Mercy Gold Limited

Locality Risk Assessment

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| Home: | Mercy Gold Limited  | Date of Assessment: | 27.06.2021 |
|  | Date of Planned Review: | 27.06.2022 |
| Completed: | Mrs Mercy Shittu-Responsible Individual  |

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| 1. Pen Picture of the Immediate Locality:
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| Mercy Gold Limited postcode is located in the borough of Thurrock Council. Thurrock is on the north bank of the River Thames immediately to the east of London. It has excellent transport links with London, the rest of the UK and Europe by road – via the M25 and A13 corridors . It is also accessible by rail, river and air. Thurrock has a diverse population that is increasing by over 10% every decade. In 2001 the population was 143,300. In 2011 the population was 158,300. The [Office of National Statistics (ONS)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/) estimated it as 172,500 in 2018, and estimated it would have risen to 178,300 by the time of the next national census in 2021. According to the Office of national statistics (ONS), overall levels of deprivation in Thurrock are lower than the national average, but some areas of Thurrock are among the 20% most deprived in England. More than 1 in 5 children under 16 years-old in Thurrock are growing up in poverty (21.2%), higher than the national rate (20.1%).Thurrock was seen historically as an area of ingrained poverty, but statistics are beginning to tell a different story. Thurrock has a [growth strategy](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/investment-and-growth-in-thurrock/people-place-prosperity) to create 30,000 jobs by the year 2037. There are 6 major growth hubs in the borough:* [London Gateway](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/london-gateway-development/overview), the world's most modern port, alongside [Thames Enterprise Park](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/thames-enterprise-park-development/overview), the UK's largest logistics park
* Major improvement schemes in [Grays](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/grays-growth/improving-grays-town-centre), [Tilbury](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/tilbury-growth/overview) and [Lakeside](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/lakeside-and-west-thurrock-growth/lakeside-and-west-thurrock)
* A transformation of [Purfleet](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/purfleet-on-thames-growth/purfleet-on-thames-centre) that will build upon the success of the internationally-acclaimed cultural and creative industries centre at [High House Production Park](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/purfleet-on-thames-growth/successful-developments)

Homes and housesAccording to the Valuation Office, April 2019, there are 68,266 dwellings in Thurrock. The borough has a target to build 30,000 new homes by 2037 to meet the demand expected from people wanting to live here.Thurrock has a stock of 10,000 council houses, including 1,200 sheltered and extra care homes.Health In 2016/17, the percentage of adults in Thurrock who were classified as overweight or obese was 69.4% – significantly worse than the average for England of 61.3%.The percentage of obese children in Thurrock is significantly worse than England. In year 6, 23% of children were obese in 2016/17) compared to 20% in England overall.In 2016/17, 59.5% of adults in Thurrock were meeting the recommended guidelines for physical activity, slightly better than the 54.8% in 2015/16 but still lower than the average for EnglandTransportation There is a good transport network around the placement therefore, it is easily accessible by parents, staff and visitors to the home. There is a bus stop across the road which is about 3mins walk which goes to the town centre where C2C Trains station is situated. Thurrock is served by the C2C train which connects London Fenchurch Street and Shoeburyness. By bus C2C train station is about 15mins away from the Home, walking would take half an hour. The London bus (496 and 370) from Lakeside bus garage also serves Romford and the surrounding area. The bus 370 can be used to go to the Romford Shopping Centre in London. Places of Interest There is Lakeside shopping Mall. Lakeside is being transformed into a thriving regional town centre that provides a new range of employment opportunities, housing, excellent community facilities and quality green space. Our young people would be able to seek employment/apprenticeship to enable them achieve economic well-being. Black shots Library, is less than a mile away and is easily accessible by bus, car or walking. There is a Gym near the Library that the young people can use. Thurrock Library is less than 3miles away that the children and young people at Mercy gold can access both at leisure. Chafford Gorges Nature ParkDrake Rd, Chafford Hundred, Grays RM16 6YH is only a mile away from the Home which young people can access and enjoy nature . Grays BeachThames Rd, Grays RM17 6HF by car is 1.7miles away Vue Cinema Lakeside Shopping Centre, West Thurrock RM20 2ZW by car is 2.0miles away, young people can use for entertainment and leisure. Below are other forms of community resources to enrich our residents. Jump Giants Thurrock Trampoline ParkJ31 PARK, Unit B3, Motherwell Way, Grays RM20 3XD Nickelodeon Adventure Lakeside 612 The Quay Thurrock INTU Lakeside Shopping Centre, West Thurrock, Grays RM20 2AD is 1.9miles away.PutshackPuttshack Lakeside, The Quay intu, W Thurrock Way, Grays RM20 2AD is 1.9miles away Lakeside Shopping Centre West Thurrock Way, West Thurrock, Grays RM20 2ZP is 1.9miles away. Yamaguchi Goju-Kai Karate-Do,Englandinfo@gojukaikarate.co.ukStifford Clays, Grays  |
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| Property 1 & 2 are located on Chafford Way , is highly decorated to a good standard and has been independently verified as meeting standard. The Home is an area that is not usually busy with heavy traffic or Pedestrians. Mercy gold Home/placement is a Semi-detached property comprising of 3bed rooms & 5 bedrooms respectively. It has a parking in front of the house and a side parking to the left enough to accommodate about 2/3 cars . The property is fitted with CCTV, carbon monoxide sensor, heat sensor and fire alarm for the safety of the children within the home and staff. All the bedrooms are fitted with a fire door and fire alarm in each room and has a double bed for our young people to sleep in and have their privacy and relaxation. All the windows within the home have the potential to be fitted with window locks to ensure young people’s safety. However, we would undertake a risk assessment on the individual in consultation with social worker where its deemed necessary the appropriate measures will apply regarding safety. All chemicals are safely stored away out of the reach of the children and young people. The property has a sizable bath shower and separate toilet upstairs and a shower and toilet on the ground floor .  |
| 1. Relationships with the Local Community
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| Mercy Gold is situated in a quiet area of Stifford Clays, Grays within the Thurrock County Council , as a provider it is our responsibility to develop positive relationship with our neighbours and community where we are. The staff at the Home will build relationships with neighbours by making connection with the community through getting involved in local activities / community projects and by creating awareness about the home to enable the Local Community to have full understanding about the work we do and the services we provide. This can be achieved through having open and honest communication with the Local Community and, by respecting people whilst accepting that everyone is an individual and should be treated fairly regardless of their background, religion, race, disability, culture, sexuality etc. The Service Manager/Director wishes to invite Thurrock Council Social Care Team (from the Commissioning) for a guide tour .  |
| 1. Positive factors of location
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| * Close to all amenities i.e. schools, shopping complex, etc.
* Easily accessible either by train or by bus
* It is located in a road that is not too busy with cars, pedestrians etc.
* The home is clean and tidy
* There are lots of restaurants for different ethnicity/needs around the shopping mall.
* There are local shops including: Convenience stores, Restaurants, Barbers, Hair dressers etc.
* Places of worship are within close proximity to the Home
* Orsett Hospital Minor Injuries Unit

