AMENDED OPERATIONAL STATEMENT

Project Location: 2 Kings Close, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7RD
Original Planning Reference: AVA/2024/0067
Proposal: Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to vary Condition 3 of planning permission AVA/2024/0067 to increase the permitted upper age limit of residents from 17 to 18 years of age.



AMENDED OPERATIONAL STATEMENT

---

1. Ethos and Purpose of the Home

2 Kings Close is operated by a specialist, therapeutic residential home providing high-tier, wrap-around care for up to **four young people**. The residents accommodated within this property exhibit severe emotional, behavioural, or complex neurodevelopmental needs resulting from early-stage trauma or developmental disruption.

The primary operational objective is to replicate the stable, predictable environment of a traditional family home. This stable domestic structure is vital to helping residents achieve emotional regulation, engage consistently with education, and develop core life skills.

2. Operational Necessity for the Age Increase (Up to 18)

Developmental vs. Chronological Age: Children within specialist residential care frequently experience significant developmental delays. While a resident may turn 17 chronologically, their emotional and functional age is often vastly lower. Forcing these residents out of their established family unit at age 17 creates severe regression and undoes years of therapeutic progress.

Pathway Planning & Transitional Stability: Legal pathways for independent living or adult supported accommodation typically consolidate at age 18. Aligning the home's age restriction with the 18th birthday allows the operator to work seamlessly with placing Local Authorities to execute robust, non-emergency transitional pathway plans.

Alignment with Care Standards: This extension aligns the physical planning constraints of the property with national social care expectations (such as the *Children and Social Work Act* mandates regarding care leavers), ensuring that young people are not forced into substandard or premature independent living environments before they are legally adults.

3. Daily Operations, Rota Systems, and Staffing Structures

Preservation of Staffing Ratios: The expansion of the age limit will cause **no reduction** in supervision levels. The home will continue to be anchored by a full-time, professional care team operating on a 24-hour shift pattern.

Internal Layout and Supervision:

As detailed on the approved layout plan (Drawing No. RP_2 KINGS CLOSE_092602_01), the home features dedicated communal areas on the ground floor (Living Room, Dining Room, and Kitchen) alongside a staff office/sleep-in room. The first floor features four dedicated bedrooms for the young people alongside a separate staff bedroom. This configuration guarantees that staff members are physically present on both floors overnight, maintaining an identical supervisory profile regardless of whether a resident is 15, 16, or 17 years old.

4. Community Liaison & Impact Mitigation Protocols

Behavioural Risk Assessments: Every single placement undergoes a rigorous pre-admission matching risk assessment. A young person aged 17–18 will only be placed or retained at 2 Kings Close if their profile demonstrates absolute compatibility with the existing resident group and the surrounding Heanor residential environment.

Noise and Boundary Control: The home strictly enforces its established **Noise Management Plan**. Staff are trained to actively manage and de-escalate internal friction. Garden usage is supervised,

and structured evening routines ensure that the property maintains a quiet, peaceful footprint that respects the immediate neighbours on Kings Close and Sovereign Way.

Traffic Management: Staff changeovers are staggered explicitly outside of peak community hours (e.g., scheduled at 07:30 and 22:00) to ensure that staff vehicles arriving at the property do not cause bottlenecks, noise, or turning issues within the Close.