Planning statement in support of D1-D2 planning application Ref: WB/11/0182/FULL

The proposed use of the building will be a day centre for adults with a learning difficulty.

We will be supporting our service users to engage in a range of activities taking place on-site throughout the day. The service will operate Monday-Friday, between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

We are expecting initially to provide services to between 10-15 adults per day.

Our service users will require support for a range of mental and physical impairments. All users of the service will have a contract detailing the terms and hours of their attendance at the centre; we are not proposing to offer a 'drop in' facility.

Contracts will be arranged either directly with the individual service users, West Sussex County Council, other local authorities or care providers. Most service users will arrive at an arranged time in the morning and be collected by their carers or family each afternoon.

The types of activity we will be providing at the site will be very much dependent on the individual needs of our service users. However, based on the services we provide at our existing site in Hove, we expect to be supporting people do activities such as soft play, sensory relaxation, arts and crafts. These will take place in the areas indicated on the proposed floor plan, which will be arranged as follows:

1- **Sensory/relaxation area.**

   This will be an area containing items of specialist equipment, such as interactive lights and various tactile objects, as well as equipment that allows us to change the smell and sound of the environment.

2- **Multi-use activity area.**

   This will be an area with some lounge-style seating and a table. We propose to put this area to different uses, such as table based activities (e.g. drawing, I.T. etc...). It will also be used to allow service users to take a break from other activities happening on-site. This area will also be used for staff meetings.

3- **Soft-play area.**

   The floor space of this area will be mostly matted, as might be found at a gym. It will be used as a play area for groups or individuals, as well as for activities such as music therapy and yoga.

In addition to these areas, we propose to install a small kitchen area. This will be used to assist service users with the preparation of their lunches, which they will bring with them, as well as being our communal eating/drinking area. Due to the physical impairments some of our service users are likely to have, we are proposing to make use of the existing large toilet area and adapt it to make it suitable for disabled users. Once a toilet door has been installed, any additional floor space outside of the proposed toilet will most likely be used as a small cloak room for coats/bags etc... .

Please get in touch with me if you need any further information. I have forwarded a brochure to your office to help give you a better idea about what we do.