

Planning Committee 17th March 2026

SUMMARY OF LATE COMMENTS/REPORT UPDATE

The aim of this report is to seek to avoid the need for lengthy verbal updates that Planning Officers have sometimes needed to provide in the past at the Planning Committee. In consultation with the Chair, it has been decided that on the evening before committee a summary of all the late comments/representations received so far will be emailed to the Committee Members by the Governance Team.

It is possible that verbal updates will still be required at the meeting as sometimes comments are received at the last minute or Officers may wish to amend their recommendations: however, Officers will seek to keep verbal updates to a minimum.

At the meeting Officers will only refer briefly to any key points of the case in the summary that has been emailed, as well as providing the usual verbal update for any additional last-minute items.

If Members have any queries about the comments or the application itself, please feel free to contact the relevant case officer given beneath the title of each summary below.

PARISH: Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick

APPLICATION: 25/01014/FL

CASE OFFICER: Alice Lockett

1. SOURCE OF COMMENTS: Derbyshire County Council

DATE RECEIVED: 02/03/2026

SUMMARY: Derbyshire County Council Childrens Services have provided the placement sufficiency strategy 2025-2029, this has been published on the public access. IN summary:

As of March 2025, Derbyshire had 176 children living in residential placements (both internal and external).

- Greatest demand is in the 10-15 category, followed by 16+
- Admissions to care have steeply increased since 2019, 7.3 times more in Derbyshire than nationally.
- 16+ admissions have increased 107% between 2019 and 2024. with a 69.6% increase for 10-15 year olds.
- 59% increase in children coming into care under S20 in the last 5 years compared to 19% increase nationally

Residential placements currently make up 17–18% of Derbyshire’s total placement mix

Demand is high and rising, with projections showing that—if no action were taken—residential placements could increase by 127% between 2025 and 2035, due to:

- increased complexity of needs,
- older age profile of new admissions,
- pressures in the wider market.
- Derbyshire currently has 143 children placed in external residential care
- Derbyshire currently needs around 175–180 residential beds to meet demand
- 61% of children in care are placed 20 miles or less from home. This is below the average for England (61%)
- 30% of children in care are placed more than 20 miles from home higher than average for England (22%).

OFFICER COMMENTS:

Officers are of the view that this data supports the need for the proposed accommodation in Derbyshire and that the application site in Grassmoor which is well placed for access from centres of population such as Chesterfield is suitable for the proposed development.

2. SOURCE OF COMMENTS: Grassmoor Parish Council

DATE RECEIVED: 13/3/2026

SUMMARY:

The Parish Council does not object to this application. However, it is keen to ensure that the proposed change of use does not lead to traffic or parking problems in the local area. In particular, it asks that the Planning Authority should seek assurances from the Applicant on this point and in particular, to be clear that the proposed parking arrangements would be adequate for both carers working at the home and those visiting from other agencies.

Just to confirm the Parish Council does not wish to address the Planning Committee on this application.

OFFICER COMMENTS:

Parking issues are dealt with in the officer report to members of planning committee.