Location Risk Assessment

Onyx House



Home URN	**2652546**
Registered Manager	**Chloe Holt**
Responsible Individual	**Lucy Mitchell**
Last Review Date	**13/02/26**

Introduction – Legislative Framework

All children and young people, whether they are looked after by their local authority, guardians, carers or by their parents, need to feel safe in the area surrounding their home. Just as any parent would want to their child to live in a safe area so too will a corporate parent who places children in a children's home. a location is safe can change rapidly, and may depend on the vulnerabilities of particular children. Indeed, some individual children may themselves heighten risks in an area if they have particularly risky behaviours.

A home may be located in an area with some local risks, and still be 'safe', if these are managed well, arrangements are made to keep children safe, and placement decisions take account of these risks. Consideration of risks in a local area, and what steps should be taken to mitigate these, should be part of the care planning and placement decision process. Placing social workers should be responsible for assessing local risks and making judgments about safe locations before placing the child. The availability of support and services in the local area (e.g. education, health, CAMHS), as well as risk factors, should be considered before the placement is made.

Role of the provider

Better equipping children's home staff to make judgments about local risks, manage challenging behaviour, and keep children safe is an important element. Workforce training, support and knowledge is therefore critical to the success.

The Children's Homes and Looked after Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2013 introduced the following changes to the Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the Registration Regulations:
Regulation 31(1A) and (1B) of the Children's Homes Regulations 2001 as amended introduced a requirement in January 2014 for providers or managers to:

- Ensure that premises used for the purposes of a children's home are appropriately and suitably located so that children cared for by the home are:
  (a) effectively safeguarded, and
  (b) able to access services to meet the needs identified in their care or placement plan;
- Review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises at least once in every calendar year.

About The Home

Homes Address

Onyx House
24 Portway Road
Rowley Regis
Birmingham
B65 9DB

Map Grid Reference

SO 97205 88378

What Three Words

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Profile of The Home & Young People

Onyx House is located Rowley Regis which is within the West Midlands region of England. The postcode is within the Sandwell ward/electoral division.

The Home supports up to 4 young people of mixed gender between the ages of 8-18 with Emotional and Behavioural difficulties and other complex needs.

The home is situated in a pleasant residential area close to direct bus routes into town and within a short walk of local amenities including a shop for general groceries, dog groomers, chip shop and car repair workshop.

There is a wide range of quality activities available in close proximity to the home. Young people can enjoy various local parks, zoos, football, museums, cinema, bowling, leisure centres, Gymnasiums, local beauty spots for walks and picnics and swimming pools all within a short journey from the home.

Local Amenities

The home is situated in a pleasant residential area close to direct bus routes into town and within a short walk of local amenities including shops, pharmacies, hairdressers, restaurants, various cafes.

As the Home is located close to the Nation's second largest city Birmingham, there are an enormous number of activities and amenities on the doorstep. There is a wide range of quality leisure opportunities for young people to enjoy including but not limited to;

- Ice Skating and Roller-skating
- Ten Pin Bowling Alleys
- Go Karting and Driving
- Paintballing
- Skiing and Snowboarding
- Horse Riding and Stables
- Cycling
- Crazy Golf
- Indoor Sea-Life Centre
- Swimming pools
- Parks and beauty spots such as Saltwells nature reserve
- Merry hill and the Bull ring shopping Centres
- Restaurants of all cuisines
- Access to various clubs such as youth clubs, army cadets, Gymnastics, football, rugby ect

Reported Crime in the Area

The data below was published by the Police and represents incidents that were reported to them, not the crimes that were prosecuted and/ or had further action taken.

Any known local hot spots for crime have been detailed in the risk management section of this document.

Crime Stats
West Midlands, England B65 9DB | October 2025

Crime and Safety in Rowley Regis, West Midlands

Last updated: 08 Oct 2025

Rowley Regis is among the top 5 safest medium-sized towns in the West Midlands, and is the 21st safest overall out of the West Midlands's 44 towns, villages, and cities. The overall crime rate in Rowley Regis in 2025 was 74 crimes per 1,000 people. This compares favourably to the West Midlands's overall crime rate, coming in 17% lower than the West Midlands rate of 90 per 1,000 daytime population. For England, Wales, and Northern Ireland as a whole, Rowley Regis is the 91st safest medium-sized town, and the 1,419th most dangerous location out of all towns, cities, and villages.

In October 2023, Rowley Regis had the worst crime rate in the West Midlands for shoplifting, with 34 crimes reported and a crime rate of 1.8 per 1,000 daytime population. January 2022 was also a bad month for Rowley Regis residents, when it was the West Midlands's most dangerous area for other crime, recording 7 crimes at a rate of 0.36 per 1,000 daytime population.

