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To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
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Application Reference No. : SMD/2025/0045

Site Address: 19 Meigh Road Werrington Staffordshire ST9 0JY Stoke On Trent

Comments by: David John Gray

From:

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Weston Close
Ash Bank
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Submission: Objection

Comments: I wish to submit my objection to this application for a number of reasons. Firstly, this property is currently a family dwelling which we are repeatedly being reminded, not least by our current government, are in short supply. This application proposes to remove this valuable resource and create a commercial enterprise in a domestic setting which may well be contrary to the limitations stipulated in the deeds of the property as it is for my residence on the same estate. The applicant also states that they currently use another large property adjacent to the Ash Bank Hotel for the same enterprise and, therefore, it is highly likely that there would be interaction and movement between the two properties. This would require the young persons lodged in the two locations to move from one to the other which requires crossing a major A road carriageway subject to 40mph limit where there are no controlled crossing points on the natural route between them, hence putting these young people at high risk.

I personally have had experience of dealing with young people in care in my past professional life and am well aware of the disruption some young people can inflict on the local community. It is also my experience that such individuals can be extremely easily led and I believe that just one individual exhibiting such challenging behaviour is highly likely to influence the other two residents to behave in similar manner! Whilst it is accepted that there is a proposal to have staff constantly present and they may well be able to manage such behaviour within the property, the resident young people will not be held captive and hence will be able to frequent the wider community without hindrance. There is, therefore, no guarantees which can be made by the applicant to manage any anti social behaviour outside of the property.

The issue of anti-social behaviour is also a current high priority in residential areas and there are already numerous instances of such disturbances in this local area reported on the local social media forums. It is highly likely that the proposed residents in this facility will be individuals who have been placed in care due to highly challenging behaviour coupled with evidence of a lack of adherence to acceptable social rules of behaviour. The placement of such individuals in a facility situated on a residential street is inappropriate particularly given that a significant proportion of the local dwellings are bungalows housing elderly people for whom such antisocial behaviour is a major source of stress and anxiety. This situation would undoubtedly result in significant health issues of these local residents and could be considered a breach of their right to private family life under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act. This will be particularly relevant to the property immediately adjacent which has no physical boundary structure between the drives.

I therefore wish to add my voice to the, no doubt, many others registering my objection to this application. It is, in my view, a facility motivated by financial interests and situated in an inappropriate setting. If granted, this facility will result in a deterioration of the quality of life of the local community, both immediately adjacent and the wider community of Werrington which currently benefits from a supportive and friendly community spirit. I would also suggest that granting this application will encourage the applicant to view other properties becoming available in the locality for similar enterprises and Werrington would quickly become a 'dormitory' instead of the vibrant local community which it currently is.

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