

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 February 2024 10:38
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: PLUS Forth Valley - Application Support

Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

I am reaching out on behalf of PLUS Forth Valley to advocate for their recent asset transfer application concerning the Family Hub in Cornton. Following the concerns they faced about potentially losing their premises in January 2024, I believe that securing ownership of the building would be an ideal progression for PLUS and the families they support. While the current rented facility meets PLUS's requirements, acquiring their own property would allow them to tailor it to better suit the needs of the children and families they support, proving highly advantageous as PLUS continues to expand as an organisation.

PLUS plays a crucial role in the Stirling community, providing essential support to the children and families who need it the most. Without PLUS, individuals with disabilities, both children and adults, would face severely restricted opportunities for social interaction, limited access to the local community, and increased isolation. Fortunately, thanks to PLUS, their service users can actively engage in the community and enjoy a life similar to their peers. Moreover, PLUS offers parents and caregivers a sense of assurance, knowing that their dependents are not only safe and having fun but also providing them with the opportunity for respite and the ability to accomplish daily tasks that others may take for granted. The Family Hub serves as a foundation for PLUS to conduct diverse sessions tailored to the specific needs of both children and adults in attendance. Additionally, the Hub will serve as a secure space to assist service users who may face challenges in safely accessing the community. By acquiring ownership of the building, PLUS will have the opportunity to evaluate the requirements of their young people, allowing them to establish an environment that is both accessible and adaptable. Furthermore, the Hub is conveniently located near local parks, shops, and offers easy access to the town centre, providing an ideal setting for both group and individual sessions. This is a luxury that PLUS currently does not have.

PLUS has established its own community within Stirling, uniting children and families from the local area with staff primarily situated in Stirling and the Forth Valley region. Noteworthy is the strong bond that PLUS has forged with Stirling University. They consistently offer placement opportunities to numerous students annually, with many securing part-time roles as sessional workers upon completing their placements. PLUS serves as an ideal setting for students to gain invaluable hands-on work experience not easily found elsewhere, offering a sense of fulfillment through their part-time roles and contributing to the community. The enduring commitment of their staff speaks volumes about PLUS as an employer and workplace, often retaining employees for years and providing opportunities for career advancement.

To me, PLUS is a safe haven the Stirling community should cherish and I believe the Family Hub represents the next stride towards paving the way for future sustainability of the organisation.

My contact details are as follows:

[REDACTED]

Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