The most common crimes in Rowley Regis are violence and sexual offences, with 814 offences during 2025, giving a crime rate of 42. This is 1.1% lower than 2024's figure of 823 offences and a difference of 0.44 from 2024's crime rate of 42. Rowley Regis's least common crime is bicycle theft, with 3 offences recorded in 2025, a decrease of 25% from 2024's figure of 4 crimes.



Local Crime in Context
As of 2025, the crime rate in Rowley Regis is 1.6% lower than the West Midlands and 2.2% higher than the England, Wales & Northern Ireland overall figure.
Rowley Regis Crime Rate Over Time

Analysis/Summary;

The last crime statistics available on Rowley Town | Police.uk are for October 2025. The most commonly reported crimes were violence and sexual offences, vehicle crime, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour with violence and sexual offences being the highest reported with 164 in October 2025. Taken from Crime Statistics for Rowley Regis, Sandwell, Sandwell, 2025: "Although violent crime represents the largest incidents category in Rowley Regis, this category is usually the largest in any urban area. This is partly because 'Violent Crime' covers so many offences compared to say Burglary"

Rowley Regis is among the top 5 safest medium-sized towns in the West Midlands, and is the 21st safest overall out of the West Midlands's 44 towns, villages, and cities.

There have been some serious incidents in the area over the past 12 months. These include a firearms incident on Highfields Road in December 2024 and a drug and weapons seizure on Beeches Road in October 2024. West Midlands Police responded to both incidents with increased patrols and community reassurance measures. These actions indicate a responsive and active police presence in the locality, particularly during and after major incidents. Ongoing visibility and engagement from local policing teams provide a level of deterrence and support for safeguarding local services, including children's homes.

The children placed at the proposed home are not currently considered at risk of CSE or CCE. Nonetheless, the home will implement appropriate controls to maintain that low-risk status and prevent any environmental factors from influencing or increasing their vulnerability. This includes monitoring any emerging community risks, staying informed of local intelligence via police liaison, and maintaining high levels of staff supervision and safeguarding protocols.

Location-specific strategies are also in place to help mitigate risk. These include installing secure perimeter fencing, CCTV monitoring at the front of the property, controlled access to the premises, and ensuring staff are maintaining the expected level of supervision of children.

Community engagement will be a key part of ongoing safety planning. Maintaining/building relationships with local residents, police, and service providers helps promote integration and a shared commitment to safeguarding. Regular reviews of the local area, updated risk assessments, and close communication with West Midlands Police and the local authority will ensure risks are actively managed, and the welfare of the children remains central to the home's operations.

While Rowley Regis has some recorded crime risks, with careful placement, security measures, and active management, the location remains a suitable and stable environment for a children's home. The home's safeguarding approach will ensure that children not currently vulnerable to CSE or CCE remain safe and protected.

Transport

	Rail	Bus	Car
Details/summary Are there any specific known hotspots related that have been informed through various consultation/local knowledge?	Rowley Regis train station is located at; West midlands, B65 0LJ and is 5-minute drive from the home Station code (ROW) British transport police – 0800 40 50 40 Car park – (Situated at the station) There is another local transition Dudley Port station Station Drive Dudley West Midlands Off Dudley Port DY4 8UB This is located right next to a SEN school (Dudley port Horizon Care) One of our young people currently attend this school.	Rowley Regis bus stop is located on Station Road in Rowley Regis which is in the region of Oldbury. There are a number of bus stops along the rout of Portway road in both directions (Towards Dudley and Birmingham). One is located at the end of Portway road opposite the pub which would be deemed as the closest bust stop. The local busses are 3, 2A XX and run every 15-25 minutes but have a reduced service on Sunday.	The home has 3 company vehicles that the team use to transport the young people to education, family time, activities, errands and more. The homes vehicles are maintained with weekly vehicle checks to ensure they are safe to drive.
Managers overview of transport links/risks	The area has excellent travel links with bus routes and train links to all major train stations such as Birmingham new street. Due to the excellent travel links the home would assess carefully any young person or referral who was likely to missing via public transport as the access is immediate to the home. However, where the transport links are positive for a young person and their independence this would be seen as a benefit. Young people can access a wide range of destinations and would have opportunity for monthly / daily bus passes through the swift scheme when working towards independence. One young person (LEH) not regularly uses the local bus service to get himself to and from school in Dudley. LEH was supported to travel by bus for two weeks until he felt confident to do this himself.		

Children & young people's thoughts on the location

Date	Way in which the consultation was gathered	Details/comments/views
10/02/26	General conversation Questionnaire	**LEH** – LEH was given a questionnaire to complete to share his views on the location of the home. He declined to fill this in, however when asked LEH said it was fine, but the bus stop should be closer.
10/02/26	Questionnaire	**DO –** DO completed a questionnaire to share his views on the location of the home. He indicated that he is neutral about living at the home and he feels safe at Onyx House. DO said it is good at Onyx because "I get bare money" and "there's local shops/field/activities such as go karting/trampolining". DO said he could not think of anything to make the home better.
10/02/26	Questionnaire	**LB -** LB completed a questionnaire to share his views on the location of the home. He indicated that he likes living at the home, and feels safe living here. LB said it is good at Onyx because "football", "merry hill" and "the shop". He said things that could be made better are "cheaper shops" and "football shops".
10/02/26	General Conversation Questionnaire	**EH –** EH was given a questionnaire to complete to share her views on the location of the home however she declined to complete this. When asked in general conversation EH said "I don't care".

