



**CITY OF DURHAM  
PARISH COUNCIL**

Learning from the past.  
Building for the future.

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Durham  
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16 June 2021

Dear Mr Spurgeon,

**DM/21/01894/FPA | Change of use from C4 HMO to either C4 HMO or Children's Home (Use Class C2) for up to three children | 13 Cedar Drive Durham DH1 3TF**

This planning application was considered by the Parish Council Planning Committee at its virtual meeting on 11th June 2021. It was debated fully and the applicants in attendance at the meeting were willing to answer all of our questions.

The Committee considered the application with particular reference to Policy 18 of the County Durham Plan. CDP Policy 18 clearly states that: *"In order to promote the creation of sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, applications for children's care homes, will only be permitted where the applicant is able to demonstrate that the development will address any gaps in service provision to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority"*. This is clearly the case in this instance.

The applicants were able to respond positively to all concerns which the Parish Council explored and the Committee decided that it meets all the necessary criteria within the policy for the establishment of a Children's Home. The Parish Council therefore welcomes this proposal in that it will provide a necessary service for those children who are most vulnerable and most in need, particularly important given that the Council's own Sufficiency and Commissioning Strategy (SCS) 2019 has identified gaps in service provision.

Furthermore, it is very likely (though not always guaranteed) that this home will be house children from County Durham and this will help the Council to provide sufficient accommodation for looked-after children within our area.

We commend this proposal to the County Council and welcome the additional provision which this will bring. This application should therefore be approved without delay.

Yours sincerely,

**Adam Shanley**

**Clerk to the City of Durham Parish Council**