



Cairnwell Developments

PLANNING STATEMENT

Proposed Care Home, Land Off Perseverance St,
Barnsley, S70 6HH





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Proposed Care Home, Land Off Perseverance St, Barnsley,
S70 6HH

WSP

First Floor
3 Wellington Place
Leeds
LS1 4AP



Phone: +44 113 395 6200

Fax: +44 113 395 6201

WSP.com



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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1. On behalf of Cairnwell Developments, this Planning Statement supports a full planning application for a 33 bed specialist care home facility with associated access, landscaping and parking.
- 1.1.2. The proposed care home would be operated by Exemplar Health Care limited (herein Exemplar) who specialise in providing high-quality specialist nursing care for adults with complex needs and have over 20 years' experience. They currently have over 35 specialist homes across the UK and have highly trained nurses and support workers who are experienced in caring for people with a wide range of needs such as Parkinson's, Huntington's Disease, Complex Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Spinal Injury, Mental Health Conditions and Rehabilitation. Exemplar are seeking to provide more specialist care homes across the country in areas where there is an identified need for this type of accommodation. A selection of profiles of residents in other Exemplar Homes are provided in **Appendices A, B & C**, to offer an indication of the types of complex needs which the care home would account for.
- 1.1.3. This statement is set out as follows:
- Section 2 provides the factual background to the proposal;
 - Section 3 summarises the relevant planning policies;
 - Section 4 details the proposed development;
 - Section 5 analyses the planning considerations relevant to the proposal; and
 - Section 6 sets out our conclusion.

2 THE SITE

2.1 SITE CONTEXT

- 2.1.1. The application site is adjacent to and currently accessed from Perseverance Street. The site is currently vacant following its previous use as a car park which served the nearby Springfield House.
- 2.1.2. The site is bound the north by residential uses, which are predominantly three floors in height. The east of the site is bound by a brick-built wall that fronts Perseverance Street. Further east is a pocket park with children's play area, and further two and three storey residential dwellings. To the south of the site are red brick built two storey dwellings. To the west of the site is a sunken area with overgrown vegetation, and views towards the three storey Springfield House building which has been converted into apartments.

Figure 2-1 - Site Location Plan



- 2.1.3. The site is located in close proximity to sustainable forms of transport, approximately 130m in walking distance from bus stops on Dodworth Road, providing access to Barnsley Town Centre. The Barnsley Interchange and Railway station is approximately 1km from the site. Local shops and services are in close proximity, circa 70m south of the site.
- 2.1.4. The site is not with a conservation area, nor in close proximity to any listed buildings or other heritage assets. There are no Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) located on or adjacent to the site.
- 2.1.5. The site is located within Flood Zone 1 on the Environment Agency's flood map for planning and is therefore at a low risk of flooding. The site is also at low risk of flooding from surface water.

2.2 SITE AND PLANNING HISTORY

- 2.2.1. There is no recent or relevant planning history relating to the site on the Council's public access system.
- 2.2.2. Planning applications on surrounding sites largely relate to residential development, including the approved conversion of Springfield House into apartments (LPA ref: 2017/1052).

