

Shelter from the Storm

Islington



Islington Council members resolve to grant permission for new Shelter From The Storm.

Shelter From The Storm has operated within Islington Borough for 11 years. The lease on their current premises is coming to an end, prompting a thorough and lengthy search for a suitable new site.

When the charity identified a disused retail unit as the perfect location for a new shelter, Planning Potential was delighted to work with them to secure the permission for a change of use. Shelter From The Storm's mixed-use proposals will create much improved new home for the shelter's residents, together with a small local shop and a community cafe.

The new night shelter will be capable of accommodating between 36 and 42 guests each night in dormitories. Other shared facilities include a washroom and toilets, a laundry, multifunctional dining space and a counselling room. Guests are provided with a bed, dinner and breakfast each day and each evening they sit down together to eat.

The shelter will be open every night of the year between 6pm and 8am to accommodate guests who have been accepted by the charity via a strict referral process. The shelter is not designed to be a place of long-term residence, but to assist people who have found themselves homeless. The average stay is two months and during this time staff and volunteers offer wrap-around support, helping guests with employment, education and pathways into more permanent homes.

The separate community cafe will offer hot drinks, snacks and occasional lunches, as well as providing a much-needed space for people to socialise and learn new skills.

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