

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 21/01/2026 9:47 AM from Natasha Whitehead.

Application Summary

Address:	Linfield Care Home 18 - 22 Wykeham Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 4JD
Proposal:	Alterations and extensions to existing care home to provide additional bed spaces, including construction of single storey glazed link extension to southwest elevation, three storey extension to southeast elevation and installation of solar panels to existing flat roof and south west roofslopes.
Case Officer:	Rebekah Hincke

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Customer Details

Name:	Natasha Whitehead
Email:	
Address:	2 Loxley Gardens Bulkington Avenue Worthing West Sussex

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	- Design - Loss of General Amenity - Other - Overdevelopment - Privacy Light and Noise
Comments:	I am writing to strongly object to the two planning applications in relation to Guildcare's Linfield House, Wykeham Road, Worthing (AWDM/1494/25 & AWDM/1544/25). I am the granddaughter of a self-funding resident on the Dementia, Richmond Suite. I just happened to stumble across these proposed plans on a social media site, which came as a shock as no communication had been received by the families of the residents at Linfield. Unfortunately, the more I looked into these plans, the more worried I have become. Firstly, the plan to extend the property for the new single story link (AWDM/1494/25 Planning Statement 6.03) and the two storey extension to provide two bedrooms to the front (AWDM/1544). This is right next to my Nannies

room. There is also a window which is covered in her bathroom but I assume would need to be removed. These works will cause loud building site noises, dust and disruption for long periods of time. My Nannies bedroom is her safe space, the room she can go to if she needs time alone and the place she now sees as home. Works like this can be disturbing, upsetting and stressful for anyone but would be substantially worse for someone with Dementia. Changes to many Nannies and any dementia patients daily routine and environment has a significant impact often triggering increased stress, anxiety, confusion and can cause behavioural changes, sometimes becoming aggressive. I know that my Nannie will not do well under these circumstances. She won't see her bedroom as her safe space, so where is she meant to go? How can her routine be undisturbed with these works? How will she be 'unduly affected' (AWDM/1494/25 Planning Statement 6.08 point 2)? The thought of the stress, upset, confusion, anxiety, and the negative changes to my Nannies behaviour which would be caused by these works is extremely upsetting to myself and her family. The residents have not been taken into consideration.

Secondly, the extension to the southeast corner of the site (AWDM/1494/25 Planning Statement 6.04). This will mean the loss of 2 windows in Richmond's main lounge (AWDM/1494/25 Planning Statement 6.06); windows in which residents, including me Nannie, use to look at out at the garden. It will make the room where the residents spend the majority of their time when outside of their bedrooms and for meals, a much darker enclosed room; the new planned window will be north-east facing instead of south-east, with large overlooking trees and bushes in the garden blocking the sunlight. Changes in light can trigger sundowning in dementia patients. This extension also removes a good chunk of the garden accessible to Richmond residents. For some of the residents, the garden is the only outdoor space they have access to as they cannot leave Linfield so is an important area for them especially in the warmer months. Then there are the building works that will need to take place. Where will residents be able to go to relax outside of their bedrooms and to eat their meals when there will be all the banging, dust, and general building work sounds going on throughout the day? Dementia residents need routine, they need to be able to recognise the areas they live in to remain happy and calm, and they don't do well with disruptions or lots of different faces which will inevitably come with building works and builders etc. This has already been seen whilst work was being carried out on the communal bathroom in Richmond.

Thirdly, the conversion of the existing visitors lounge and training room in Richmond (AWDM/1494/25 Planning Statement 6.09). This is currently a peaceful room where residents can have some quiet time to themselves or to spend time more privately with their families and loved ones. My family and I have used this room on numerous occasions. We have spent precious time together and celebrated important occasions with my Nannie in this room. It provides that 1 to 1 area away from the main residents lounge to build memories in together as a family. Without this area, where are families able to spend this important time with their loved ones?

Furthermore, all of these plans won't just have an effect on the residents and their loved ones, it will also have an effect on the staff. We are very lucky to have good

staff on Richmond who know my Nannie and the other residents well and put a lot of effort into making sure the residents are happy, calm and well looked after. The residents will need a lot more support compared to normal and this will mean the staff are under a lot more pressure and will be stretched between all the residents negatively impacted.

Finally, when completing the hard job of visiting care homes to find the best fit for my Nannie, we chose Linfield because it had nice big, bright rooms, which felt welcoming. It had several areas to relax in and it had a lovely garden. All of which were very important for my Nannie. These proposals will be taking away all of those reasons. As mentioned, it will cause my Nannie stress, anxiety and confusion; all of which will cause her Dementia to deteriorate at a much faster pace than what it currently is. Watching a loved one deteriorate due to Dementia is heartbreaking so for the place that we as a family thought she would be safe and looked after to be considering these plans with such little consideration for the residents and their families, when it will have such adverse effects on these residents, makes me incredible worried and angry, and is a huge let down on Guildcare's part. In a newspaper article written by Kevin Burke published on 23rd December 2025, he says 'we are always updating our homes to ensure calm, cosy and inviting spaces where our residents and their visitors can relax' - these updates will be doing the complete opposite.

All of these reasons are why I am strongly objecting to these plans.
