

9.4. R. 19 – A Motion to Outline the Students' Association's Position Regarding the Development of Private Halls of Residence for which the Target Market are University of St Andrews Students

THIS SRC NOTES THAT:

1. There has been an overall upward trend in the creation of private halls of residence throughout the UK in recent years.
2. This development has now reached St Andrews with one such application currently approved and another under consideration:
 - 2.1. As of 3rd July 2013 Fife Council received a planning application for the erection of a student residence facility at the former Memorial Hospital site on Abbey Walk, St Andrews. As of 4th November 2013 this application has been approved.
 - 2.2. As of 26th September 2013 Fife Council validated a further application for a private student hall of residence at the current Wonder Years Nursery site at East Sands, St Andrews. If approved this development will create 135 student bedrooms.

THIS SRC BELIEVES THAT:

1. Private Halls of Residence may provide a convenient and affordable accommodation option for some students.
2. The construction of purpose built private student accommodation may alleviate perceived housing pressures within St Andrews.
3. Without proper round the clock pastoral care, such as that provided by wardennial teams, halls of residence may fail to provide the level of service that students can reasonably expect from anywhere termed a 'hall of residence' as opposed to a private house or flat.
 - 3.1. This especially applies when accommodation is allocated in individual rooms rather than groups applying together for complete flats.
 - 3.2. There have been problems in other parts of the UK where this wardennial service has not been in place in private halls of residence especially throughout the night.
 - 3.3. The wardennial team model as used in the University of St Andrews Halls of Residence is to be commended as providing the level of support that students can expect from a hall of residence.

THIS SRC RESOLVES:

1. To support the development of private halls of residences in St Andrews only where there are plans for a satisfactory on site wardennial team (or other pastoral care provision) that residents can access throughout the night.
2. To oppose the development of any private halls of residence that have not made provision to provide satisfactory pastoral care to residents.
3. To continue to monitor the development and construction of present and any future proposed private halls of residences targeted at University of St Andrews students in order to properly support and advise students.
4. To consistently advocate for pastoral care provision in the form of on-site wardennial teams within private halls of residence.