



- **Background**

Sunshine Day Centre was established in 2010 to provide day services to elderly members of the community. The Centre is suitable for older people with Dementia, Alzheimer's and Learning Disabilities along with Clients who need companionship. We also provide day care for clients who live with relatives enabling family carers to have some respite with the peace of mind that their relatives are being cared for.

The Centre has a contract with Social Services (Service Provider 1138033) providing funding placements for Clients who are referred to by the mental health team. We also have places for Clients who are self funded.

- **Operation**

A typical day at the Centre starts with clients being collected and brought to the Centre by our two minibuses. Some clients arrive by taxi. Once arrived they enjoy morning activities along with plenty of tea and coffee. A 2 course home cooked lunch is provided and then is followed by a range of afternoon activities which include arm chair exercises, Bingo and entertainment. Our day for the Clients finishes around 3.15 when they are transported back home in the minibuses.

- **New Premises**

When the Centre first opened in 2010 it was open for 3 days a week, which has increased over the years to 5 full days. Within the last 12 months the demand for the care we provide has risen rapidly, such that the Centre now opens on a Saturday. The current premises are clearly insufficient to meet the increased level of care required.

We started in 2016 looking for bigger premises in the locality. In the October of that year we had a visit from the local MP George Hollingbery and Councillor Peter Wade to ask for their help to source suitable larger premises, which were proving a difficult challenge for us.

- **Requirements**

After nearly 3 years of searching we feel that the ground floor, south section, of 16 Aston Road, Waterlooville (475m2 of accommodation) would be a great new home for the Sunshine Day Centre. These premises meet our requirements as follows : -

- **Location**

Close to the location of the current building. Continuity in general terms is important to the clients who are easily disoriented by change.

No change for clients length of time on transport. The current collection and return arrangements work well, and we wish to maintain them.

Aston Road is accessible, and well serviced for our staff members.

We recognise that the site is within an industrial estate, but the site is centrally placed and well serviced for local amenities. The building itself is not a warehouse or being used as an industrial unit. The location and leisure use of the building pre-dates the later industrial development.

- **Suitability of Building**

This building has been divided up into three sections. The adjoining parts currently have D2 (leisure) usage. The first floor is still a snooker hall, used primarily in the evenings, and at weekends. The balance of the ground floor is vacant. A possible tenant for the vacant part is a dance school, which would also have a predominantly evening use.

The previous club use of the building is ideal for our use. The previous catering kitchen is ideally placed for our lunchtime use, and can readily be refitted to the existing services. The ample toilet accommodation can be refitted for our needs of 2 disabled, 2 male and 3 male compartments.

There is sufficient space to allow us to create dedicated rooms for the care of clients with extra requirements, like those with Dementia/Alzheimer's.

We will be able to provide more places for clients referred by Social Services – an increase of 10 places per day.

In accordance with the new '*Older Person Day Activity Services Tender*' (for Social Services) due for implementation within the next 12 months, the extended facilities and opportunities that this building presents, will allow the Centre to become available to a wider range of clients and disabilities from the local community.

With the extra space we can create better working facilities for our staff. We can provided a dedicated rest room, and facilities for on-site training.

- **Access and Parking**

As described above, for the clientele that attend the centre, transport is provided. Either by mini bus, or they are dropped off by taxi and family members. A clear drop off and turn area is required, close to the entrance. There is no requirement for client parking, and the mini buses are not used throughout the day. The central location of the site allows staff (particularly junior staff without cars) ready access by public transport and bicycle. For the remainder of the staff, four or five car spaces will be sufficient.