

Location **Yew Tree Court Bridge Lane London NW11 0RA**

Reference: **23/3530/S73** Received: 14th August 2023

Accepted: 14th August 2023

Ward: Golders Green Expiry 9th October 2023

Case Officer: **Olivia Becci**

Applicant: Mr Jeffrey Stein

Proposal: Variation of condition 1 (Approved Plans) and 13 (Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010) of planning permission reference 21/5116/OUT dated 28/03/2022 for 'Construction of an additional mansard storey to the existing building to provide 9no. self-contained flats and installation of new lifts.' Variation to include removal of lifts and change the wording of condition 13 to read 'Notwithstanding the details shown in the drawings submitted and otherwise hereby approved, prior to the first occupation of the new dwellinghouse(s) (Use Class C3) permitted under this consent they shall all have been constructed to meet and achieve all the relevant criteria of Part M4(1) of Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010 (or the equivalent standard in such measure of accessibility and adaptability for house design which may replace that scheme in future). The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.'

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve subject to conditions

AND the Committee grants delegated authority to the Service Director – Planning and Building Control to make any minor alterations, additions or deletions to the recommended conditions/obligations or reasons for refusal as set out in this report and addendum provided this authority shall be exercised after consultation with the Chair (or in their absence the Vice-Chair) of the Committee (who may request that such alterations, additions or deletions be first approved by the Committee)

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

E-101
E-100 Rev. A
E-103
E-102
E-201
E-200
P-101 Rev. A
P-100 Rev. C
P-104 Rev. A
P-102 Rev. A
P-200 Rev. A
P-201 Rev. A
P-103 Rev. A
LOC-01 Site Location Plan
Design and Access Statement Rev. A May 2023
Planning Statement May 2023
Viability Report April 2023

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning and so as to ensure that the development is carried out fully in accordance with the plans as assessed in accordance with Policies CS NPPF and CS1 of the Local Plan Core Strategy DPD (adopted September 2012) and Policy DM01 of the Local Plan Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012).

- 2 Application for the approval of the reserved matters must be made before the expiration of three years from the date of the original permission 21/51116/OUT dated 28/03/2022.

Reason: To comply with Section 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

- 3 The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than two years from the final approval of the reserved matters or, in the case of approval on different dates, the final approval of the last such matter to be approved.

Reason: To comply with Section 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

- 4 Details of the landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before any development begins and the development shall be carried out in accordance with those details as approved.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed development does not prejudice the appearance of the locality, the flow of traffic and conditions of general safety on the adjacent highway or the enjoyment of neighbouring occupiers of their properties, in accordance with Policies DM01 and DM17 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012).

- 5 a) No development or site works shall take place on site until a 'Demolition and Construction Management and Logistics Plan' has been submitted to and approved

in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Demolition and Construction Management and Logistics Plan submitted shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- i. details of the routing of construction vehicles to the site, hours of access, access and egress arrangements within the site and security procedures;
- ii. site preparation and construction stages of the development;
- iii. details of provisions for recycling of materials, the provision on site of a storage/delivery area for all plant, site huts, site facilities and materials;
- iv. details showing how all vehicles associated with the construction works are properly washed and cleaned to prevent the passage to mud and dirt onto the adjoining highway;
- v. the methods to be used and the measures to be undertaken to control the emission of dust, noise and vibration arising from construction works;
- vi. a suitable and efficient means of suppressing dust, including the adequate containment of stored or accumulated material so as to prevent it becoming airborne at any time and giving rise to nuisance;
- vii. noise mitigation measures for all plant and processors;
- viii. details of contractors compound and car parking arrangements;
- ix. details of interim car parking management arrangements for the duration of construction;
- x. details of a community liaison contact for the duration of all works associated with the development.

For major sites, the Statement shall be informed by the findings of the assessment of the air quality impacts of construction and demolition phases of the development.

b) The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the measures detailed within the statement.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, noise and good air quality in accordance with Policies DM04 and DM17 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012), the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted October 2016) and Policies SI 1, SI 7, D14 and T7 of the London Plan 2021.