Health and WellnessSt Cedds ChurchCrammavill St, Stifford Clays Rd, Grays RM16 2APStifford Clays Surgery Crammavill St, Grays RM16 2AP :5mins walkVision Pharmacy11 Crammavill St, Grays RM16 2AP : 5mins walk Well Stifford Clays16 Crammavill St, Stifford Clays Rd, Grays RM16 2BD : 5mins walk Blackshots Impulse LeisureBlackshots Ln, Grays RM16 2JU :  PureGym West Thurrock Retail Park, Grays RM20 3LPEverlast Gym Thurrock shopping Park, West Thurrock, Grays RM20 3LPStifford Clays Barbers |
| 1. Potential Risks in this Locality to Young People living in the Home

(include checks and information from Planning Services/ Community Police) |
| Risk Area | Protective Factors | Joint Strategies to Manage Risk |
| Safeguarding from abuse (including Missing from Home, Child Sexual Exploitation, drugs etc | There are Community Police Officers that will mitigate, advice and inform staff what to do at the home should concerns arise; access to community resources like Youth Centre, Children Centre, Supervised meaningful and gainful activities to support our young people and emergency services (Police, ambulance and Fire Service) are available to offer support if/when required. There is CCTV camera at the home that serves as deterrent to crimes and ensures some levels of safety.According to *in your area,* 84 crimes reported in August 2021.Crime is down 20% compared to this time last year, 105 crimes reported in August 2020. Essex police are addressing this by introducing more community policing. Mercy gold will be part of the neighbourhood watch groups on Face book which will be regularly checked by our support workers.Access to supportive staff at the home. Effective Local Authority Safeguarding Team practice (MASH/) to make referral to where there have been reported safeguarding concerns. Close proximity to Local Hospital/ health centres that can be easily accessibleThere are street lights on the road providing clear and visible walkways during the night.  | The Responsible Individual is a qualified social worker and she will work in partnership with the LA’s Safeguarding Team to ensure necessary steps are taken to adequately investigate and safeguard children and young people when there is an allegation of abuse. Staff at Mercy gold are experienced and trained to manage risk within the home.Liaising with relevant Safeguarding Professionals (both statutory and otherwise) in the community to ensure appropriate procedures are followed to safeguarding and protect children from risk of significant harmThe home will follow all safeguarding procedure including Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) safeguarding children procedures. Working together document etc and within appropriate timescale from the time of the incident occurring.Where the young person is assessed to be at risk or vulnerable Staff would accompany them to activities outside of the accommodation for safety and precaution. Young people would be educated about keep safe and safe internet use. We would access external support from specialist agencies where necessary – including the Thurrock Council Young People’s Substance Misuse Support Service (“Wize Up” currently run by Change Grow Live (CGL)).  |
| Thurrock has at least one local gang, as well as known gang members – 'nominals' – or affiliates from other boroughs; usually having been moved to local accommodation by London authorities. The gang culture in Thurrock is different to that of Essex or London according to police report . We will be working with services that prevent gang affiliation. It is important that providers working with young people, know the signs and can get support if they feel a young person is involved, or at risk of becoming involved, with gangs.  | Mercy Gold staff will monitor our young people’s movement, know their contact network, check to ensure that they do not carry illegal weapons in the premises. And where there are suspected weapons, the police will be notified. Key-work sessions will educate young people about the danger of becoming a gang member and the implication of being known to criminal justice which could lead to criminal record and prison terms. Staff will identify resources and offer constructive support and meaningful activities to engage young people and prevent involvement in anti-social or offending behaviour. | In line with our safeguarding procedures, staff are fully aware of reporting extremist behaviour. Any disclosures or concerns of extremist behavior would be referred to: **PREVENT Champions in Essex** West: Sue McCann sue.mccann@essex.gov.ukSouth : Seriol Jones seriol.jones@essex.gov.ukNorth : Lorna Costello lorna.costello@essex.gov.ukChannel Panel administrator : Michala Jury michala.jury@essex.gov.ukEssex Police Prevent Team : prevent@essex.pnn.police.ukDC Rachael Harris Tel : 01245 452 196 |
