

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 February 2024 13:00  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Asset Transfer Request 'Family Hub' / Plus

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to you in order to support the request submitted by Plus to bid for an asset transfer for the 'Family Hub' as a new premise to be used by Plus.

As you will be aware, Plus is a charity that works with children having various degrees of disabilities to provide a safe space for them to enjoy play time/ social activities/ learning and more. Their current main place has been developed over the past few years to meet more and more the needs of the young people attending, but being reliant on a land lord's permission to rent, provides a lot of insecurity, which affects the running of a charity like Plus. Having a permanent base, however, would make a huge change to Plus - for people running it, but moreover, to children and parents using it.

'Plus' does not only make a huge difference to the children and young people attending, but is crucial to supply some 'breathing' space for parents, carers and siblings. Knowing, that you can drop off your child for up to three hours in a space, where they are cared for/ kept safe/ have lots of fun, is very different from any other activities privately organised, where the family has to think of an outing, then plan it and organise it and make sure, that it's carried out without any problems.

'Plus' is also an organisation that impacts the wider community because it offers work opportunities for people of all generations, but particularly young people, who often volunteer first to gain experiences. My older daughter, who is now studying Medicine, volunteered many years for Plus and gained experiences in office skills, but more importantly for her future career choice, working with young adults, who needed support in youth activities because of ASD - she would communicate with the parents to establish needs and preferences and then accompany a young adult to a mainstream youth club and make sure, that all needs were met there. This also enabled the youth club to be inclusive and open to teenagers, who would otherwise not be able to attend (turning up with your Mum is not 'cool' at that age).

I do very much hope that the bid submitted by Plus will be successful and will enable this brilliant charity to continue the work they have been doing and that has changed and impacted on so many lives in the whole of the Forth Valley region,

With thanks and kind regards,

[REDACTED]

(mother to [REDACTED] who has been attending kids and youth activities with Plus for many years) (also mother to [REDACTED] who has volunteered for Plus - first as part of her Duke of Edinburgh award, office based, then independently of that supporting ASD-teens attending youth events)