3 PLANNING POLICY BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- 3.1.1. The Development Plan for Barnsley currently comprises the following documents:
- Barnsley Local Plan (Adopted January 2019);
 - Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan (Adopted March 2012); and
 - A number of Neighbourhood Development Plans.
- 3.1.2. There are no policies in the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan (Adopted March 2012) of relevance to this planning application. The site does not fall within a Neighbourhood Development Plan area.
- Barnsley Local Plan (Adopted January 2019)**
- 3.1.3. The site is located within the Settlement Boundary in 'Urban Barnsley' as detailed in the Local Plan. The site itself is not allocated for any specific use or afforded any policy protection on the adopted policies map. Development is directed to sites within the settlement boundary.
- 3.1.4. Whilst there are no specific policies concerning care homes, Policy H4 (Residential Development on Small Non-allocated Sites) states that Proposals for residential development on sites below 0.4 hectares (including conversions of existing buildings and creating dwellings above shops) will be allowed where the proposal complies with other relevant policies in the Plan. A care home is a form of residential development and therefore can be considered in light of this policy to be acceptable on this site where complying with other relevant policies in the Local Plan.
- 3.1.5. Policy LG2 (The Location of Growth) also sets out that the majority of development will be directed to Urban Barnsley and Principal Towns, with Urban Barnsley being expected to accommodate significantly more growth than any individual Principal Town.
- 3.1.6. Other policies of relevance to the proposed development include the following:
- Policy SD1 (Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development);
 - Policy GD1 (General Development) sets out general criteria for development, including ensuring proposals do not result in a significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents;
 - Policy H6 (Housing Mix and Efficient Use of Land) requires developments to provide a broad mix of house size, type and tenure to help create mixed and balanced communities;
 - Policy T3 (New Development and Sustainable Travel) seeks to reduce the need to travel by promoting growth in sustainable, accessible locations;
 - Policy T4 (New development and Transport Safety) requires new development to be designed and built to provide all transport users within and surrounding the development with safe, secure and convenient access and movement;
 - Policy D1 (High Quality Design and Place Making) states that development should consider local character during the design process;
 - Policy GI1 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to protect maintain and enhance green infrastructure assets in the borough including enhancing biodiversity and landscape character;

- Policy BIO1(Biodiversity and Geodiversity) requires new development to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geological features of the borough;
- Policy CC2 (Sustainable Design and Construction), which requires the use of sustainable design features, where technically feasible and viable;
- Policy CC4 (Sustainable Drainage Systems), which states that all major development is required to manage surface water drainage through SuDS;
- Policy Poll1 (Pollution Control and Protection) requires development to demonstrate that no significant harm will be caused to the natural and built environment or people; and
- Policy CL1 (Contaminated and Unstable Land) requires development where the future users or occupiers of a development would be affected by contamination or stability issues, or where contamination may present a risk to the water environment, proposals must be accompanied by a report demonstrating contamination risks and sufficient mitigation measures.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 3.1.7. The Parking SPD (Adopted November 2019) sets out recommended standards of vehicle and cycle parking for development. It sets out maximum number of spaces for C2 Uses within the Barnsley Urban Area as follows:
- Vehicle parking: 1 space per 4-8 staff and 1 space per 4 daily visitors
 - Cycle parking: 1 long stay space per 3 staff children; and 1 short stay space per 20 residents for visitors
 - Disabled parking: 4% of the total number of spaces
- 3.1.7.1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity (Adopted May 2019) Sets out how Local Plan policy BIO1 and GI1 on green infrastructure will be applied. It also provides further specific detail about the Dearne Valley Nature Improvement Area.

3.2 NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (2021)

- 3.2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Policies of particular relevance to this proposal are listed below:
- Section 4 states local planning authorities should work proactively with applicants to secure developments that will improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area;
 - Paragraph 60 states it is important that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed;
 - Section 6 states the Government is committed to securing economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity;
 - Section 8 states planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places;
 - Section 12 seeks to achieve well-designed places, noting that good design is a key aspect of sustainable development. Furthermore, paragraph 130 states planning decisions should ensure that developments, “*create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users*”;
 - Paragraph 119 requires planning decisions to promote an effective use of land, while safeguarding and improving the environment, ensuring safe and healthy living conditions;
 - Paragraph 81 states that planning decisions should help create the conditions in which

businesses can invest, expand and adapt, and confirms that significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity. Paragraph 83 adds that planning decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors;

- Section 9 seeks to promote sustainable transport, and states that development should only be prevented or refused on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe; and
- Section 11 states that planning decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions.