| Anti-social behaviour and violence crimes are the highest in the locality according to police record. However, the overall crime in Thurrock has fallen by 20%. As Essex police are addressing this by introducing more community policing.  | There are Community Police Officers that will mitigate, advice and inform staff what to do at the home should concerns arise; access to community resources like Youth Centres.Chafford Way has a neighbourhood watch groups on Facebook which will be regularly checked by our support workers and relate with the community to ensure safety for life and property.  | Placement is outside of the hot spot area in Grays Town Centre. Staff will report to the appropriate authorities i.e Thurrock council, Police and liaise with the neighbourhood watch and follow our anti-social behaviour policy if our resident is involved in anti social behaviour.  |
| Local Take-away Shops Take-Aways have been identified as venues where grooming and exploitation can occur. Local shops are also areas where anti-social behaviour can occur.There have been no raised concerns from the local take-aways or shops near Stifford Clays.  | We will support our young people through education to have an awareness of CSE and grooming. However, where it is identified that the young people are vulnerable to these risks we will monitor and explore their support network by encouraging that the contact details of friends, associates and families are disclosed. Whilst maintaining a balance of encouraging Independence and managing these risks young people will be offered staff company if they are going to the shop or to a take-away, if young people are undertaking independence skills staff will note the length of time a young person has gone to the shop and if they have not returned within a reasonable time staff will meet the young person at the shop to ensure they are safe.  | Staff will record any concerns on the CSE observation log and this will be monitored and any patterns or concerns raised will result in additional actions – discussion with the safeguarding chair, discussion with CSE Police Officer/ neighbourhood officer, update of individual risk assessment.  |
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| 1. Current local information from Public Protection.
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| There are no major concerns about the locality in which the home is based. There are low levels of crime, and the area is not highlighted by the local neighbourhood team as there has not been reported major crime at Stifford Clays neighbourhood. This information is correct as at the time it was obtained online. There are no concerns of young people being drawn into gang crime or anti-social behaviour in the area as a result of the locality of the home. The home’s location does not increase the potential for children to be targeted for sexual exploitation, there are a number of take-aways and shops locally which research has evidenced as hot spots for the grooming and exploitation of children, however, the area in which Stifford Clays has not been an area of concern at the local multi-agency CSE, Missing and Trafficking operational group where this information is collated.  |
| 1. Current local stats on offending, accidents, significant issues

(to include Safeguarding ) Offending.  |
|  The total number of anti-social behaviour cases reported to Thurrock Council’s ASB team from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 was 474. There has been a rise in the number of complaints about drug related activity in South Ockenden (122) and is second to Tilbury (132) for the number of reports. The main category for reports was in relation to drugs (62) followed by youth nuisance (48) and Harassment (43). Chafford Hundred, which consists of the estate and parts of Grays, North Stifford and Davy Down, there were 105 crimes recorded in February 2019.Picture 2From the Crime stats, anti-social behaviour accounted for the highest crime in the area. The total number of offences in Thurrock fell by 7%, with police recording 16,628 crimes over the course of the year. This puts the overall crime rate at 95.4 per 1,000 people, compared to a national average of 84.7. |
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| 1. Any issues with Local Schools health centres or accessibility to local services
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| There are several schools; William Edwards School within the neighbourhood that our children and young people can access. USP College, South Essex College Grays. College of Further and Higher Education are within 2 mile radius from the placement for our young people to attend for further learning and vocational training. The Home/placement will work in partnership with other stakeholders to ensure that the young people access community resources and facilities to enrich their lives. The Staff at Mercy Gold will support the young people to access local health centres/hospitals, CAMHS , libraries, any other support services etc.  |

Plan will be reviewed annually or earlier if there is a change to the current risks.