6 a) Before the development hereby permitted is first occupied, details of enclosures and screened facilities for the storage of recycling containers and wheeled refuse bins or other refuse storage containers where applicable, together with a satisfactory point of collection shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The development shall be implemented in full accordance with the details as approved under this condition prior to the first occupation and retained as such thereafter.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory appearance for the development and satisfactory accessibility; and to protect the amenities of the area in accordance with policies DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012); CS14 of the Adopted Barnet Core Strategy DPD (2012); and Policies D6 and SI7 of the London Plan 2021.

- 7 The level of noise emitted from the ASHPs plant hereby approved shall be at least 5dB(A) below the background level, as measured from any point 1 metre outside the window of any room of a neighbouring residential property.

If the noise emitted has a distinguishable, discrete continuous note (whine, hiss, screech, hum) and/or distinct impulse (bangs, clicks, clatters, thumps), then it shall be at least 10dB(A) below the background level, as measured from any point 1 metre outside the window of any room of a neighbouring residential property.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed development does not prejudice the amenities of occupiers of neighbouring properties in accordance with Policies DM04 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012) and 7.15 of the London Plan 2015.

- 8 a) No development other than demolition works shall commence on site in connection with the development hereby approved until a report has been carried out by a competent acoustic consultant that assesses the likely noise impacts from the development of the ventilation/extraction plant, and mitigation measures for the development to reduce these noise impacts to acceptable levels, and has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The report shall include all calculations and baseline data, and be set out so that the Local Planning Authority can fully audit the report and critically analyse the content and recommendations.

b) The measures approved under this condition shall be implemented in their entirety prior to the commencement of the use/first occupation of the development and retained as such thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed development does not prejudice the amenities of occupiers of neighbouring properties in accordance with Policy DM04 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012), the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted April 2016) and Policies D13 and D14 of the London Plan 2021.

- 9 All Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) of net power of 37kW and up to and including 560kW used during the course of the demolition, site preparation and construction phases shall comply with the emission standards set out in chapter 7 of the GLA's supplementary planning guidance "Control of Dust and Emissions During Construction and Demolition" dated July 2014 (SPG), or subsequent guidance.

Unless it complies with the standards set out in the SPG, no NRMM shall be on site, at any time, whether in use or not, without the prior written consent of the local planning authority.

The developer shall keep an up to date list of all NRMM used during the demolition, site preparation and construction phases of the development on the online register at <https://nrmm.london/>

Reasons: In the interest of good air quality in accordance with London Plan policies 5.3 and 7.14.

10 a) Before the development hereby permitted is first occupied cycle parking spaces and cycle storage facilities shall be provided in accordance with a scheme to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details as approved under this condition and the spaces shall be permanently retained thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that cycle parking facilities are provided in accordance with the minimum standards set out in Policy 6.9 and Table 6.3 of The London Plan (2016) and in the interests of promoting cycling as a mode of transport in accordance with London Borough of Barnet's Local Plan Policy CS9 of Core Strategy (Adopted) September 2012 and Policy DM17 of Development Management Policies (Adopted) September 2012.

11 The materials to be used in the external surfaces of the building(s) shall match those used in the existing building(s).

Reason: To safeguard the visual amenities of the building and surrounding area in accordance with Policy DM01 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012) and Policies CS NPPF and CS1 of the Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted September 2012).

12 Prior to the first occupation of the new dwellinghouse(s) (Use Class C3) hereby approved they shall all have been constructed to have 100% of the wholesome water supplied to them by the mains water infrastructure provided through a water meter or water meters and each new dwelling shall be constructed to include water saving and efficiency measures that comply with Regulation 36(2)(b) of Part G 2 of the Building Regulations to ensure that a maximum of 105 litres of water is consumed per person per day with a fittings based approach should be used to determine the water consumption of the proposed development. Any use of grey water and/or rain water systems needs to be separate from the potable (wholesome) water system and needs to meet the requirements and guidance set out in Part G of the Building Regulations.

