



PROPOSAL SUMMARY: The Marlborough Sanctuary

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Executive Overview

The Marlborough Sanctuary is a community-led initiative designed to provide a permanent, resilient safety net for the residents of Marlborough. Following the withdrawal of commercial interest for the site, PCA CIC proposes a multi-use development that addresses the root causes of housing insecurity, food poverty, and social isolation.

Phase 1: The Resilience Hall (Ground Floor)

The ground floor is designed to function as the town's primary social infrastructure hub, focusing on nutrition and dignity.

- **Commercial Kitchen and Food Hall:** A facility dedicated to processing rescued surplus food from retail partners. It will serve as a teaching kitchen to build community culinary skills and provide affordable, nutritious meals.
- **Communal Eating and Activity Space:** A large, welcoming area for local families to dine together and access community-led workshops and social support.
- **Hygiene Suite:** Professional laundry and shower facilities to support those in hygiene poverty or temporary housing, ensuring basic human dignity is maintained during times of crisis.
- **The Circular Garden:** A therapeutic external space for urban food production, providing fresh ingredients for the kitchen while enhancing local biodiversity.

Phase 2: Emergency Support and Storage (Upper Floor and Annex)

Recognising the logistical trauma of housing loss, this phase focuses on stability and property protection.

- **Emergency Accommodation:** High-quality, managed units on the upper floor for Marlborough residents in immediate crisis. This step-down model prevents displacement to other towns and maintains local family and school links.
- **Temporary Furniture Storage:** A secure, dry facility for the belongings of families forced out of their homes. This prevents the total loss of household assets and significantly reduces the financial burden of re-furnishing a home once permanent housing is secured.

Strategic Alignment with Local Authority Goals

The Marlborough Sanctuaries directly supports the statutory duties of Wiltshire Council and the Town Council by:

1. **Reducing Homelessness Costs:** Preventing out-of-area placements and protecting residents' assets.
2. **Improving Public Health:** Tackling food insecurity and providing hygiene facilities.
3. **Enhancing Social Value:** Prioritising a community-owned asset over private development, ensuring the site serves the town for generations.

Next Steps

PCA CIC is ready to enter formal discussions regarding the acquisition and management of the site. We possess the operational experience, proven by our existing food recovery and outreach infrastructure, to begin the transformation of this site immediately.