

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 February 2024 20:03
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Asset Transfer: Former Family hub at cornton vale

To [REDACTED]

It is in my opinion, the best decision to approve support for families for the community asset transfer.

Support For Families is a non biased, FREE support group to help families effected by substance abuse, and has been consistently supporting hundreds of members of the community for over 20 years.

It is vital to me that Support For Families secures the community asset transfer so they can continue helping other families through hard times.

Myself personally, I have received great support from Support for families in multiple ways. Multiple members of my family had substance addictions, and going through that while being a child feeling helpless with no spare money to pay for any form of support is detrimental to both your mental health and your future, and is easy to get stuck in the same cycle.

At age 13 I lost my grandpa to a horrible illness which was caused by years of alcohol & drug abuse. I had no support.

During my teenage years of 15-19 I lost multiple friends, and relatives through the same addictions. Again I had no support to help with any of the trauma.

At age 20 I had my daughter. I was a low income family trying to build a life for us and it was hard. Lockdown was especially difficult as my mental health was not great at all. We got support from Support For Families which helped massively and made a huge difference.

At age 21, I lost my dad who was my best friend. My dad suffered from substance addiction for most of his adult life, and although he was very open and honest about it and had his regrets he could never fully recover from the addiction. In May 2019 my dad ended up in intensive care due to a head injury while being under the influence. He made it out of hospital after months of 24/7 care & rehabilitation but never fully recovered due to the extent of his injuries. He later passed away in October 2019. This was heartbreaking and fully changed me as a person, but I had help and support from the community in Support For Families to help with the trauma.

In 2021 my father in law died. Me & my partner took guardianship & parental rights out so his sister aged 9 could live with us permanently and we could help give her a brighter future. Support For Families has supported us through this trauma as well, and have continued to support my full household in everything we've went through. My girls love the fun days and the parties and it allows them to mix with other children who have had similar life experiences, while also allowing me as an adult to have a safe place with no judgement and support.

Support For Families can and will continue to create positive outcomes for the community. Their goals align perfectly with the Scottish Prison service's priorities, and their support for not only families of prisoners but also all woman, children, kinship carers alike. Support For Families creates more positive outcomes for members of the

community like myself. They can give people the opportunities to get involved in more positive & safe hobbies and activities that they wouldn't have access to before.

I believe 100% Support for Families should secure the community asset transfer before any other organisation is even considered. They play an important part to the community and with a more secure premises they can only further develop their support.

Thanks

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