

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-016984-24
ABP-318006-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 15/07/2024.

The Board decided to grant permission, for the following reasons and considerations, and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the planning history for the site, the pattern of development in the area and the site's residential zoning under the Mayo County Development Plan 2022-2028, and to adopted policy objectives on compact growth, the nature of the layout, the mix of units and connectivity to the town centre, it is considered that, subject to compliance with conditions below, the proposed development would accord with Development Plan policies and objectives, would not seriously injure the character of the area or the residential amenities of property in the vicinity and would be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to refuse permission, the Board noted the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024) provides for tailoring policy on density to local circumstances. In this instance the Board noted the site location, at the edge of Westport town, and that the scheme provides for a mix of unit types in an area where one off housing is the predominant house type. In this context, where there is a

transition from low density development in the vicinity to a more urban form, the density proposed is considered appropriate. The Board also noted the site layout is impinged by a wayleave at the southern end of the site, which does not appear to have been accounted for in the net site area calculation and that the provision of the creche reduces the site area available for housing but is a welcome local service, which will reduce the need for car journeys. Having regard to these factors, the Board decided, in this instance, it would be appropriate to permit the scheme proposed and that it would be consistent with the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines. The Board also considered the elevational changes required by the planning authority to the upper floors of the apartment blocks facing the Leenane Road (N59) were not warranted, given the setback of these blocks from the road.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the further plans and particulars received by the planning authority on the 8th day of August 2023, 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.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

3. Proposals for an estate/street name, house numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the

planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all estate and street signs, and house numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name(s) shall be based on local historical or topographical features, or other alternatives acceptable to the planning authority. No advertisements/marketing signage relating to the name(s) of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name(s).

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.

4. 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 with the proposed development.

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

5. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any dwelling.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

6. (a) The site shall be landscaped in accordance with details submitted and implemented fully in the first planting season following the commencement of the development.

(b) The developer shall retain the services of a suitably qualified Landscape Architect throughout the life of the site development works. All trees and planting shall be adequately protected from damage until established. Any trees/plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, within a period of five years from the completion of the development or until the development is taken in charge by the local authority, whichever is the sooner, shall be replaced within the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity.

7. Drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

8. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into water and/or waste water connection agreement(s) with Uisce Eireann.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

9. All of the communal parking areas serving the residential units shall be provided with functional electric vehicle charging points. Details of how it is proposed to comply with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: in the interest of sustainable transportation.

10. The proposed development shall be carried out on a phased basis, in accordance with a phasing scheme which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of any development.

Reason: To ensure the timely provision of services, for the benefit of the occupants of the proposed dwellings

11. Prior to the commencement of development, the applicant shall provide for the written agreement of the Planning Authority, revised site layout plans showing an appropriate area of land(s) on the boundary adjoining the public road (R132 Newry Road) for the provision of a suitable footpath. All boundary fences/ walls associated with said application shall be set clear of these lands for the future

provision of walking infrastructure. The revised site layout plans shall also clearly detail the provision of the appropriate tactile arrangements at all transitions and junctions.

Reason: In the interests of traffic and pedestrian safety.

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

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

13. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer or any agent acting on its behalf, shall prepare a Resource Waste Management Plan (RWMP) as set out in the EPA's Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (2021) including demonstration of proposals to adhere to best practice and protocols. The RWMP shall include specific proposals as to how the RWMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness; these details shall be placed on the file and retained as part of the public record. The RWMP must be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement prior to the commencement of development. All records (including for waste and all resources) pursuant to the agreed RWMP shall be made available for inspection at the site office at all times.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

14. 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 prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

Reason: To provide for the appropriate management of waste and, in particular recyclable materials, in the interest of protecting the environment.

15. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0800 to 1900 Mondays Fridays inclusive, 0800 to 1400 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 amenities of residents of property in the vicinity.

16. The management and maintenance of the proposed development following its completion shall be the responsibility of a legally constituted management company, or by the local authority in the event of the development being taken in charge. Detailed proposals in this regard shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To ensure the satisfactory completion and maintenance of this development.

17. Prior to commencement of development, the applicant 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.

18. a) Prior to the commencement of the development as permitted, the applicant or any person with an interest in the land shall enter into an agreement with the planning authority (such agreement must specify the number and location of each housing unit), pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, that restricts all residential units permitted to first occupation by individual purchasers i.e. those not being a corporate entity, and/or by those eligible for the occupation of social and/or affordable housing, including cost rental housing.
- b) An agreement pursuant to Section 47 shall be applicable for the period of duration of the planning permission, except where after not less than two years from the date of completion of each housing unit, it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the planning authority that it has it has not been possible to transact each of the residential units for use by individual purchasers and/or to those eligible for the occupation of social and/or affordable housing, including cost rental housing.
- c) The determination of the planning authority as required in (b) shall be subject to receipt by the planning and housing authority of satisfactory documentary evidence from the applicant or any person with an interest in the land regarding the sales and marketing of the specified residential units, in which case the planning authority shall confirm in writing to the developer or any person with an interest in the land, that the Section 47 agreement has been terminated and that the requirement of this planning condition has been discharged in respect of each specified housing unit.

Reason: To restrict new housing development to use by persons of a particular class or description in order to ensure an adequate choice and supply of housing, including affordable housing, in the common good.

19. 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 provision and satisfactory completion and maintenance until taken in charge by the local authority of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, public 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 or maintenance 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 and maintenance of the development until taken in charge.

20. The developer shall pay a financial contribution to the planning authority as a special contribution under Section 48(2)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, in respect of design and provision of a pedestrian crossing facility by the planning authority, which benefits the proposed development. The amount of the contribution 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 for determination. The contribution shall be paid prior to commencement of development or in such phased payments as may be agreed prior to the commencement of the development, and shall be subject to any applicable indexation provisions of the Scheme at the time of payment. Details of the terms of payment of this financial contribution shall be agreed in writing between the planning authority and the developer.

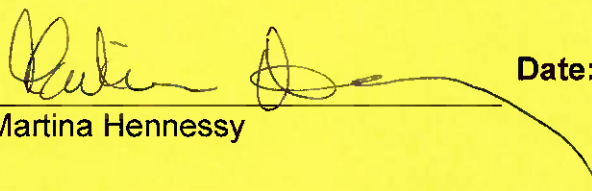
Reason: It is considered reasonable that the developer should contribute towards the specific exceptional costs which are incurred by the planning authority in respect of public services, which are not covered in the

Development Contribution Scheme or the Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme and which will benefit the proposed development.

21. 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


Martina Hennessy

Date: 16/07/2024