

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 15/08/2025 10:19 AM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Ashley Down Nursing Home 29 Clarence Place Gravesend Kent DA12 1LD
Proposal:	Change of use from Residential Care Home for the Elderly to Residential Care Home for Young People.
Case Officer:	Ms Amanda Cue

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Gravesend

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	I'm writing as a local resident and mother to object to the proposed change of use at Ashley Down Nursing Home.

When the property previously housed young people in October 2024, the area became noticeably unsettled. Groups would gather outside and in the gardens opposite, often shouting, playing loud music, and smoking drugs, including disrespectfully around the war memorial. It created an intimidating atmosphere-especially for families. I regularly avoided walking past with my child, choosing a longer route just to reach the play park at the top of the hill. That decision was about safety, not convenience. ASB such as this is not a policing priority, with poor response times and therefore there is very little recourse for those local residents affected by this behaviour.

There were frequent visits from police and ambulances, particularly at night, which added to the disruption of local residents. It didn't feel like a safe or stable environment, and I was constantly worried about what my child might witness. This worry will only increase as my family grows larger and children grow older.

This is a quiet, residential area with a strong sense of community. We were told the building would remain a care home for the elderly, which made sense for the location. Instead, it's being repurposed in a way that has already proven to cause distress. The recent registration and quick removal of a company at this address only adds to the uncertainty.

The property sits within the Windmill Hill Conservation area. The definition of a conservation area is "an area of notable environmental or historical interest or importance which is protected by law against undesirable changes". I believe the change of use to a Children's home is undesirable and not in keeping with the ethos of a conservation area. The aim of a conservation area is to preserve or enhance the unique character of an area and the change of this property to a Children's home would neither enhance or preserve Windmill Hill as was experienced during the previous change in 2024.

I'm not opposed to care provision in principle, but based on previous experience, I do not believe this proposal is in the best interests of the local community. I hope the planning authority will take into account the lived experience of residents and the impact this change would have on families like mine.

Kind regards