

Spotlight on Active Prospects

In recent years, Active Prospects has seen greater demand on its services. Fortunately, thanks to the £3.4m loan from SASH and £900k from CIF, we have found a manageable way to expand.

The SASC loans have been a game changer for us, enabling the purchase of up to six properties, which will provide long term residential housing and care for up to 23 adults.

We have been able to expand our services into West Sussex. Commissioned by the County Council, we will house and support local people with autism, learning disabilities and mental health issues and in doing so, will meet a critical need for this service.

We recently opened our first supported living service in Crawley, West Sussex. This five-bedroom property will support the residents to live full and aspiring lives. Providing high-quality accommodation and support is essential for helping our clients live more independently.





Our support staff and service managers provide round the clock support for individuals in our accommodation. They help people manage their homes, ensure they live in a safe environment and go to college, as most are primarily young

people who move into the service. Every individual has a plan that addresses their health, support needs, and goals. For most, it will be the first time living in their own home and they are really excited they can focus more widely on their future lives.

Crawley MP Henry Smith, who attended the opening of our Crawley site, commented on the fact that having met the new residents and seen how happy they are, it was clear that having a real home has made an incredible difference.

We have already received some great feedback from our new residents. One told us, "This is so different to where I have lived before, it feels like it will work for me and it's my home. I get to live my life and I can truly be myself here and that feels amazing."

The Senior Commissioner, West Sussex County Council, was also impressed and said, "I really enjoyed seeing the new service and listening to the residents' experiences. What was really clear to me was that this is a homely

 <p>Active Prospects</p> <p>Location: Surrey and West Sussex</p> <p>Active Prospects (AP), founded in 1989, is a not-for-profit, award-winning residential care provider, based in Reigate and operating across the South East. AP supports adults and young people with learning disabilities, autism, mental health needs, acquired brain injury and other complex needs.</p> <p>Active Prospects develops small clusters of self-contained homes with communal facilities. These make it possible for people with very high-level needs to move out of institutions. AP's high-impact approach is to provide "ordinary homes in ordinary communities".</p>	NEW INVESTMENT	About our investment	
	<p>Date of investment: February 2020 £900k property loan (10-year term)</p> <p>The loan enables AP to purchase and refurbish a 5-bed property (increasing it to a 6-bed property), which they had previously rented from the local authority</p>	<p>What □ Improved health and well-being; improved quality of life</p> <hr/> <p>Who ○ Adults and young people with learning disabilities and autism, and with a high level of need</p> <hr/> <p>How Much ≡ The loan has enabled up to 6 adults with complex needs, to be housed long term, by an award-winning care provider in the community</p> <hr/> <p>Contribution + Without the loan, AP would have had to vacate the property and relocate the residents or accept an increase in rent</p> <hr/> <p>Risk △ AP has significant experience in refurbishment of housing for adults with learning disabilities and of delivering support services to this group</p>	
		  	



place, and that the people who have moved in were full of optimism. The personalised room design seemed excellent. It's so great to see the end product and meet the people now making this place their home."

The social investment funding from SASC has not only enabled this purchase, it will allow us to scale our services more quickly, expand our team and meet the growing demand for our services in Surrey and West Sussex.

We will be able to build our infrastructure as we grow and ensure we have a community network in place to support people in the best possible way. For example, with our new site in Crawley, we will create 20 local jobs.

Working with SASC also feels like a genuine partnership, with both parties sharing risk. The team has also shown huge flexibility and responsiveness since we started working with them, and particularly during COVID-19. They are a funding partner that is committed to finding solutions for its investees and the people they support.

We feel positive we are now in a strong position to address unmet need for our services and we can work in partnership with county councils and the NHS to provide homes and support that will enable the people we support to live aspiring lives, supported by highly competent staff.

Maria Mills
CEO, Active Prospects