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To whom it may concern

Re: Response to Objection Submitted Regarding Planning Applications AWDM/1494/25 and AWDM/1544/25 – Linfield House

We are writing in response to the five concerns raised by relatives of existing residents.

The wellbeing of all residents remains our top priority.

Below we have addressed the key concerns raised in the objections.

Care of Residents During Construction

Should planning permission be approved, no work will commence without a detailed review of care plans for those residents who may be effected. This includes full clinical risk assessments, consideration of temporary room moves, consultation with families, and increased staff support where required. Residents will only be relocated within Linfield or to partner homes following a full clinical assessment and agreement with families. As explained previously to those relatives who we have had direct dialogue with, we have carried out a number of building improvements across our other homes and have done so in a way that successfully minimised disturbance and impact to residents whilst at the same time providing improved environments whilst maintaining a high level of holistic care and support.

Clarification Regarding Behaviour-Related Care Needs

The statement regarding the continuation of care refers only to rare cases where a resident's needs escalate beyond what our service can provide. Construction related disruption would never be a reason for ending care.

Northeast Garden Area

We recognise the concern regarding the partial loss of the northeast garden. The home currently has two garden areas which are underutilised, and we will retain a garden area that is more than adequate for the home's requirements. The proposal also introduces a new window facing the park to preserve natural light and outdoor views.

Use of Reception Area

The reception lounge is rarely used and is not part of any of the existing five households areas, any alternative use of this space will not adversely impact anyone. The reception which is very well used will not be affected. The ground floor restaurant and first floor wellbeing lounge will remain accessible for use and will not be affected by the proposal, these communal areas are utilised by residents and relatives.

Improvements to Selden and Whitcombe

The proposal includes enlarging the Selden and Whitcombe communal areas, which will support improved resident engagement, accessibility, and quality of daily living. These are internal alterations which do not require planning but are an important part of the proposals.

Commitment to Communication

We are committed to ensuring that all families are kept informed and once the outcome of the planning application is known we will be providing a comprehensive consultation, regular updates, information displays, and briefings.

Other areas of consideration

It is unlikely that any construction work would take place before April 2027. Over the next 12 months, occupancy will have naturally change and as we get closer to any works, we would ensure that any vacancies would not be offered to new residents but would be used to temporarily reallocate residents if there was any likelihood of an adverse impact during construction works. During this process, we are being open and transparent and all new residents are being informed of our plans.

We have three homes; Linfield House is a 54 bedded home and is our smallest home compared to 60 and 67 beds. Linfield House has the same amount of management, administration, and support infrastructure as the other homes and increased financial pressures. The proposed small increase in the total number of residents we can support will bring much needed economies of scale.

Our home is always full and there is an increased and unmet need in Worthing for nursing, residential and dementia care. This small expansion will provide go some way to providing much needed accommodation.

Guild Care is a charity and non profit-making organisation, surplus funds is reinvested back into the home and enable Guild Care to provide much needed charitable support via our community services function.

We fully acknowledge that change is difficult but will work to support our community through such change and have made the application because we feel it is needed for our future strategy, there is unmet needs, and we feel that we can successfully manage any impact that our existing residents may feel is a concern.

Yours sincerely

On behalf of the Guild Care Management Team