Location risk assessment

Severity

Likelihood	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	1	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	2	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	3	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	4	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	5	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	6	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Likelihood	Never	1	Rarely	2	Occasionally	3	Sometimes	4	Most of the Time	5	Always	6	
Severity	No significant consequence	1	Minor Disruption	2	Major Disruption	3	Injury / Damage	4	Serious injury/ Damage	5	Potentially Fatal	6	
Overall Level of Risk	Negligible	0 – 5	Low Risk	6 – 10	Moderate Risk	11 – 15	High Risk	16 – 20	Severe Risk	21 - 35			

Drugs/Association or vulnerabilities & links with those who take substances			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	**2**	Risk of drug use, distribution and links to gangs who supply drugs, transport drugs or other illegal substances and or groom young people to into drug taking.	• If a young person has historical substance misuse this would be identified within the matching process, risk assessments and placement plans implemented at the admission stage • Dependency on an illegal substance would be a consideration at referral stage and also the effect the young person demonstrates when under the influence as this could impact current residents • If the young person has a history or distribution or grooming others to take, sell or transport drugs would be a
Severity	**4**		
Total Risk Level	**8**		

Drugs/Association or vulnerabilities & links with those who take substances			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			consideration as the home is situation within very close transport links to Birmingham city centre amounts other know hot spots for drug trafficking. • No class A drug users would be considered for the home as it is likely we would have vulnerable children and class A drugs are a serious risk to other children along with the effects those drugs would have upon a young person • Low / Medium level drug use would be considered as a medium risk to Onyx House, this would be dependent on other factors such as dependency, how the young person acquires the substance, effects on behaviours and external factors such as attendance in education, engagement on other activities which are deemed as positive. • Gang affiliation would be considered, as detailed in separate risk assessment below • The young people would be educated as to the dangers of drugs, and all others risks associated such as potential gang affiliation • The home has close links with DECCA (Drugs, education, counselling, confidential Association) which can be accessed where a young person is identified as an active drug user or in need of specialise support in this area • The home has links to the local PSCO and care home coordinators, this can be increased should the home have a young person who has any involvement with police • if a child or young person was to have unaccompanied time with friends or family then this would be risk assessed and authorised by both the homes manager and social worker, as well as being continually reviewed for safeguarding purposes • Money in hand would be discussed with the young person's social worker at point of referral to ensure the home does not fund or aid further drug abuse.

Close proximity to Main Road			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	2	Portway road is a long residential road with some industrial and local amenities along the route. The road is deemed a 30mph road however; following observations for many weeks both during peak travel. times and quieter times of the day this road is often carrying traffic which does seem to exceed the current speed limit and make this quite fast flowing traffic outside of the home at times. In addition to the road there is a very busy junction directly opposite the house which when crossing would be a further hazard.  	• Parking has been prevented from the front gate to ensure full visibility to the neighbour to the left (Block of flats) as when cars are parked there it obstructs the junction and visibility for oncoming traffic. • Gates could be applied to the front should this be required for the safety of a young person • The speed limit for drivers is 30mph • Accidents on the road have increased at the junction throughout April with 3 accidents reported. • The road in straight and has traffic lights at sections which does inevitably slow down traffic at points • Young people and staff are to be advised to walk further down the road either left or right to avoid the junction before crossing and allow better vision of oncoming traffic before crossing the road • Often there are many vehicles parked on the sides of the road and this will impair vision of oncoming traffic, young people and staff are to be advised to move away from parked vehicles to allow clear vision of oncoming traffic and not to cross between parked cars • Young people to undergo key working around road safety in general and how to maintain personal safety on Portway road • The homes Manager will report any concerns regarding the traffic with our assigned PCSO or police if necessary • The home has seen several accidents on the road outside of the home, one being a crash into the fencing next to the home and a number of staff cars being damaged while parked outside on the road. As many cars as possible are parked on the home's drive to mitigate this, and there is CCTV to the front of the property. Most of these incidents have occurred during night time hours, therefore staff are reminded that if they are staying overnight, they should bring their cars onto the drive if they are not already. The company vehicles are also parked on the drive.
Severity	5		
Total Risk Level	10		

Close proximity to Main Road			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			

