

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Property Address	47 Childwall Lane, Roby, Knowsley, L14 6TU,
Organisation	Actively Promoting Change Ltd
Requesting Change	
Proposed Change	From Dwelling House (Class C3) to a Children's Home for Multiple Children (Class C2)
Reason for Change	Growth within organisation and increase in services provided. Actively Promoting Change Ltd has recently been working alongside Ofsted, who have viewed the property and considered it acceptable for a Class C2 property.
Need for Proposed Use	Increased Demand for Residential Children's Homes (Class C2) within the area that can offer facilities to Children with emotional challenges and difficult behaviours. Following the closure of internal residential homes, Knowsley has seen a rise in demand for external residential placements in recent years. This demand is particularly driven by children with complex mental health needs, emotional challenges, or difficult behaviours, who require specialised care within small, individualised settings. The Knowsley Sufficiency Position Statement 2022-2025 outlines the council's strategy to meet the needs of children in care and care leavers. "Market Management" or "Theme 2" within this strategy outlines the issues of children living within the area, being accommodated more than 30 miles away from the Knowsley region. Although there are other contributing factors to this, "changes within the market and the demand on external residential placements within the Northwest" is stipulated as a cause of children being placed more than 30 miles away from the Knowsley region. The impact on children is significant, as they are removed from their communities, schools, and familiar environments. This disruption can also limit their access to essential local services, such as mental health support through CAMHS, the Youth Offending Service, early intervention programs, and educational support. The latest data on National Demographics of Children looked after from 2021, states the population of looked-after children has been

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	steadily increasing over the years. In March 31, 2021, figures represented a rate of 67 looked-after children per 10,000. As a successful therapeutic Care and Support Provider since 2017, we feel opening Class C2 properties within the North West Region would be beneficial to the demands outlined. Sourced from: https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-01/Knowsley%20Sufficiency%20Position%20Statement%202022-2025.pdf
Impact Assessment	1. Social Benefits The establishment of a residential children's home can significantly contribute to the well-being of vulnerable children and the overall health of the community. By prioritising the needs of such children and fostering a supportive environment, Class C2 homes can make a lasting positive impact. Investing in children's well-being can lead to long-term savings for society by reducing future costs associated with crime, healthcare, and social services. Furthermore, by providing children with the tools and support they need, residential homes contribute to creating productive, self-sufficient adults who can positively impact society. 2. Noise Levels As this property has been empty for time, when it becomes occupied by both Looked after Children and their staff, noise levels will increase in comparison to what the neighbours have been experiencing. However, noise levels in this C2 Class property would not exceed those, or be much higher than that of a Class C3 property. This service will have 24 hour staffing on site, which will facilitate constant management of noise levels and actions can be taken to reduce noise should they become disturbing to neighbours. 3. Privacy Privacy of neighbours would not be affected with the property

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	being of C2 Class. Although there may be multiple residents and staffing, this would not affect the privacy of the neighbours any more than if the property is C3 Class with multiple occupants. 4. Accessibility and Parking This property has a drive-way which can fit 2 cars. As well as a driveway, there is access to on-street parking which would not impact traffic flow or pedestrians.
Design & Layout Considerations	There are NO proposed internal or external modifications to the layout of the property, as it is already suitable for Class C2. Please see Appendix A for floor plans of the property.
Compliance with Regulations	This Class C2 property will adhere to the following regulations: • The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 • The Care Standards Act 2000 • Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 • The Building Regulations 2010 • Children's Home Regulations 2015
Resident Numbers	This C2 property has a maximum capacity of accommodating 4 children, at any one time.
Staffing Levels	This C2 property will always have a minimum of 2 staff on site at all times (24 hours a day/7 days a week). To adhere to the Children's Home Regulations 2015, there will always be 1 senior member of staff on site during every shift.
Daily Operations	Staff will most likely arrive on shift in the morning around 8am. Shift patterns are most likely 24 hours, meaning the staff who arrive on shift at 8am will be there until the following morning, covering a 24 hour shift. Depending on the needs of the residents, waking night staff may be needed. Waking Night staff will arrive on shift at 8pm and leave the following morning at 8am. Additionally, staff may complete 48 hour shifts, or be on a day shift from 8am to 8pm.

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Consultation with Neighbours

Neighbours living in the surrounding houses of the property have been spoken to regarding proposed changes to the use of the property from a C3 Dwelling House to a C2 Residential Children's Home. Neighbours understandably had questions around this, but were pleased with the information provided. Neighbours were reassured that there would always be staff on site at the property and offered the contact details of our organisation, should they have any further questions or need to raise a complaint once the service is operating.

In summary, the proposed change of use from Class C3 to Class C2 will provide essential support to meet identified local needs, offering valuable services to the community. The proposal has been carefully considered to ensure minimal impact on neighbouring properties, with appropriate management and operational plans in place to maintain a high standard of care. We respectfully request that the local authority grants planning permission, recognising the positive contribution this development will make to the community and the alignment of the proposal with local and national planning policies.

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Appendix A – 47 Childwall Lane Floorplan