The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.

Reason: To encourage the efficient use of water in accordance with policy CS13 of the Barnet Core Strategy (2012), Policy SI 5 of the London Plan 2021 and Barnet's Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2016).

13 Notwithstanding the details shown in the drawings submitted and otherwise hereby approved, prior to the first occupation of the new dwellinghouse(s) (Use Class C3) permitted under this consent they shall all have been constructed to meet and achieve all the relevant criteria of Part M4(1) of Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010 (or the equivalent standard in such measure of accessibility and

adaptability for house design which may replace that scheme in future). The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.

Reason: To ensure the development meets the needs of its future occupiers and to comply with the requirements of Policies 3.5 and 3.8 of the March 2016 Minor Alterations to the London Plan and the 2016 Mayors Housing SPG.

- 14 Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby approved it shall be constructed incorporating carbon dioxide emission reduction measures which achieve an improvement of not less than 35% in carbon dioxide emissions when compared to a building constructed to comply with the minimum Target Emission Rate requirements of the 2012 Building Regulations. The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable and minimises carbon dioxide emissions and to comply with the requirements of policies DM01 and DM02 of the Barnet Development Management Policies document (2012), Policies 5.2 and 5.3 of the London Plan (2015) and the 2016 Mayors Housing SPG.

- 15 Prior to the first occupation of the units, copies of Pre-completion Sound Insulation Test Certificates shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority, confirming compliance with Requirement E of the Building Regulations 2010 (or any subsequent amendment in force at the time of implementation of the permission).

Reason: To protect the amenities of future and neighbouring residential occupiers in accordance with Policies DM02 and DM04 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012) and the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted April 2013).

- 16 a) All work comprised in the approved scheme of landscaping shall be carried out before the end of the first planting and seeding season following occupation of any part of the buildings or completion of the development, whichever is sooner, or commencement of the use.

b) Any existing tree shown to be retained or trees or shrubs to be planted as part of the approved landscaping scheme which are removed, die, become severely damaged or diseased within five years of the completion of development shall be replaced with trees or shrubs of appropriate size and species in the next planting season.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory appearance to the development in accordance with Policies CS5 and CS7 of the Local Plan Core Strategy DPD (adopted September 2012), Policy DM01 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012), the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted October 2016) and 7.21 of the London Plan 2016.

Informative(s):

- 1 In accordance with paragraphs 38-57 of the NPPF, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) takes a positive and proactive approach to development proposals, focused on solutions. The LPA has produced planning policies and written guidance to assist applicants when submitting applications. These are all available on the Council's website. A pre-application advice service is also offered and the Applicant engaged with this prior to the submissions of this application. The LPA has negotiated with the applicant/agent where necessary during the application process to ensure that the proposed development is in accordance with the Development Plan.

- 2 The submitted Construction Method Statement shall include as a minimum details of:
 - o Site hoarding
 - o Wheel washing
 - o Dust suppression methods and kit to be used
 - o Site plan identifying location of site entrance, exit, wheel washing, hoarding, dust suppression, location of water supplies and location of nearest neighbouring receptors. Explain reasoning if not applicable.
 - o Confirmation whether a mobile crusher will be used on site and if so, a copy of the permit and indented dates of operation.
 - o Confirmation of the following: log book on site for complaints, work in accordance with British Standards BS 5228-1:2009+A1:2014 and best practicable means are employed; clear contact details on hoarding. Standard construction site hours are 8am-6pm Monday - Friday, 8am-1pm Saturday and not at all on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Bonfires are not permitted on site.
 - o For major developments only: provide a copy of an asbestos survey; For smaller developments -confirmation that an asbestos survey has been carried out.

 - o For major developments only: confirmation that all Non Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) comply with the Non Road Mobile Machinery (Emission of Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants) Regulations 1999.

The statement shall have regard to the most relevant and up to date guidance including: Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction, Institute of Air Quality Management, January 2014.

- 3 The applicant is advised to engage a qualified acoustic consultant to advise on the scheme, including the specifications of any materials, construction, fittings and equipment necessary to achieve satisfactory internal noise levels in this location.

In addition to the noise control measures and details, the scheme needs to clearly set out the target noise levels for the habitable rooms, including for bedrooms at night, and the levels that the sound insulation scheme would achieve.

The Council's Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document requires that dwellings are designed and built to insulate against external noise so that the internal noise level in rooms does not exceed 30dB(A) expressed as an Leq between the hours of 11.00pm and 7.00am, nor 35dB(A) expressed as an Leq between the hours of 7.00am and 11.00pm (Guidelines for Community Noise, WHO). This needs to be considered in the context of room ventilation requirements.

The details of acoustic consultants can be obtained from the following contacts: a) Institute of Acoustics and b) Association of Noise Consultants.

The assessment and report on the noise impacts of a development should use methods of measurement, calculation, prediction and assessment of noise levels and impacts that comply with the following standards, where appropriate:

- 1) BS 7445(2003) Pt 1, BS7445 (1991) Pts 2 & 3 - Description and measurement of environmental noise;
- 2) BS 4142:2014 - Method for rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas;
- 3) BS 8223: 2014 - Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings: code of practice;
- 4) Department of Transport: Calculation of road traffic noise (1988);
- 5) Department of Transport: Calculation of railway noise (1995);
- 6) National Planning Policy Framework (2012)/ National Planning Policy Guidance (2014).

Please note that in addition to the above, consultants should refer to the most relevant and up to date guidance and codes of practice if not already listed in the above list.

- 4 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) applies to all 'chargeable development'. This is defined as development of one or more additional units, and / or an increase to existing floor space of more than 100 sq m. Details of how the calculations work are provided in guidance documents on the Planning Portal at www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil.

The Mayor of London adopted a CIL charge on 1st April 2012 setting a rate of £60 per sq m on all forms of development in Barnet except for education and health developments which are exempt from this charge. Your planning application has been assessed at this time as liable for a payment under Mayoral CIL.

The London Borough of Barnet adopted a CIL charge on 1st May 2013 setting a rate of £135 per sq m on residential and retail development in its area of authority. All other uses and ancillary car parking are exempt from this charge. Your planning application has therefore been assessed at this time as liable for a payment under Barnet CIL.

Please note that Indexation will be added in line with Regulation 40 of Community Infrastructure Levy.

Liability for CIL will be recorded to the register of Local Land Charges as a legal charge upon your site payable should you commence development. Receipts of the Mayoral CIL charge are collected by the London Borough of Barnet on behalf of the Mayor of London; receipts are passed across to Transport for London to support Crossrail, London's highest infrastructure priority.

You will be sent a 'Liability Notice' that provides full details of the charge and to whom it has been apportioned for payment. If you wish to identify named parties other than the applicant for this permission as the liable party for paying this levy, please submit to the Council an 'Assumption of Liability' notice, which is also available from the Planning Portal website.

The CIL becomes payable upon commencement of development. You are required to submit a 'Notice of Commencement' to the Council's CIL Team prior to commencing on site, and failure to provide such information at the due date will incur both surcharges and penalty interest. There are various other charges and surcharges that may apply if you fail to meet other statutory requirements relating to CIL, such requirements will all be set out in the Liability Notice you will receive. You may wish to seek professional planning advice to ensure that you comply fully with the requirements of CIL Regulations.

If you have a specific question or matter you need to discuss with the CIL team, or you fail to receive a 'Liability Notice' from the Council within 1 month of this grant of planning permission, please email us at: cil@barnet.gov.uk.

Relief or Exemption from CIL:

If social housing or charitable relief applies to your development or your development falls within one of the following categories then this may reduce the final amount you are required to pay; such relief must be applied for prior to commencement of development using the 'Claiming Exemption or Relief' form available from the Planning Portal website: www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil.

You can apply for relief or exemption under the following categories:

1. Charity: If you are a charity, intend to use the development for social housing or feel that there are exception circumstances affecting your development, you may be eligible for a reduction (partial or entire) in this CIL Liability. Please see the documentation published by the Department for Communities and Local Government at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6314/19021101.pdf

2. Residential Annexes or Extensions: You can apply for exemption or relief to the collecting authority in accordance with Regulation 42(B) of Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (2010), as amended before commencement of the chargeable development.

3. Self Build: Application can be made to the collecting authority provided you comply with the regulation as detailed in the legislation.gov.uk

Please visit

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/applications/howtoapply/whattosubmit/cil> for further details on exemption and relief.

- 5 The applicant is advised that any development or conversion which necessitates the removal, changing, or creation of an address or addresses must be officially registered by the Council through the formal 'Street Naming and Numbering' process.

The London Borough of Barnet is the Street Naming and Numbering Authority and is the only organisation that can create or change addresses within its boundaries. Applications are the responsibility of the developer or householder who wish to have an address created or amended.

Occupiers of properties which have not been formally registered can face a multitude of issues such as problems with deliveries, rejection of banking / insurance applications, problems accessing key council services and most importantly delays in an emergency situation.

Further details and the application form can be downloaded from: <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/naming-and-numbering-applic-form.pdf> or requested from the Street Naming and Numbering Team via street.naming@barnet.gov.uk or by telephoning 0208 359 4500.

OFFICER'S ASSESSMENT

1. Site Description

The application site is located on the north-eastern side of Bridge Lane and lies on the outskirts of the Temple Fortune Town Centre. The existing building is a large 'U' shaped, three storey building which comprises of 33 self-contained residential units. There is a communal landscaped area within the front court.

Bridge Lane is mixed in character as the south-eastern end of the street is sited within the town centre and comprises a mix of residential and commercial units. Further, north-west, the street is residential in character, consisting of two storey, detached and semi-detached properties.

The site is not within a conservation area, nor is it a listed building. The site is located in a Controlled Parking Zone.

2. Site History

Reference: 21/5116/OUT

Address: Yew Tree Court, Bridge Lane, London, NW11 0RA

Decision: Approved subject to conditions

Decision Date: 28 March 2022

Description: Construction of an additional mansard storey to the existing building to

provide 9no. self-contained flats and installation of new lifts

Reference: F/00654/09

Address: Yew Tree Court, Bridge Lane, London, NW11 0RA

Decision: Approved subject to conditions

Decision Date: 20 April 2009

Description: Alterations to block of flats entrances to provide ramped access for disabled use.

3. Proposal

Variation of condition 1 (Approved Plans) and 13 (Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010) of planning permission reference 21/5116/OUT dated 28/03/2022 for 'Construction of an additional mansard storey to the existing building to provide 9no. self-contained flats and installation of new lifts.' Variation to include removal of lifts and change the wording of condition 13 to read 'Notwithstanding the details shown in the drawings submitted and otherwise hereby approved, prior to the first occupation of the new dwellinghouse(s) (Use Class C3) permitted under this consent they shall all have been constructed to meet and achieve all the relevant criteria of Part M4(1) of Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010 (or the equivalent standard in such measure of accessibility and adaptability for house design which may replace that scheme in future). The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.'

4. Public Consultation

A total of 188 local residents have been consulted with and 6 objection comments have been received. The objection comments can be summarised as follows:

- Concerns an additional floor will restrict day/sunlight
- Concerns regarding lack of parking availability
- Concerns regarding privacy
- Concerns the development will impact property values
- Concerns that the development will not enhance the character of the area
- Concerns the development will contribute to noise and pollution levels
- Concerns that the development will increase congestion

5. Planning Considerations

5.1 Policy Context

National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance

The determination of planning applications is made mindful of Central Government advice and the Local Plan for the area. It is recognised that Local Planning Authorities must determine applications in accordance with the statutory Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, and that the planning system does not exist to protect the private interests of one person against another.

The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated on the 5th September 2023. This is a key part of the Governments reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, and to promote sustainable growth.

The NPPF states that 'good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities.... being clear about design expectations, and how these will be tested, is essential for achieving this'. The NPPF retains a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This applies unless any adverse impacts of a development would 'significantly and demonstrably' outweigh the benefits.

The Mayor's London Plan March 2021

The London Development Plan is the overall strategic plan for London, and it sets out a fully integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of the capital to 2031. It forms part of the development plan for Greater London and is recognised in the NPPF as part of the development plan.

The London Plan provides a unified framework for strategies that are designed to ensure that all Londoners benefit from sustainable improvements to their quality of life.

Policy D7 states that 'To provide suitable housing and genuine choice for London's diverse population, including disabled people, older people and families with young children, residential development must ensure that:

1) at least 10 per cent of dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'

2) all other dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings'.

Barnet's Local Plan (2012)

Barnet's Local Plan is made up of a suite of documents including the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Documents. Both were adopted in September 2012.

Policy CS NPPF seeks to ensure that planning decisions are carried out in line with the main focus of the NPPF, namely sustainable economic development and collaborative working.

Policy CS1 sets out Barnet Council's strategy to concentrate and consolidate housing and economic growth in well located areas that provide opportunities for development, creating a quality environment that will have positive economic impacts on the deprived neighbourhoods that surround them.

Policy CS5 seeks to ensure that development in Barnet respects local context and distinctive local character creating places and buildings of high quality design.

Policy DM01 seeks to protect character and amenity by ensuring that development meets a high standard of design reflecting local distinctiveness. The policy further seeks to ensure that proposals are designed to allow for adequate daylight, sunlight, privacy and outlook for adjoining and potential occupiers. Policy DM02 seeks to ensure that where appropriate development will be expected to demonstrate compliance with the following

national and Londonwide standards supported by the guidance set out in the council's suite of Supplementary Planning Documents. Policy DM03 states that design should be inclusive for all, regardless of disability, age, gender, ethnicity, or economic circumstances.

Barnet's Draft Local Plan on 26th November 2021 was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination which will be carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This is in accordance with Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2021 (as amended).

The Regulation 22 Local Plan sets out the Council's draft planning policy framework together with draft development proposals for 65 sites. The Local Plan 2012 remains the statutory development plan for Barnet until such stage as the replacement plan is adopted and as such applications should continue to be determined in accordance with the 2012 Local Plan, while noting that account needs to be taken of the policies and site proposals in the draft Local Plan and the stage that it has reached.

Supplementary Planning Documents

Residential Design Guidance (RDG) SPD (adopted 2016)

- Sets out information for applicants to help them design an extension to their property which would receive favourable consideration by the Local Planning Authority and was the subject of separate public consultation. The SPD states that large areas of Barnet are characterised by relatively low density suburban housing with an attractive mixture of terrace, semi detached and detached houses. The Council is committed to protecting, and where possible enhancing the character of the borough's residential areas and retaining an attractive street scene.

Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted 2016)

- Provides detailed guidance that supplements policies in the adopted Local Plan, and sets out how sustainable development will be delivered in Barnet.

5.2 Main issues for consideration

The only issues for consideration in this case are:

- Whether the requirements of the Building Regulations M4(2) are achievable / viable,
- Whether the variation of the condition would be contrary to national and local plan policy objectives for providing accessible housing.

5.3 Assessment of proposal

On 28th March 2022 planning permission was granted, subject to conditions for the construction of an additional mansard storey to the existing building to provide 9no. self-contained flats and installation of new lifts.

Condition 13 was imposed to ensure accessible housing:

"Notwithstanding the details shown in the drawings submitted and otherwise hereby approved, prior to the first occupation of the new dwellinghouse(s) (Use Class C3) permitted under this consent they shall all have been constructed to meet and achieve all

the relevant criteria of Part M4(2) of Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010 (or the equivalent standard in such measure of accessibility and adaptability for house design which may replace that scheme in future). The development shall be maintained as such in perpetuity thereafter.

Reason: To ensure the development meets the needs of its future occupiers and to comply with the requirements of Policies 3.5 and 3.8 of the March 2016 Minor Alterations to the London Plan and the 2016 Mayors Housing SPG."

The condition was imposed to accord with the aims and objectives of planning policy seeking to achieve accessible housing, in particular London plan policy D7, which states:

"A To provide suitable housing and genuine choice for London's diverse population, including disabled people, older people and families with young children, residential development must ensure that:

1) at least 10 per cent of dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'

2) all other dwellings (which are created via works to which Part M volume 1 of the Building Regulations applies) meet Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings'."

There are however several exceptions to this policy requirement. Paragraph 3.7.6 of the policy states:

'In exceptional circumstances the provision of a lift to dwelling entrances may not be achievable. In the following circumstances - and only in blocks of four storeys or less - it may be necessary to apply some flexibility in the application of this policy:

- Specific small-scale infill developments (see Policy H2 Small sites)
- Flats above existing shops or garages
- Stacked maisonettes where the potential for decked access to lifts is restricted"

Planning Practice Guidance (Paragraph 008 of the Housing: optional technical standards document) sets out a number of explanatory notes and exceptions- It explains that where a local planning authority adopts a policy to provide enhanced accessibility or adaptability they should do so only by reference to Requirement M4(2) of the optional requirements in the Building Regulations and should not impose any additional information requirements or seek to determine compliance with these requirements, which is the role of the Building Control Body. It is also stated that Local Plan policies should also take into account site specific factors such as vulnerability to flooding, site topography, and other circumstances which may make a specific site less suitable for M4(2) compliant dwellings, particularly where step free access cannot be achieved or is not viable. Where step-free access is not viable, neither of the Optional Requirements in Part M should be applied.

The case for the applicant is summarised below:

- Following the receipt of planning approval, and further investigations, it was shown that due the expense of removing the existing stairs and installing 5no new passenger lifts for the gain of 9no new flats the proposal would be financially unviable. It is intended that subject to the acceptance of an amended Condition 13, the proposals for the development

be amended to show the retention of the rear secondary staircases. All other aspects of M4(2) will be retained including access within the new dwellings, adaptability of the new dwellings, and level access to the main entrances and within the gardens.

The LPA's viability officer has reviewed the submitted Financial Viability Assessment and has confirmed that the additional cost attributed to the lift provision would have had a negative impact on the viability making the scheme unviable. It is therefore accepted by officers that the inclusion of passenger lifts to all flats to meet M4(2) would render the proposal unviable.

With Part M volume 1 compliance being met through Building Regulations approval, Officers raise no objection to the variation of Condition 1 and Condition 13 in this particular case.

5.4 Response to Public Consultation

- Concerns an additional floor will restrict day/sunlight
- Concerns regarding lack of parking availability
- Concerns regarding privacy
- Concerns the development will impact property values
- Concerns that the development will not enhance the character of the area
- Concerns the development will contribute to noise and pollution levels
- Concerns that the development will increase congestion

The objection comments received relate to the original planning application Reference: 21/5116/OUT which has already been granted approval subject to conditions. The objection comments received are therefore not relevant to the changes proposed under this application.

6. Equality and Diversity Issues

The proposal does not conflict with either Barnet Council's Equalities Policy or the commitments set in the Equality Scheme and supports the Council in meeting its statutory equality responsibilities.

7. Conclusion

This Section 73 application seeking the variation of condition 1 and condition 13 pursuant to planning application 21/5116/OUT is therefore recommended for APPROVAL.