Local Gangs/Risk of Criminal Exploitation (CCE)			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	2	In the immediate vicinity of the Home, there is no evidence of gang presence. There is however, a high gang presence in Birmingham which is approximately 6 miles from this home Dudley is the closest neighbour and gang related crime is also reported as low compared to the national average in this area.	• The referral process will seek to identify where a young person is affiliated with a gang or gang related activity and any potential placement will be carefully risk assessed in discussions with the placing authority and the home's management team • All young people will be supported to be engaged in positive activities to help them avoid becoming involved with negative influences/peer groups/gang members • External agencies will be approached by the homes manager and referrals will be instigated following any such concerns • Young people will have robust risk assessments and individual agreements for free time with peers, family, unsupervised hobbies etc • Our assigned Home's PCSO will have close links with us at Onyx House and will visit regularly to share local information and help to prevent such risk occurring
Severity	**4**		
Total Risk Level	**8**		

Local Gangs/Risk of Criminal Exploitation (CCE)			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			• Young people will be risk-assessed dependent of their historical behaviours regarding gang affiliation when granted free time • Young people will be advised to work with relevant agencies should they present gang related behaviours • Referrals and matching process will be reviewed in conjunction with historical gang affiliation or current presenting behaviours

Close proximity of neighbours.			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	2	There could be associated risks/issues with privacy, parking, noise etc. 	• There is an enclosed garden area where several separate properties could see into the garden; however, some of this view is obstructed by fencing • Fencing has been increased to prevent the dog from next door reaching over following an incident where he bit a staff member • Staff are aware not to feed or encourage next doors dog to engage with anyone in the home • The home has windows that all have fitted blinds to prevent outsiders from seeing in the home from outside • The home to ensure that they create and sustain positive relations with all neighboring homes • Staff to ensure they are mindful of parking issues and only use the parking provided or find alternative parking if this was causing obstruction
Severity	3		
Total Risk Level	6		

Close proximity of neighbours.			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			• Staff to be mindful of noise / disruption to others • General good neighbourly gestures such as Christmas cards /and boxes of chocolates apologies if the home has caused unnecessary disruption • Manage any complaints through the company's complaints procedure and ensure this is resolved quickly

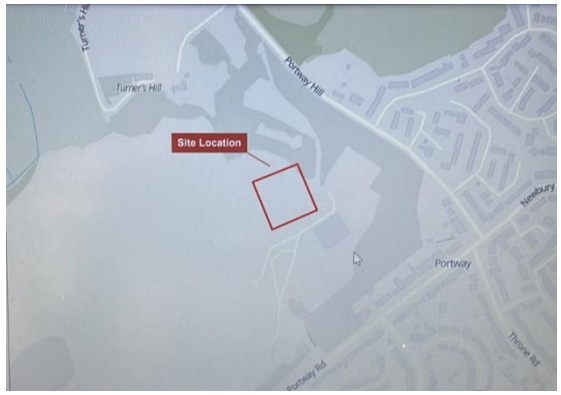
House Theft/Burglary			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	2	Crimes such as burglary, theft, personal burglary within the local area.	• Our neighbours run a neighbourhood watch scheme where the homes manger is included in a messaging group if any local information or risks needed to be shared • Crime statistics share there has been thefts within this area of Portway road however most of the crimes are violent or sexual offences and vehicle crimes • Upon speaking with local business owners and neighbours; the shop has had issues with thefts but these are usual school age children and very minor, the car garage reported they one had some tyres stolen and there was a van stolen from outside around 5 years ago. No other business shared any other concerns • There was a thief of two vehicles in July 2022 (Across the road near the top of the junction) This can been seen on CCTV but was not close enough to share with police • We have our downstairs hallways light left on during the night, we have CCTV cameras on the external walls of the property and another deterrent in that we have our ring doorbell, which also acts as a CCTV camera • Having a ring doorbell has most certainly acted as a deterrent to thefts in the area. We will also have multiple cars on our driveway each night & two staff on each sleep in shift.
Severity	**3**		
Total Risk Level	**6**		

Missing From care			
Overall Level of Risk		**Description of risk**	**Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken**
Likelihood	**3**	Onyx is situated in an area with excellent transport links. We've learned from our previous young person that the connections around the house make it easy to travel throughout the West Midlands. We currently have young people who have low levels of missing from care.	-The team must stay vigilant and be aware of their surroundings at all times. - The team should fully understand the children's positive behavior strategies and ensure these are consistently applied when supporting our young people - We have robust risk assessments in place which all social workers and professionals relevant are in knowledge of and have been consulted regarding formation - The team to be fully comprehensive with each individual missing from care protocol in the event of a young person going missing and to know routes surrounding the house that may be specific to that young person
Severity	**4**		
Total Risk Level	**12 – Moderate Risk**		

