, Knowsley, Prescot L34 0HW

**Applicant details:** Mr David Boylan – *Acting on behalf of my current employer -*

**Compassionate Children's Care & Support Limited**

**Castle Hill Court Mill Lane, Ashley, Altrincham, England, WA15 0RE.**

**07951054693. 01619296039. [david@childrens-ccg.co.uk](mailto:david@childrens-ccg.co.uk)**

### Description of Site Location

Easting (X) - 343613

Northing (Y) – 395724

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

Some small internal alterations.

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

Yes

### Description of proposal

To run a Children's Residential Care Home (C2) in collaboration with Knowsley Children's services, supported by Knowsley Council Commissioning officer Janice Freeman, and Commissioning Manager Ross McCooey.

The property is currently vacant, and we have a signed lease with the landlord with full agreement to operate the home. There is no proposed works to be carried out to the property, other than a small cosmetic renovation that improves the internal appearance, namely painting and re-carpeting throughout.

### Existing/Last Known Use

The property has been vacant for a number of years, we propose to complete a cosmetic uplift of the property with some small alterations internal and open 139 Longmeadow Rd, Knowsley, as a Residential Children's home.

Previously the property was granted planning permission in 2014 for a change of use to C2. *"CHANGE OF USE FROM C3 (RESIDENTIAL) TO C2 (SUPPORTED LIVING) FOR 3NO ADULTS AND HAVING ACCOMMODATION FOR 1NO STAFF."*

As such, we believe an application for a "Change of use" relating to previous C2 use would have to be made as our proposed parameters are different to what has been previously approved.

We are looking to propose use class C2 for up to 2No. young persons and up to 4No Staff at any one time.

## Grounds for Application

We believe an application for a COU from what has been previously approved and in place for some time is required due to the planning constraints and variation in occupancy from 3No adults and 1No. Staff to what we are now proposing 2No. Young persons and 4No. Staff at any one time on a rotation basis.

To evidence this please see the following details of the proposal:

- **Last known use of the property:** Specialist Supported Adult Accommodation with a Care Provider (C2)
- **Proposed Use of premises:** Residential Children's Home (C2)
- **Proposed changes to layout:** There will be some minor internal alterations as shown
- **Staffing levels:** – The home will be staffed according to the ratio's agreed with the Local Authority. As a minimum the home will be staffed by four members of staff 24 hours a day and as a maximum, four members of staff a day.
- **Shift times:** – Staff members will work long days from 8am to 8am completing a "sleep", meaning there will only be one change of shift per day at 8am
- **Handover times:** – As above there will only be one handover per day, at 8am.
- **Number and ages of children:** – We will be registered to accommodate up to two children between the ages of 8-17 years. However, we are opening the home initially as a solo provision, meaning we will only accommodate one child for the foreseeable future. Any future children we accommodate will always fall within the remit of staffing as detailed above – Minimum of two staff/Maximum of four staff. The home will never exceed four staff on shift, or fall below two staff on shift.
- **Medical or special needs of children:** – The children we care for will encompass a range of needs including Emotional and Behavioural, Learning Disabilities and children who may require support with their mental health. However, all children will be carefully matched in consultation with Knowsley Children's services and their commissioning Manager Ross McCooey, to ensure the children can be cared for and supported appropriately within the home and local community. More than anything however, the children that will live in Sugar Lane need a loving, nurturing stable home
- **Details on management hours:** The Management team will work across the day and night. The Registered Manager will have no set hours and will work according to the needs and requirements of the children. For instance, if we accommodate a child who needs increased support in the evenings the RM will focus their hours during that part of the day.
- **Education details:** – All children will be encouraged to participate in a form of education, may this be mainstream school, or more commonly a specialist provision. Children will attend mainstream school, a specialist provision or a virtual school. We do not propose for children to be home tutored.

- **Professionals who may attend the property:** This will be Social Workers and members of the child's multidisciplinary team. However, all formal meetings will be arranged away from the property in a meeting room, so as to not disrupt the local community, or any other children who, at a later date, may live at the home

### **Supporting Evidence**

Knowsley Children's Commissioner Ross McCooey can be contacted, if necessary, who supports our application, as it is this authority who we are opening the Residential Children's Home in collaboration with, to house some of the communities most vulnerable children and young people.

[Ross.McCooey@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:Ross.McCooey@knowsley.gov.uk)

**Existing Use Class** – C2 (adults)

**Proposed Use Class** – C2 (children)

**Proposed Operation** – Permanent

Although there is a change of use, the change of use does not intensify the character of the property, we therefore submit this presents no *material change* in the nature of the property.

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

Yes

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

The applicant (David Boylan)

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

Yes. Mr Lee Osbourne from 14/04/24 to date

[Lee.Osborne@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Osborne@knowsley.gov.uk)

**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

No

**Please state the applicant's interest in the land**

Lessee

**Landlord Details**

SHP Investments 1 Limited, Forum 4 Solent Business Park, Parkway South, Whiteley, Fareham, England, PO15 7AD

As the freeholder is an investment company "Civitas Investment Management" run things for them. And the point of contact is:

N: Oliver Johnston

T: 07551 653 020

E: [oliver.johnston@civitasim.com](mailto:oliver.johnston@civitasim.com)

Oliver has been informed in writing and fully supports our application.