



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-008597-21
ABP-309627-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 23/06/2021.

The Board decided to grant permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations, and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

In coming to its decision, the Board had regard to the following:

- (a) the policies and objectives set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022
- (b) the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, 2016
- (c) Urban Development and Building Heights, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2018
- (d) the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), 2013
- (e) the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, 2009
- (f) the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Urban Housing, Design Standards for New Apartments, 2020
- (g) the Planning System and Flood Risk Management (including the associated Technical Appendices), 2009

- (h) Architectural Heritage Protection – Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2011
- (i) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development
- (j) the availability in the area of a wide range of social, community and transport infrastructure
- (k) the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area
- (l) the planning history within the area
- (m) the submissions and observations received
- (n) the report of the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council, and
- (o) the report of the Inspector.

Appropriate Assessment Screening

The Board completed an Appropriate Assessment screening exercise in relation to the potential effects of the proposed development on designated European sites, taking into account the nature, scale and location of the proposed development within a zoned and serviced urban site, the information for the Screening for Appropriate Assessment submitted with the application, the Inspector's Report, and submissions on file. In completing the screening exercise, the Board adopted the report of the Inspector and concluded that, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, the proposed development would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the conservation objectives of such sites, other than South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024), North Bull Island SPA (004006), and Baldoyle Bay SPA (004016), which are European Sites for which there is a likelihood of significant effects.

Appropriate Assessment Stage 2

The Board considered the Natura Impact Statement and all other relevant submissions including expert submissions received and carried out an appropriate assessment of the implications of the proposed development on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024), North Bull Island SPA (004006), and Baldoyle Bay SPA (004016) in view of the above sites' Conservation Objectives. The

Board considered that the information before it was sufficient to undertake a complete assessment of all aspects of the proposed development in relation to the sites' Conservation Objectives using the best available scientific knowledge in the field.

In completing the assessment, the Board considered, in particular, the following:

- (a) the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development both individually or in combination with other plans or projects,
- (b) the mitigation measures which are included as part of the current proposal, and
- (c) the conservation objectives for the European sites.

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the Appropriate Assessment carried out in the Inspector's report in respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the aforementioned European Sites, having regard to the sites conservation objectives.

In overall conclusion, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of European Sites in view of the sites conservation objectives. This conclusion is based on a complete assessment of all aspects of the proposed project and there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to the absence of adverse effects.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment screening of the proposed development and considered the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report submitted by the applicant, which contains the information set out Schedule 7A to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), identifies and describes adequately the direct, indirect, secondary and cumulative effects of the proposed development on the environment. Having regard to:

- a) The nature and scale of the proposed development, which is below the threshold in respect of Class 10(b)(iv) and Class 13 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- b) Class 14 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- c) The location of the site on lands governed by zoning objective Z1, 'to protect, provide and improve residential amenities', in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022,
- d) The existing use on the site and pattern of development in surrounding area,
- e) The planning history relating to the site,
- f) The availability of mains water and wastewater services to serve the proposed development,
- g) The location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in article 299(C)(1)(v) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended),
- h) The guidance set out in the "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development", issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2003),
- i) The criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and
- j) The features and measures proposed by applicant envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise be significant effects on the environment, including measures identified in the Construction and Demolition Management Plan.

it is considered that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the preparation and submission of an environmental impact assessment report would not, therefore, be required.

Conclusions on Proper Planning and Sustainable Development:

The Board considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would constitute an acceptable residential density at this location, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity, would be acceptable in terms of urban design, height and quantum of development, as well as in terms of traffic and pedestrian safety and convenience. The proposal would, subject to conditions, provide an acceptable form of residential amenity for future occupants.