Individual or group risk of child sexual exploitation			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	**2**	This area crime mapping figures, report a low rate of sexual assault and gang related activity in the locality of the home but its proximity and easy travel links to other areas of Birmingham means that this is still a risk.	• Any present or historical risk / or active CSE would be discussed at length during the matching process, level of risk, if known to groom others, other associated risks such as missing from care and self-harmful behaviour will be discussed and matched against current residents and alongside the location risk assessment in terms of if the risk would be increased if placed here. • Any concerns regarding CSE will result in robust discussions with respective Social Workers, LADO, Safeguarding Children Board, MASH Team & CSE Police Officer(S) • Onyx House staff team will communicate with schools/colleges on a daily basis should there be any CSE concerns presented and measure to reduce risk discussed with social worker and other relevant professionals and implemented
Severity	**8**		
Total Risk Level	**16**		

Individual or group risk of child sexual exploitation			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			• The security of the home is monitored through the use of CCTV external cameras at the front of the home & we also have the ability to enable bedroom door alarms when required depending on the current needs of the residents • All staff have received training in regard to Child Sexual Exploitation and CCE within their initial induction and further training would be sourced should this be required • Young people will be supported to undergo informal workshops/learning in order to gain better understanding of healthy relationships and the risks around grooming and exploitation • Online safety is robust within the home which hosts a DEKO WFIF system where monitoring of internet use can be implemented for all devices to include smart TV's, tablets, mobile phones, laptop, and other electrical which contact with others could be made. • Onyx House will robustly assess and risk when reviewing referrals to Onyx house. Risk management plans will be in place for all young people who my pose a risk to themselves or be vulnerable from grooming

Local Working Quarry			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	**2**	Quarry Edwin Richards Quarry, risk associated with dangerous footings, steep drops and inclines and heavy machinery in operation.	• Children who are known climbers, free running or know to adventure into prohibited areas would be coincided at Onyx House as this is a fully operational quarry which has working heavy machinery, dangerous steep inclines and over 100-foot drop to the bottom. • Much research took place prior to occupying the home in this location and due to the safety measures the quarry has in place such as CCTV, 8ft spiked fencing around the perimeter, security at night and dense woodland between the back of the home and the boundary it was deemed a secure site.
Severity	**5**		
Total Risk Level	**10**		

Local Working Quarry			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			• Robust risk assessment in place for the staff team to ensure they follow the strict guidance for any children attempting to enter the quarry and also personal safety • Children will be educated to understand and follow warning and danger signs, prohibited access signs and be supported to make sensible and safe decisions in regards to accessing any area which was deemed unsafe • Report any damage to fencing without delay to the owners (Details on specific risk assessment) • Discourage a to the quarry educating children on the dangers and consequences • Liaise with quarry owners should a risk be identified which they may need to action either from a security view point or damage to exterior fencing allowing easy access to the site
		We received Planning permission for a proposed BESS battery energy storage system to be located behind Onyx house on the Quarry. 	1. **Fire and Explosion Hazards**: Lithium-ion batteries, commonly used in residential battery energy storage systems (BESS), can catch fire or even explode if they overheat or are damaged. 2. **Toxic Fumes**: In the event of a fire, these batteries can release toxic fumes, which can be harmful if inhaled. 3. **Cybersecurity Risks**: The operating software of BESS can be a target for cyberattacks, potentially leading to property damage or other liabilities. 4. **Installation and Maintenance**: Improper installation or lack of regular maintenance can increase the risk of malfunctions, which might lead to safety hazards 5. **Environmental Concerns**: Proper disposal and recycling of batteries are crucial to avoid environmental contamination. The team and young people will be notified of this planning to ensure that the young people are mindful of not attempting to approach that area and

Local Working Quarry			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			are informed of the potential risks. Should any of the young people attempt to approach this area and are deemed at risk 999 will be called immediately.

Local parks within 15 minute drive			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
Likelihood	**2**	Local parks, playing fields, bodies of water within a 2-mile radius and approx. 20-minute walking distance Area which young people may frequent and engage in antisocial behaviours / areas known to police to have concerns around drugs or CCE	• There are over 15 play areas and football fields within a 4-mile radius of the home giving plenty if choice for outdoor fun for all age ranges all are either within walking distance or a short drive away. • There are two nature reserves within 4 miles of the home both of which have large and deep bodies of water, neither are within walking distance and therefore a minimal risk to the immediate area • Consultation is to take place regular with the local PSCO Lisa Livingstone and our DECCA worker around hot spots for criminal activity, risk of CCE or CSE which may involve these park areas. If an area is noted as an area of concerns the team are to notified and that area avoided, of a young person frequents to a hot spot area then additional checks may need to be undertaken during free time to establish activity when out • Staff to ensure that when they are taking young people to local parks that they are aware of their surroundings and should gangs of youths be gathering there to try to avoid that area and use another park • Young people could use their bikes to access parks if they wear helmets and have good bike safety skills which will be assessed through key working
Severity	**4**		
Total Risk Level	**6= Moderate risk**		

Local parks within 15 minute drive			
Overall Level of Risk		Description of risk	Risk Management Strategies/Actions to be taken
			• Should a child be placed who are likely to misuse or be unsafe around large bodies of water then the nature reserves are to be avoided Any anti-social behaviour to be reported to local police

