



**CITY OF DURHAM
PARISH COUNCIL**

Learning from the past.
Building for the future.

Ms Lisa Morina
Durham County Council
Planning Development Central/East
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County Hall
Durham
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8 Millennium Place
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DH1 1WA

30 November 2020

Dear Ms Morina,

DM/20/03276/FPA | Change of use of youth centre to winter night shelter (Sui Generis) (temporary period of 4 months) | St Nicholas Church Youth Club The Sands Durham DH1 1LF

The City of Durham Parish Council's Planning Committee considered this application at its meeting on 27 November 2020 and agreed to support this application.

The Parish Council very much applauds the work of the North East Mission and others in making this Winter Night Shelter a reality to support the most vulnerable in our society at a time of great pressure.

Last year, the Parish Council was delighted to work in partnership with Sanctuary 21 on this project and to fund the Winter Night Shelter in Durham City. The Parish Council particularly applauds the work carried out by the North East Mission this year in light of the added difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and making this shelter as Covid-19 safe as possible; the erection of the six separate sleeping pods with lightweight roofs within the centre being just one example.

Durham seems set to experience yet another cold winter this year. The Parish Council therefore strongly urges the North East Mission to consider keeping the Shelter open every night for the next 4 months, rather than providing accommodation only when the temperature drops below 0 degrees Celsius. Indeed, one might ask at which moment of the day is it when the zero point temperature is taken for this restriction to be introduced? Furthermore, the Parish Council also hopes that the Shelter will also accept clients with a dog, so as not to deter anyone in need with a dog from accessing this important and admirable service.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Shanley
Clerk to the City of Durham Parish Council

CC: Gary Jackson, Durham County Council
Kay Chapman, Durham County Council
Darryn Hook, Sanctuary 21