

Sustainable Travel Policy

Prepared on behalf of: Ellies Place Ltd

Site Address: 94 Hartsbourne Road, Reading, RG6 5SJ

Proposal: Change of use from C3 Residential Dwellinghouse to C2 Residential Institution (Children's Residential Care Home) — Residential Children's Home

Application Type: Full Planning Permission

Local Planning Authority: Wokingham Borough Council

Prepared by: Inhaus Planning, Suite Ra01, 195–197 Wood Street, London, E17 3NU

1.0 Introduction

This Sustainable Travel Policy has been prepared by Inhaus Planning on behalf of Ellies Place Ltd in support of the Full Planning Permission application for the change of use of 94 Hartsbourne Road, Reading, RG6 5SJ from C3 residential dwellinghouse to a C2 children's residential care home. It sets out the arrangements that will be put in place to promote sustainable and active travel for staff, residents, and visitors, and to minimise the impact of the proposed use upon the local highway network.

2.0 Site Accessibility

The application site is located within an established residential area of Reading with good access to public transport, pedestrian routes, and cycling infrastructure. The site is within reasonable walking distance of local amenities, shops, and services, and is well served by Reading Buses routes connecting the area to Reading town centre and the wider conurbation. Reading Railway Station provides mainline rail connections via the Great Western Main Line to London Paddington, Bristol Temple Meads, and the wider national network. The Elizabeth line (Crossrail), accessible from Reading station, provides further direct connectivity to central London. The site's accessibility by sustainable modes of travel is consistent with the objectives of the NPPF.

3.0 Staff Travel Arrangements

Ellies Place Ltd will actively promote sustainable travel options for all members of the staffing team. Staff will be encouraged to travel to and from the home by public transport, bicycle, or on foot wherever practicable. Information about local bus routes, cycle routes, and rail connections will be provided to all staff at the point of recruitment and will be displayed within the staff accommodation area of the home. Where staff are required to transport young people to school, appointments, or activities, the home will seek to use public transport or walking wherever the young person's needs and safety allow.

4.0 Parking Provision

The property benefits from off-street parking provision for three vehicles, adequate to meet the needs of the staffing team at any given time. The nature of the rolling shift pattern means that staff vehicles will arrive and depart at various times throughout the day and night, and there will not typically be more than two or three staff vehicles on site simultaneously. The three available parking spaces are sufficient to accommodate this demand without recourse to on-street parking, and staff will be expected to use off-street parking in preference to parking on the public highway.

5.0 Cycle Storage

Secure cycle storage for three bicycles will be provided at the property. The provision of cycle storage will encourage staff to cycle to work, supporting the reduction of car use and contributing to the home's sustainable travel objectives. Young people resident at the home will also be encouraged to take up cycling as a leisure and active travel option. The home will work with local cycling groups and the local

authority to identify appropriate cycle routes and to support young people in developing cycling skills and confidence.

6.0 Visitor Arrangements

Professional visitors to the home will be advised of the site's sustainable travel options and parking arrangements prior to their visit. Where possible, visits will be grouped together or scheduled at times that minimise the number of vehicle movements associated with the home. The frequency of professional visits is low and will not give rise to any material impact upon the local highway network.

7.0 Resident Travel

Young people resident at the home will be supported and encouraged to use public transport, cycling, and walking as their primary means of travel within the local area. The home will obtain bus passes or travel cards for residents as appropriate, and will work with each young person's school to identify the most sustainable and appropriate means of travel to and from school. The promotion of independent travel skills is an important aspect of the home's preparation-for-independence programme.

8.0 Monitoring and Review

The Sustainable Travel Policy will be reviewed annually by the Registered Manager as part of the home's quality assurance process. The review will assess the effectiveness of the measures in place, identify any emerging issues or opportunities, and update the policy as required to reflect changes in the local transport network, the needs of the resident group, or the staffing arrangements of the home.

9.0 Conclusion

The Sustainable Travel Policy set out in this document demonstrates that Ellies Place Ltd is committed to minimising the transport impact of the proposed use and to promoting sustainable and active travel for all users of the home. The site's good accessibility by public transport and active travel modes, combined with adequate off-street parking provision, means that the proposed use will not give rise to any material harm to highway safety or parking conditions in the vicinity of the site. The Local Planning Authority is invited to conclude that the proposal accords with the transport objectives of the NPPF and the relevant policies of the Wokingham Borough Local Plan.