Current young People

Child's Initials	LEH	Age	17	Gender	Male
Local Authority	Dudley council.			Admission Date	19.12.2022
Are there any current locational risks detailed above that presently effect the young person	LEH has been known to go missing from previous homes and not return from unsupervised time when expected, there has also been times where he walked off from his homes when upset. LEH does know the area and surrounding areas well and knows where family members live so may frequent there				
Since admission	LEH likes the local area and although has been reported missing a few times this has been low level and he has been found usually in the Wrens nest area. LEH may walk off from the home or from school at times where he becomes upset or heightened to allow himself time to cool off – he will usually return within an hour. LEH may sometimes take the bus to school which is a huge achievement for him as he becomes very anxious about new things.				

Child's Initials	DO	Age	14	Gender	Male
Local Authority	Brimingham children's trust			Admission Date	03.04.2023
Are there any current locational risks detailed above that presently effect the young person.	DO is to be advised against visiting parks around the Aston and Erdington area of Birmingham, this is not walking distance from the home and therefore DO if he wished to gain access to this area it may be either after school – by leaving without permission or via public transport. This is due to knowing a significant amount of unknown and undesirable males in the area. The area of the home is deemed as a good location due to DO being able to maintain his school provision and his contact arrangements with his family which are weekly and bi weekly. DO does not have a history of going missing, however was known to frequent parks all day and into the evening when he lived with his family without any supervision so his activities there were often unknown.				
Since admission	DO is well settled well into the home, he does have agreed 1 hour free time in the community, DO shares he is happy with the activity's available to him where he lives and that his school is only 15 minutes away from the home. There have been no concerns with regards to missing behaviour and DO appears to prefer to remain with staff when in the community.				

Child's Initials	LB	Age	12	Gender	Male

Local Authority	Birmingham children's trust	Admission Date	11.09.2023
Are there any current locational risks detailed above that presently effect the young person.	None which current present, Laurence does not go missing, climb in dangerous places or present any worries in the community. At times LB can struggled with his emotions and can lash out, but this is rare occasions		
Since admission	LB has made comments about running away and left the home without shoes on once, he got to the bottom of the drive way before the team were able to encourage him back into the home. LB has since been reported missing for around an hour after leaving the home with his peer LEH this is not a common occurrence.		

Child's Initials	EH	Age	15	Gender	Female
Local Authority	Sandwell children's trust			Admission Date	21.10.24
Are there any current locational risks detailed above that presently effect the young person.	There are currently no locational risks to Emily residing at Onyx house. Emily is aware of the local area and could possibly leave the home if she was feeling annoyed as she does know her way around however this is not a common behaviour from Emily's paperwork. Emily has left her mother's address and not arrived at school but this appears to be the extent of Emily not being located which has been connected to school.				
Since admission	There have not been concerns with regards to missing behaviour for EH, she appears to prefer to stay with staff.				

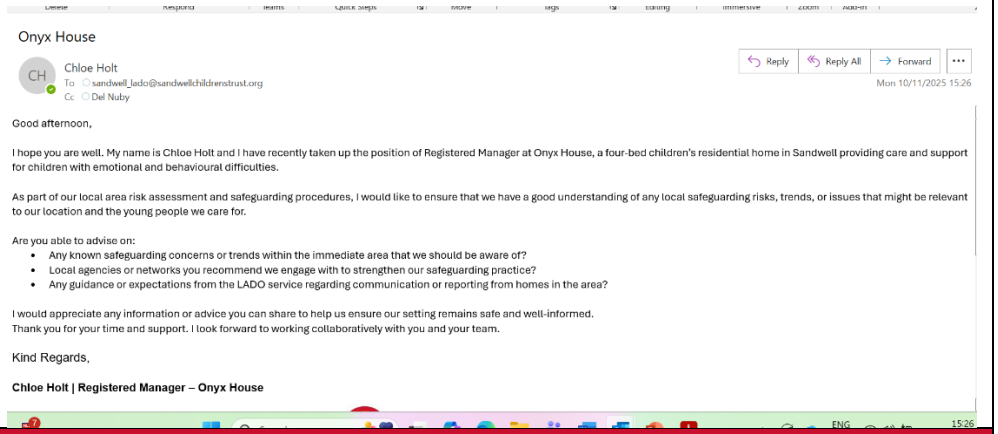
CONCLUSION

The locality of Onyx House appears to be an appropriate and relatively low risk area in which to have a Children's home, this area enables children to be inclusive within the community and thrive through positive participation. Where there are concerns for the child or young person it may be appropriate for the police to work with the care provider to assist with the safeguarding of the child. A good working relationship with key providers who help to keep children safe will be part of Onyx house daily ethos.

The Home's locality provides very good access to education services, health services and a wide range of activities and amenities which can be easily accessed by the residents.