The Board considered that the proposed development is, apart from the building height parameters, broadly compliant with the current Dublin City Council Development Plan 2016-2022 and would therefore be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board considers that, while a grant of permission for the proposed Strategic Housing Development would not materially contravene a zoning objective of the Development Plan, it would materially contravene the plan with respect to building height limits. The Board considers that, having regard to the provisions of section 37(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the grant of permission in material contravention of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 would be justified for the following reasons and considerations:

- With regard to S.37(2)(b)(i), the proposed development is in accordance with the definition of Strategic Housing Development, as set out in section 3 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 and delivers on the Government's policy to increase delivery of housing from its current under-supply as set out in Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness issued in July 2016.
- With regard to S.37(2)(b)(iii), the proposed development in terms of height is in accordance with national policy as set out in the National Planning Framework, specifically NPO 13 and NPO 35, and is in compliance with the Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines, in particular SPPR3

- In relation to section 37(2)(b)(iv) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended), the Board has previously approved a 24.13m high building on a site to the west (ABP-303435-19) and the proposed development is continuing on that pattern of development.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars. In default of agreement, the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the plans and particulars, including the Ecological Statement and Bat Survey Report submitted with this application, shall be carried out in full, except where otherwise required by conditions attached to this permission.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment and in the interest of public health.

3. Prior to commencement of any works on site, the developer shall submit and agree in writing with the planning authority a comprehensive Invasive Species Management Plan, which shall include detailed measures for the elimination of Japanese Knotweed, on the site and dispose of any Japanese knotweed contaminated material by either its destruction or burial in sealed cells on site, or its removal off site under licence from the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for its disposal or destruction in an approved facility.

Reason: To ensure the eradication from the development site of invasive plant species and to protect biodiversity.

4. The development hereby permitted shall be for build to rent units which shall operate in accordance with the definition of Build-to-Rent developments as set out in the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (December 2020) and be used for long term rentals only. No portion of this development shall be used for short term lettings.

Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and in the interests of clarity.

5. Prior to the commencement of development, the owner shall submit, for the written consent of the Planning Authority, details of a proposed covenant or legal agreement which confirms that the development hereby permitted shall remain owned and operated by an institutional entity for a minimum period of not less than 15 years and where no individual residential units shall be sold separately for that period. The period of 15 years shall be from the date of occupation of the first apartments within the scheme.

Reason: In the interests of proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

6. Prior to expiration of the 15-year period referred to in the covenant, the owner shall submit for the written agreement of the planning authority, ownership details and management structures proposed for the continued operation of the entire development as a Build-to-Rent scheme. Any proposed amendment or deviation from the Build-to-Rent model as authorised in this permission shall be subject to a separate planning application.

Reason: In the interests of orderly development and clarity.

7. Prior to commencement of any works on site, revised details shall be submitted with regard to the following:

- (a) Full details of proposed green roof.
- (b) Privacy screens between balconies of the apartments.
- (c) Privacy screens, including height and materials, to all of the roof terraces.
- (d) Higher level roof terraces shall provide weather proof seating areas/ facilities to allow continued use of these spaces by residents in adverse weather, details of which shall be submitted.

Revised drawings showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. In default of agreement, the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interests of proper planning and sustainable development and to safeguard the amenities of the area.

8. Access to the roof terraces shall be restricted to residents of the scheme between the hours of 0700 and 2200 Monday to Sunday.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

9. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed buildings and detailed public realm finishes, including pavement finishes and bicycle stands, shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the Planning Authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

10. Prior to the occupation of the development, a schedule of proposed uses for the proposed ground floor commercial units shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority. Class 2 office/professional uses shall not be permitted without a separate grant of planning permission. In addition, prior to the occupation of these units, details of openings, signage, lighting, shopfronts and layout/window treatment of the subject unit shall be agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of clarity and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

11. No external security shutters shall be erected for any of the commercial premises unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission. Details of all internal shutters shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to the commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of the amenities of the area/visual amenity.