4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1.1. The application seeks full planning permission for the, and the construction of a 33-bed specialist care home facility with associated access, landscaping, and parking.
- 4.1.2. This application proposes the construction of a three-storey building in Use Class C2. The building will be of a similar scale to surrounding buildings, including the three-storey apartment buildings and townhouses to the north, northeast and west and two storey residential dwellings adjacent to the site to the south and east in order to assimilate into the visual context of the surrounding area.
- 4.1.3. Exemplar Health Care provides specialist nursing care and rehabilitation for adults living with a range of complex and high acuity needs. A selection of profiles of residents in other Exemplar Homes are provided in **Appendices A, B and C**, to offer an indication of the types of complex needs which the care home would account for.
- 4.1.4. The facility will provide 33 bedrooms for residents, including two hoist bedrooms located on the ground floor. All bedrooms will have full private en-suite facilities including showers. Large, assisted bathrooms will also be provided on each floor. The main entrance to the care facility will be via the building's northern elevation.
- 4.1.5. Amenity areas such as dining rooms, lounge rooms and quiet areas will be provided on each floor. Community facilities to be provided include therapy, staff training and relative meeting rooms. Other facilities include offices, nurses' stations and drug stores.
- 4.1.6. A staff smoking shelter and refuse store will be provided in the south-eastern part of the site, and a resident smoking shelter in the southern part of the site.
- 4.1.7. A new access will be created provide vehicular and pedestrian access to the facility from Perseverance Street. 12.no parking spaces will be provided for the care home, comprising 10 standard and 2 disabled parking spaces. 2 spaces and 2 disabled parking spaces are served by EV charging points. 8 cycle parking spaces will be provided by 4.no Sheffield Hoops.
- 4.1.8. Please refer to the supporting Design and Access Statement prepared by Watson Batty Architects for further details of the proposal.

5 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1.1. The following section considers the proposed amendments against the relevant planning considerations.

5.2 PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT

- 5.2.1. The site is not allocated for a specific use in the Local Plan and is approximately 0.25ha. Policy H4 (Residential Development on Small Non-allocated Sites) states that residential development on sites below 0.4 hectares (including conversions of existing buildings and creating dwellings above shops) will be allowed where the proposal complies with other relevant policies in the Plan.
- 5.2.2. The site is located within Urban Barnsley and is vacant brownfield land which previously served as an ancillary car park for Springfield House when it was an office block for Barnsley council. Springfield House has since been converted into apartments (LPA ref: 2017/1052). Policy LG2 (The Location of Growth) directs development to Urban Barnsley as a priority.
- 5.2.3. There are no policies within the Local Plan that specifically relate to residential institutions or care homes. However, Policy H6 (Housing Mix and Efficient Use of Land) expects new residential development to be informed by the most relevant evidence taking into account an up-to-date Strategic Housing Market Assessment for the entire housing market area and the needs of the market, in order to meet the present and future needs of all members of the community.
- 5.2.4. The Barnsley Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (2021) states that there is an additional need for 893 additional specialist older persons accommodation (C3) and 789 additional units of residential care provision (C2).
- 5.2.5. NPPF paragraph 60 states it is important that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed, with paragraph 83 stating that planning decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This application seeks consent for the delivery of a specialist care home to provide specialised care for those with a wide range of health needs.
- 5.2.6. There is a recognised need for care home provision in the area and the site is previously developed vacant land. The proposal would bring the site back into use and would contribute to the city's specialist accommodation. The proposal therefore represents a positive contribution to the specialist needs of the region. The proposal is therefore acceptable in principle subject to high quality design which this report goes on to demonstrate and should be supported in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained within Policy SD1 of the Local Plan and the NPPF.

5.3 LAYOUT AND DESIGN

- 5.3.1. The layout of the site has taken account of the existing sewer which is located in the north of the site which has a 6-metre easement either side. The placement of the building ensures that there is no encroachment into the easement for the sewer and also ensures adequate amenity for surrounding residential buildings. The proposal has also been designed to take account of the surrounding built form. The site is currently vacant and predominantly covered by hardstanding. The proposed care home and associated landscaping would therefore represent a positive redevelopment of the site which is much more in keeping with surrounding residential development.