Overall, we can conclude that the locality of Onyx House appears to be an appropriate and relatively low risk area in which to have a Children's home and provides a safe and stable residential environment with good access to services.

Appendix 1 - Key Contacts & Consultation

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Local Authority Designated officers (LADO)</th><th>Date</th><th>Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment</th></tr>
<tr><td>Name</td><td>Charlotte Mullings</td><td rowspan="5">10/11/25</td><td rowspan="5">Email sent to Sandwell LADO:

Onyx House
CH Chloe Holt
To sandwell_lado@sandwellchildrenstrust.org
Cc Del Nuby
Reply Reply All Forward
Mon 10/11/2025 15:26
Good afternoon,
I hope you are well. My name is Chloe Holt and I have recently taken up the position of Registered Manager at Onyx House, a four-bed children's residential home in Sandwell providing care and support for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties.
As part of our local area risk assessment and safeguarding procedures, I would like to ensure that we have a good understanding of any local safeguarding risks, trends, or issues that might be relevant to our location and the young people we care for.
Are you able to advise on:
• Any known safeguarding concerns or trends within the immediate area that we should be aware of?
• Local agencies or networks you recommend we engage with to strengthen our safeguarding practice?
• Any guidance or expectations from the LADO service regarding communication or reporting from homes in the area?
I would appreciate any information or advice you can share to help us ensure our setting remains safe and well-informed.
Thank you for your time and support. I look forward to working collaboratively with you and your team.
Kind Regards,
Chloe Holt | Registered Manager – Onyx House</td></tr>
<tr><td>Job Title</td><td>LADO</td></tr>
<tr><td>Telephone</td><td>0121 569 4770</td></tr>
<tr><td>Email</td><td>Sandwell_LADO@sandwellchildrenstrust.org</td></tr>
<tr><td>Address</td><td>LADO
Sandwell Childrens trust
METSEC building
Broadwell Road
Oldbury
West midlands
B69 4HE</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="2">Police</th><th>Date</th><th>Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Childrens Care Home Co-ordinator</td></tr>
</table>

Name	PCSO - Lisa Livingston Alan Whitshire Julie Wright	10/11/25	June 2025 – Chloe Holt sent email to Julie Wright introducing herself as the new manager of the home, and asking for any information to support keeping children safe in the local area. Julie visited the home and provided some updated information relating to local crime – main crimes reported in the area are vehicle related incidents and burglaries.
Job Title	PSCO		
Telephone			
Email 1	fib@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk lisa.livingstone@westmidlandspolice.uk alan.wiltshire@westmidlands.police.uk		
MFC locate team	Locate_western@west midlands.pnn.police.uk		
Address			

Local PCSO's/Other Policing contacts			
Name	Job Title	Telephone	Email
Julie Wright	PCSO		julie.wright2@westmidlands.police.uk

Safeguarding Contacts.		Date	Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment
Name	Sandwell MASH	10/11/25	**Telephone** 0121 569 4800 **E-mail** SCSP_business@sandwell.gov.uk **Website** Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership
Job Title			
Telephone	0121 569 3100		
Email 1			
Email 2			
Address			

Other Services		Date	Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment
DECCEA			
Name	Jon Bull	10/11/25	The DECCA (Drug Education, Counselling and Confidential Advice) Team are Sandwell's young people's alcohol, drug and tobacco service. The team work with any young person that lives in the Sandwell area aged 18 or under and also works any agency that work with them.
Job Title			
Telephone	**0121 569 2201**		
Email 1	Decca_Team@sandwellchildrenstrust.org		

Address	6 - 8 Unity Walk Tipton **Postcode** DY4 8QL		**12/06/25 – there are currently no young people in placement who present as at risk to drug misuse, however should this change we would contact this service for support and guidance.**
Gangs/Count lines/Violence reduction teams			
Name	Safer Sandwell	10/11/25	Sandwell has a specific website which provides services to assist with the following; • Anti-social behaviour • Hate crime • Modern slavery and human trafficking • Extremism • Domestic abuse and sexual violence • Alcohol and drug misuse Any are of concern, click the relevant link and this will direct us to the relevant support available
Job Title	N/A		
Telephone	N/A		
Email 1	community_safetyteam@sandwell.gov.uk CE_team@sandwellchildrenstrust.org		
Website	https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/community-safety/safer-sandwell-partnership		
Address			
CSE Team			
Name	KRUNCH	10/11/25	KRUCH is the local organisation which is aimed at supported those who may be at risk of CSE, Gangs and knife crimes and Guns. They provide workshops, group work and one-one mentoring for 10-19 year olds and are an accredited personal development programme **12/06/25 – there are currently no young people in placement who present as at risk in this area, however should this change we would contact this service for support and guidance.**
Job Title	Safeguarding lead Krunch worker		
Telephone	0121 552 5556		
Email 1	lynsey@Kruch.org.uk CE_team@sandwellchildrenstrust.org		
Address	Sandwell Christian Centre Langley Cresent Oldbury B68 8RE		