12. All plant including extract ventilation systems and refrigerator condenser units shall be sited in a manner so as not to cause nuisance at sensitive locations due to odour or noise. All mechanical plant and ventilation inlets and outlets shall be sound insulated and/or fitted with sound attenuators to ensure that noise levels do not pose a nuisance at noise sensitive locations.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

13. No additional development shall take place above roof parapet level of the shared accommodation buildings, including lift motor enclosures, air handling equipment, storage tanks, ducts or other external plant, telecommunication aerials, antennas or equipment, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: To protect the residential amenities of property in the vicinity and the visual amenities of the area, and to allow the planning authority to assess the impact of any such development through the planning process.

14. Proposals for a development name, commercial unit identification and numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all such names and numbering shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.

15. Comprehensive details of the proposed public lighting system to serve the development shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority, prior to commencement of development/installation of the lighting. The agreed lighting system shall be fully implemented and operational, before the proposed development is made available for occupation.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and visual amenity.

16. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, telecommunications and communal television) shall be located underground. Ducting shall be provided by the developer to facilitate the provision of broadband infrastructure within the proposed development.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

17. (a) The car parking facilities hereby permitted shall be reserved solely to serve the proposed development. These residential spaces shall not be utilised for any other purpose, including for use in association with any other uses of the development hereby permitted, with the exception of the car share spaces, unless the subject of a separate grant of planning permission.

(b) Prior to the occupation of the development, a Parking Management Plan shall be prepared for the development and shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority. This plan shall provide for the permanent retention of the designated residential parking spaces and shall indicate how these and other spaces within the development shall be assigned, segregated by use and how the car park shall be continually managed.

Reason: To ensure that adequate parking facilities are permanently available to serve the proposed residential units and also to prevent inappropriate commuter parking.

18. Details of the bicycle parking space location, layout, access to the basement, storage arrangement, marking demarcation, and security provisions for bicycle spaces shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To ensure that adequate bicycle parking provision is available to serve the proposed development, in the interest of sustainable transportation.

19. The developer shall comply with all requirements of the planning authority in relation to all works to be carried out on the public road, and areas to be taken in charge, including changes to the footpath by provision of an indented loading/set-down area and a vehicular entrance on Davitt Road

Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

20. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces shall be provided with functioning EV charging stations/points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces, facilitating the installation of EV charging points/stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of EV ducting and charging stations/points have not been submitted with the application, in accordance with the above noted requirements, such proposals shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the development.

Reason: To provide for and/or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of Electric Vehicles.

21. Prior to the opening or occupation of the development, a Mobility Management Strategy including an interim or temporary strategy reflecting any requirements or adjustments relating to Covid-19 movement and travel patterns shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority. This shall provide for incentives to encourage the use of public transport, cycling, walking and carpooling by residents, occupants and staff employed in the development and to reduce and regulate the extent of parking. Details may include the provision of centralised facilities within the commercial element of the development for bicycle parking, shower and changing facilities associated with the policies set out in the strategy. The interim or temporary strategy, where applicable, should reflect the requirements of Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets Interim Advice Note – Covid Pandemic Response (May 2020). The mobility strategy shall be prepared and implemented by the management company for all units within the development.

Reason: In the interest of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport and reflecting the needs of pedestrians and cyclists during Covid-19 pandemic.

22. Drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services. Prior to the commencement of development the developer shall submit to the Planning Authority for written agreement a Stage 2 – Detailed Design Stage Stormwater Audit. Upon completion of the development, a Stage 3 Completion Stage Stormwater Audit to demonstrate that Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems measures have been installed, are working as designed, and that there has been no misconnections or damage to stormwater drainage infrastructure during construction, shall be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement.

Reason: In the interest of public health and surface water management.

23. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with a revised scheme of landscaping, which shall have full regard to the Invasive Species Management Plan to be prepared for the site.

This scheme shall include the following:

- (a) proposed locations of trees at appropriate intervals, including details of tree root protection having regard to proximity to boundaries, and other landscape planting in the development, including details of the size, species and location of all vegetation, including biodiversity enhancement measures;
- (b) provision for nesting for swifts shall be installed in the proposed development, and the number, types and locations on the apartment block shall be agreed with the planning authority.
- (c) a bat friendly lighting regime and bat boxes and bat bricks shall be installed in accordance with the proposals set out in the Ecological Statement and Bat Report submitted with this application.

Details of the revised landscaping scheme shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the Planning Authority prior to commencement of development. The developer shall retain the services of a suitably qualified Landscape Architect throughout the life of the site development works. The approved landscaping scheme shall be implemented fully in the first planting season following completion of the development or each phase of the development and any plant materials that die or are removed within 3 years of planting shall be replaced in the first planting season thereafter.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity and to support biodiversity.

24. Proposals for dusk and dawn bat activity surveys and a bat roost survey of the interior of the former Heidelberg/ Miller Building shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To avoid the injury or death of bats afforded a regime of strict protection under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

25. A plan containing details for the management of waste (and, in particular, recyclable materials) within the development, including the provision of facilities for the storage, separation and collection of the waste and, in particular, recyclable materials and for the ongoing operation of these facilities shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority not later than 6 months from the date of commencement of the development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity, and to ensure the provision of adequate refuse storage.

26. Construction and demolition waste shall be managed in accordance with a construction waste and demolition management plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall be prepared in accordance with the "Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects", published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in July 2006. The plan shall include details of waste to be generated during site clearance and construction phases, and details of the methods and locations to be employed for the prevention, minimisation, recovery and disposal of this material in accordance with the provision of the Waste Management Plan for the Region in which the site is situated.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

27. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction and Environmental Management Plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the Planning Authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall provide a demolition management plan, together with details of intended construction practice for the development, including a detailed traffic management plan, hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

Reason: In the interests of public safety and residential amenity.

28. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays inclusive, between 0800 to 1400 hours on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays and public holidays. Deviation from these times will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where prior written approval has been received from the planning authority.

Reason: In order to safeguard the residential amenities of property in the vicinity.

29. The applicant or developer shall enter into water and waste water connection agreements with Irish Water, prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

30. Prior to commencement of development on site, the developer shall submit, for the written agreement of the Planning Authority, details of the Management Company, established to manage the operation of the development together with a detailed and comprehensive Build-to-Rent Management Plan which demonstrates clearly how the proposed Build-to-rent scheme will operate.

Reason: In the interests of orderly development and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

31. Prior to commencement of development, the developer or other person with an interest in the land to which the application relates shall enter into an agreement in writing with the planning authority in relation to the provision of housing in accordance with the requirements of section 94(4) and section 96(2) and (3) (Part V) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, unless an exemption certificate shall have been applied for and been granted under section 97 of the Act, as amended. Where such an agreement is not reached within eight weeks from the date of this order, the matter in dispute (other than a matter to which section 96(7) applies) may be referred by the planning authority or any other prospective party to the agreement to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and of the housing strategy in the development plan of the area.

32. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company, or other security to secure the reinstatement of public roads which may be damaged by the transport of materials to the site, to secure the provision and satisfactory completion of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, open space and other services required in connection with the development, coupled with an agreement empowering the local authority to apply such security or part thereof to the satisfactory completion of any part of the development. The form and amount of the security shall be as agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of agreement, shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: To ensure the satisfactory completion of the development.

33. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall enter into an agreement with the Planning Authority to provide for the payment of a financial contribution to the Planning Authority in lieu of open space as provided for under section 16.3.4 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 and authority in accordance with the terms of the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000,. The manner of payment and amount of payment shall be as agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of agreement, shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

34. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the area of the planning authority that is provided or intended to be provided by or on behalf of the authority in accordance with the terms of the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The contribution shall be paid prior to commencement of development or in such phased payments as the planning authority may facilitate and shall be subject to any applicable indexation provisions of the Scheme at the time of payment. Details of the application of the terms of the Scheme shall be agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of such agreement, the matter shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála to determine the proper application of the terms of the Scheme.

Reason: It is a requirement of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that a condition requiring a contribution in accordance with the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Act be applied to the permission.

Board Member



Paul Hyde

Date: 23/06/2021