- 5.3.2. The proposed building adopts an 'L-shaped' form which is three stories tall and features a small two storey extension to the south. The building features projecting elements to break up the massing and avoid flat monotonous facades. The elevations also feature red and buff brick to break up the massing of the building and add interest to the design, again taking reference from surrounding residential dwellings to the north which are built in both red and buff brick. Buildings in the immediate street scene feature a variety of styles, materials, layout and design and it is considered that the proposal is in keeping with the locality.
- 5.3.3. The layout of the site and design of the building allows easy access and movement for disabled residents, accommodating wheelchair users, and ensures that there is ample amenity area for residents to enjoy, and to encourage a sense of community within the care home.
- 5.3.4. An Energy/Sustainability Statement is submitted which sets out how the development proposes to minimise resource and energy consumption through the inclusion of sustainable design and construction features, where this is technically feasible and viable.
- 5.3.5. Further information on the design and layout are provided in the accompanying Design and Access Statement prepared by Watson Batty which demonstrates that the proposal accords with policies GD1, CC2 and D1 of the Local Plan.

5.4 RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

- 5.4.1. The proposed building has been carefully designed to minimise any potential harm to the amenity of neighbouring residential properties and to ensure a good level of amenity for future occupiers, whilst taking in account site constraints including the easement for the sewer on site. The proposal has been designed to ensure good separation distances from neighbouring residential uses.
- 5.4.2. The site is in close proximity to existing residential properties. To the east the site faces public open space with children's play equipment. Properties to the north and south have blank gables facing the site and there is a separation distance of over 30 metres to the apartments in the former Springfield House building to the west. There is over 19 metres to the nearest private garden space of properties to the north. The proposal also includes a 2.1m high fence which is shown on the submitted boundary treatments plan this will ensure mutual screening and privacy.
- 5.4.3. The northwest gable has been designed to include non-habitable room windows which serve a corridor and stairwell to reduce overlooking of neighbouring properties. Likewise, the main body of the building to has been set back from no. 11 and 9 Springfield Street to ensure adequate privacy. The two-storey element to the south features a kitchen at ground floor which will be screened by boundary treatments. At first floor level is a non-habitable room serving a laundry to reduce overlooking neighbouring properties as this room will not be used much less frequently than bedrooms in the development.
- 5.4.4. A Noise Impact Assessment by ENS has been submitted with the application which concludes that existing measured levels were not above a level that would be expected to lead to adverse impact for residents subject to mitigation measures. Measures include double glazing, trickle vents and locating mechanical and electric plant away from the building and setting noise limits for such equipment. Thus, there are no concerns that any significant harm would be caused to the amenity of neighbouring sites or future residents arising from noise.
- 5.4.5. The proposal would therefore be in accordance with Policies GD1 and Poll1 of the adopted Local Plan as well as Paragraph 130 (f) of the NPPF.

5.5 HIGHWAYS

- 5.5.1. Access for vehicles and pedestrians will be from a new access from Perseverance Street. 12 no parking spaces will be provided for the care home, comprising 10 standard and 2 disabled parking spaces. 2 spaces and 2 disabled parking spaces are served by EV charging points. 8 cycle parking spaces will be provided by 4 no Sheffield Hoops.
- 5.5.2. A Transport Statement (TS) prepared by Stantec is submitted with the planning application, which concludes that the proposed development is located in the is in a highly sustainable location with no local highway safety issues. The TS also justifies the level of parking against the council's parking standards and demonstrates that there will be no material traffic impact on the local highway network associated with the proposed development.
- 5.5.3. The site is in close proximity to by public transport, with Dodworth Road having regular buses to Barnsley Town Centre, Penistone and Silkstone Common. Employment from the local community will be actively encouraged which will in turn lead to staff walking, cycling, using public transport or sharing lifts to work. Cycling to the home is encouraged and cycle parking is provided on site for 8 bicycles.
- 5.5.4. Care homes are low traffic generators as none of the residents will have their own transport. The proposals are therefore entirely acceptable in transportation and highways terms, in accordance with policies T3, T4, D1 and GD1 of the adopted Local Plan.

5.6 ECOLOGY AND TREES

- 5.6.1. There is a group of trees on site which will need to be removed to facilitate the re-development of the site. The submitted Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) concludes that no trees on the site are worthy of retaining due to their low value and that greenspace planning is best achieved by the provision of a robust tree planting scheme. A proposed planting scheme has been submitted to mitigate for the loss of these trees.
- 5.6.2. The submitted Bat Roost Assessment concludes that whilst the site contains regenerating multi stem shrub species, the site has no preliminary roost features to report including shrubbery. The report recommends that no further surveys are needed to support a planning application to remove the shrubs.
- 5.6.3. The submitted Preliminary Ecological Appraisal found no evidence of protected species on the site which could be affected by development. Other protected species that may be present on site include the hedgehog. The report makes recommendations for mitigation and enhancement measures including surveys and ensuring provision of a Biodiversity enhancement report and a Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (BNG). The submitted Biodiversity Assessment concludes that habitats present within the site and the proposals for the site's redevelopment the BNG Assessment predicts a change of +51.79% and in 0.12 habitat units. Please refer the BNG assessment for further details.
- 5.6.4. Furthermore, a landscaping scheme prepared by Amenity Tree has been submitted with the application and seeks to improve the appearance of the development, whilst also ensuring the functionality of the building with respect to the day to day enjoyment of its residents and the coming and going of staff and visitors. The landscaping scheme proposes a planting schedule including tree planting, shrubs, ornamental grasses, amenity lawns, raised planters with herbs and mixed plants.

5.6.5. Therefore, the proposal accords with BIO1, GI1 and GD1 of the adopted Local Plan.

5.7 FLOOD RISK AND DRAINAGE STRATEGY

- 5.7.1. The whole site is located within Flood Zone 1 on the Environment Agency's flood maps for planning. This means the site has a low probability of flooding from rivers and the sea. The site is also at very low risk from surface water according to the Environment Agency's flood maps for planning, which means that the site has a chance of flooding of less than 0.1% each year. As the proposal is located within Flood Zone1 it does not require a sequential or exceptions test.
- 5.7.2. The site is predominantly hardstanding and therefore does not significantly increase hardstanding on the site. Please refer to the submitted Drainage Strategy prepared by Eastwood & Partners for further details about flood risk and drainage.

5.8 GROUND CONDITIONS

- 5.8.1. Please refer to the submitted Phase 1 and 2 ground conditions reports for further details on the ground conditions for this site, which demonstrate compliance with policies Poll1 and CL1.

5.9 BENEFITS AND THE PLANNING BALANCE

- 5.9.1. We consider that the principle and proposed quantum of development is acceptable in highways and design terms and would be compliant with the development plan. In addition, the proposal would have significant economic benefits.
- 5.9.2. Paragraph 81 of the NPPF states that significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development.
- 5.9.3. The proposed care home would generate new jobs, in addition to the employment opportunities during the construction phases of the development. The economic benefits associated with the proposed development go beyond just the jobs created by the facility. They also include temporary socio-economic benefits generated during the construction phase of the development and permanent socio-economic benefits which will be generated once the scheme is complete and operational. As such, the proposal will make a positive contribution to the local economy.
- 5.9.4. In addition to economic benefits the scheme also has substantial benefits, which are as follows:
- The proposal would bring a disused site back into use, creating a development which reflects and respects its surrounding and historic past;
 - The proposed facility will contribute to meeting the need for local care facilities in Barnsley;
 - The proposed scheme provides high-quality accommodation for service users, with well-sized private rooms and communal areas to meet different needs, including lounges, therapy rooms, etc; and
 - The Exemplar model encourages social cohesion, incorporating communal living space and access to dining, activity and therapeutic areas. It also provides step down bed facilities to seek to rehabilitate back into the community.
- 5.9.5. The principle of the proposal is considered to be acceptable, demonstrating compliance with Local and National Planning Policy. The proposal also constitutes sustainable development. Accordingly, there is a strong presumption in favour of the development and no material considerations have been identified to outweigh this presumption.

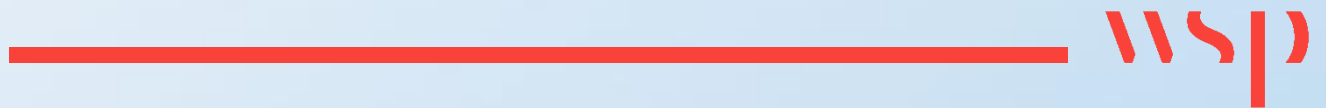
- 5.9.6. The proposed development is consistent with the development plan by seeking to provide good quality housing to meet the needs of groups with specific housing requirements and achieving a sense of place through layout and design.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1.1. This application seeks permission for a 33 bed specialist care home facility with associated access, landscaping and parking. This statement has demonstrated that the principle of development is acceptable representing a positive contribution to the specialist needs of the region.
- 6.1.2. It has been demonstrated that the proposal will not have a detrimental impact in respect of highways or amenity. It would result in a positive redevelopment of the site, which is currently overgrown and tired and would reduce hardstanding and introduce soft landscaping and planting on site. The proposal will generate significant benefits to the local community and economy; most importantly providing a much-needed facility whilst creating new jobs for local people.
- 6.1.3. The NPPF highlights a presumption in favour of sustainable development. It has been demonstrated that the development proposal complies with local and national planning policy and that the significant benefits of the scheme clearly outweigh the limited impact of the development when all material considerations are weighed in the planning balance. The application should therefore be approved without delay.

Appendix A

EXEMPLAR HEALTH CARE CASE STUDY: ADAM'S STORY



Adam's story

Adam lives at our Willowbeck care home in Sheffield. In his early 20's, his drink was spiked and he woke up from a coma, in hospital, three months later, only being able to communicate through blinking.

With the support of the in-house specialist team at Willowbeck, Adam lives a fulfilling life and enjoys his role as Service User Ambassador.

In his early 20's, Adam was an independent and sociable young man who lived in his own flat with his dog, Storm. One night, he went to a house party and, as soon as he got there, was greeted with a drink. Sadly, this drink had been spiked and Adam woke up from a coma three months later in hospital.

Eventually, he moved onto a rehabilitation ward and spent nine months working on his mobility and communication.

In 2017, Adam moved to Greenside Court, which specialises in supporting adults living with complex needs arising from neuro-disabilities. Here, the in-house team supported Adam to gain mobility in the right side of his body, which enables him to control an adapted electric wheelchair and use an assisted speech programme on his iPad.

Since, Adam moved to our Willowbeck care home in Sheffield to progress on his journey. Here, he's the Service User Ambassador, and attends meetings to discuss any changes and improvements that residents want to make.

He shares: "It was the best thing I ever did moving here. The staff are amazing, the management are easy to reach and the physio is very good - you can laugh with them.

"This is my home and I'm not treated like a resident. It's so homely and I am involved with activities so I am always busy. I am able to get around the home by myself and I feel really independent and supported.

"I'm one of the Tuck Shop Assistants here at Willowbeck. I wanted to do this role because it'll really help me to step into a volunteering role in the community and get back to working again.

"I attended an interview - I was nervous but Michelle from the Activities Team told me I was brilliant in my interview and that I answered questions very well. She told me that I could smash any interview.

"We have a rota for the tuck shop and I share the role with two other service users. I work on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and I am always ready and punctual for my shift.

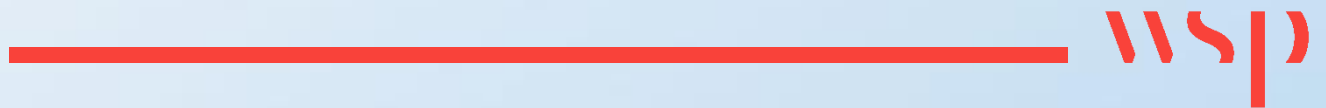
"I have also signed up for college where I will study maths and accounts. I will certainly be able to make sure the tuck shop books balance then!"



Willowbeck has been welcoming to me and I am happy. I cannot thank everyone enough for being amazing.

Appendix B

EXEMPLAR HEALTH CARE CASE STUDY: DAVID'S STORY



David's story

David is 28 years old and lives at our Fairburn Vale home in Castleford, following a car accident which left him quadriplegic. Our Care Team has supported him to regain his independence and build his everyday living skills, and he's now ready and confident to move into his own flat.

In March 2019, David was involved in a car accident and woke up in hospital three months later. The accident had resulted in a C2 and C3 spinal injury, which left him quadriplegic.

Whilst David was in hospital, his family visited several rehabilitation units and decided that Fairburn Vale would be the best fit for him.

In September, David moved into the home and from day one, he expressed his wishes to live independently - and that's what we supported him to do.

David's family found a suitable property in his home town, and the Fairburn Vale team worked with them to ensure that he has the appropriate equipment and care package in place.

The Occupational Therapy Team supported David to adapt the property to ensure that it meets his needs and supports his independence.

They also liaised with external services regarding his care package and the benefits that he's entitled to.

The Physiotherapy Team supported David with a range of exercises to help with his spasticity.

They helped him to get a new electric wheelchair which is controlled by sensors at the head, which will give David more independence to move around his home and in the community.

The Activities Team supported David to transform his van so that it's accessible for his wheelchair, to enable him to freely attend community activities and live a more independent lifestyle.

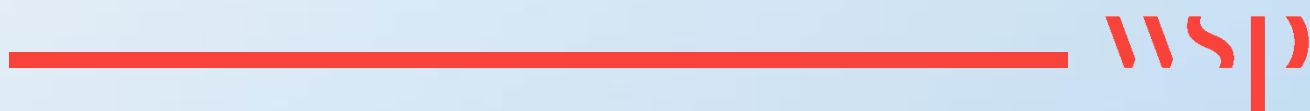
This care has been invaluable in supporting David to move into his own home, so that he can continue to live an independent and meaningful life despite his physical limitations.



“Everyone has been very welcoming to me since I've got here. I was anxious about moving but it helped being with a mixed age group of service users. I will miss it when I leave because you always have someone to talk to if you're having a bad day - staff go the extra mile.”

Appendix C

EXEMPLAR HEALTH CARE CASE STUDY: CHRIS'S STORY



Chris's story

Chris was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease when he was around 30 years old, and as the disease has progressed, requires specialist nursing care from the in-house team at Thames House. He's lived there for around six years, following a failed placement at another care home.

As well as supporting his medical and health needs, the team supports Chris to keep active and continue doing the things that he enjoys.

He is the Service User Ambassador for the home, and represents other residents at Service User Council meetings. He's the home's founding ambassador, and has been involved in projects such as developing the company's service user holiday policy.

This role gives Chris a sense of purpose – he says: “I've always been a busy person and need things to do. Being an ambassador enables me to put my ideas forward and get involved in different things that are going on, as well as find out information about the home.”

Chris is also involved in staff recruitment and induction at the home – he sits in on interviews and gives new starters a welcome tour when they first join. He enjoys this role as it enables him to give staff a unique insight into the role and how people like to be cared for.

Chris enjoys getting involved in activities and events at Thames House, and has made close friends with two other residents and many of the colleagues – who he regularly challenges to games of chess!

His next big project is to renovate the garden, and is working with the Activities Team and other service users to pick out new garden furniture and accessories for the makeover.

Despite Chris's Parkinson's disease progressing, he feels supported to continue to make choices about his care and how he lives his life – and our goal will always be to make his every day better.

He says: “The staff are very good and the Manager is the best – I wouldn't leave the home because of her. She listens to me and what I want (... and lets me get away with murder!).”



“I've always been a busy person and need things to do. Being a [Service User] Ambassador enables me to put my ideas forward and get involved in different things that are going on, as well as find out information about the home.”



First Floor
3 Wellington Place
Leeds
LS1 4AP

wsp.com

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