Support Services		Date	Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment
Youth Offending Team			
Name	Youth offending service	10/11/25	No consultation made with YOT as yet, however should a young person present with risk of criminal involvement / police intervention then connections will be sought.
Job Title			
Telephone	0121 569 2210		
Email 1	yots_team@sandwell.gov.uk.cjsm.net		
Address	Sandwell Children's Trust HQ Wellman Building Dudley Road Oldbury		

	West Midlands B69 3DL		
Sandwell Connexions			
Name		10/11/25	Connexions are utilised as and when required for each young person individually, usually supported through education in line with their education plan.
Job Title			
Telephone	0121 569 2955 07855 040018		
Email	sandwell_connexions@sandwell.gov.uk		
Address	Sandwell Connexions One Stop Shop Oldbury Council House Freeth Street B69 3DE		
Radicalization & PREVENT Teams		Date	Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment
Birmingham Prevent Team			
Name	M.Morgan		No contact has been made with prevent as yet, however should a concern be raised in relation to prevent, or radicalisation the support services are well recognised within the Dudley area and easy to access
Job Title	Service Lead		
Telephone			
Email 1	CTU_GATEWAY@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk m.morgan@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk		
Address	N/A		

LAC Nurse Team		Date	Details of consultation which helped inform this risk assessment
Sandwell children and young people nursing Service			
Name			Jane O'Reilly, Designated LAC Nurse Dr Indu Mahabeer, Designated LAC doctor
Job Title	LAC Nurse		
Telephone			
Email 1	jane.o'reilly@nhs.net		
Email 2	i.mahabeer@nhs.net		

Address	438-450 High Street West Bromwich B70 9LD 01522 537 887		

Appendix 2 – Local Health Services

Dentist	Doctors/GP
Address: Bhandal Dental Practice 74 Birmingham Road Blackheath, Rowely Regis B65 9BA Phone number: 0121 561 3526	Address: Portway Lifestyle Centre, Newbury Ln, Oldbury B69 1HE Phone number: 0121 612 3424
Opticians	**Walk in centre (out of hours)**
Address: 170 High St, Blackheath, Rowley Regis B65 0DX Book online – www.specsavers.co.uk	Address: Dudley Urgent Care Centre, DY1 2HQ Phone number: 01384 456111
Hospital (closest)	**Hospital**
Address Russell hall hospital Pensnett Rd, Dudley DY1 2HQ Phone number: 01384456111	Address Sandwell hospital Hallam St, West Bromwich B71 4HJ Phone number:0121 5531831
Sexual Health Clinic (GUM)	**CAMHS**
Address: Kingston House 438-450 High Street West Bromwich B70 9LD Phone number:01522 537 887	Address: 48 Lodge Road West Bromwich B70 8NY If the emergency is related to a young person's mental health, then the CAMHS Crisis team can be contacted 08:00-20:00 hours on 07816075218. Phone number: 0121-612-6620
Pharmacy	**Other**
Address: Family Practice, 51a New Birmingham Rd, Tividale, Oldbury B69 2JQ Phone number: Email:	Address: Email:

Appendix 3 - Local Educational Provisions

Mainstream	Specialist/PRU/Tutor Agency
Name: Rowley Hall primary school Address: Windsor Rd, Rowley Regis B65 9HU 0121 559 1400 Ofsted rating: Distance:	Name: Cohort Tuition Rowley Regis Address:162 High St, Blackheath, Rowley Regis B65 0ND Ofsted Rating: Distance:
Name: Brickhouse Primary school Address: Dudhill Rd, Rowley Regis, West Midlands B65 8HS Ofsted rating: Distance:	Name: GCSE Math's and Physics tuition Address:174 Harborne Rd, Oldbury B68 9JJ Ofsted rating: Distance:
Name: ST Micheals CE high school Address: Curral Rd, Rowley Regis B65 9AN Ofsted rating: Distance:	Name: Address: Ofsted rating: Distance:
Name: Perryfields Academy Address: Oldacre Rd, Oldbury, West Midlands B68 0RG Ofsted rating: Distance:	Name: Address: Ofsted rating: Distance:

Appendix 4 - Local Religious Places of worship

Name: English Martyrs Catholic Church Address:297 Oldbury Road, Rowley Regis B65 0PR Distance:	Name: Jehovah's witnesses Address:144a Coomes Road, Halesowen, B62 1QZ Distance:
Name: Regis Christian Fellowship Address: Hanover Road, Rowley Regis B65 9AL Distance:	Name: Oldbury Temple Address:46 Birmingham Road Oldbury B69 4EH Distance:
Name: St James Church of England parish church Address: Shelksea Avenue, Oldbury, B69 1BG Distance:	Name: Quinton Methodist Church Address: Ridgway Avenue Halesowen B62 9AU Distance: