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## **Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2018**

### **Planning Authority: Dublin City Council**

**Application** for permission under section 4 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, in accordance with plans and particulars, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019 by Creedon Group Limited and GSA Developments (Ireland) Limited care of Declan Brassil and Company Limited, Lincoln House, Phoenix Street, Smithfield, Dublin 7.

#### **Proposed Development:**

A permission for a strategic housing development at a site bounded by Mill Street, Sweeney's Terrace and Clarence Mangan Road, Dublin 8.

The proposed development will consist of a purpose-built student accommodation and residential (Build-to-Rent) complex with ground floor retail/commercial units as follows:

- 235 number purpose-built student bed spaces comprising of
  - 54 number studio units;
  - three number three-bed units;
  - 12 number four-bed units,
  - two number six-bed units and
  - 14 number eight-bed units
  - together with a range of ancillary student accommodation uses including reception/management suite, internal social and recreational spaces.

- 37 number residential (Build-to-Rent) apartments comprising:
  - eight number studio units;
  - 24 number one-beds and
  - five number two-beds and
  - including balconies on the western (Sweeney’s Terrace) and eastern (internal to courtyard) elevations together with residential support and amenity facilities at ground and basement level and a landscaped roof garden have been provided at fifth floor level (Build-to-Rent only).
- one number commercial/retail unit (351.5 square metres total gross floor area) fronting onto Mill Street with one number café (49.5 square metres gross floor area) located along the eastern boundary addressing existing urban space to the rear of number 10 Mill Street (a protected structure).
- The development has been arranged in series of connected blocks which range in height from three number storeys adjoining existing residential properties on Sweeney’s Terrace to seven number storeys at the corner of Mill Street and Clarence Mangan Road. Generally, proposed heights vary between four and five number storeys.
- A total of 166 number bicycle parking spaces are proposed within the application site including 146 number long stay (sheltered) spaces and 20 number short stay visitor spaces (a further 20 number spaces are proposed on the public footpath) together with the formalisation of car parking spaces on Sweeney’s Terrace and a set down area on Mill Street.
- New central courtyard amenity space for use by residents, landscaping of the east-west street adjacent to number 10 Mills Street (a protected structure) and the associated arch, and a new landscaped area adjacent to the River Poddle including the recladding of the existing flood defence wall and repair and reinstatement of random stone embankment wall where necessary.
- Demolition of a decommissioned Electricity Supply Board substation on site.
- All site associated site lighting; signage; landscaping; boundary treatments including the provision of controlled access to private open spaces including the central courtyard and the River Poddle embankment area, together with all other site and development works.

## **Decision**

**Grant permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.**

## **Matters Considered**

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

## **Reasons and Considerations**

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

- (a) the policies and objectives in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (b) the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (c) the Guidelines for Sustainable Residential Developments in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual – a Best Practice Guide, issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in May 2009;
- (d) the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in March 2018;
- (e) the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, prepared by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (f) the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) issued by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in March 2013;
- (g) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development;

- (h) the availability in the area of a wide range of social, community and transport infrastructure;
- (i) the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (j) the submissions and observations received, and
- (k) the report of the Inspector.

It is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity, and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety and convenience. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### **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 area, the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report 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, and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not, therefore, required.

## Conditions

1. The proposed 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, such issues may be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

2. The proposed development shall be amended so that Block D is set back from its western boundary by a minimum of 2 metres to allow for public access to the exposed area of the River Poddle from the laneway from Sweeney's Terrace. Revised drawings showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** To protect the visual amenities and character of the area.

3. The 37 number Built-to-Rent units hereby permitted 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 (March 2018) 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.

4. Aside from the 37 number Build-to-Rent units, the development hereby permitted shall only be occupied as student accommodation, in accordance with the definition of student accommodation provided under section 13(d) of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016,

and shall not be used for any other purpose without a prior grant of planning permission for change of use.

**Reason:** In the interest of residential amenity and to limit the scope of the proposed development to that for which the application was made.

5. (a) The student accommodation and complex shall be operated and managed in accordance with the measures indicated in the Student Accommodation Management Plan submitted with the application.
- (b) Aside from the amenity space serving the Build-to-Rent units, access to green roofs shall be for maintenance purposes only.
- (c) Student House Units shall not be amalgamated or combined.

**Reason:** In the interest of the amenities of occupiers of the units and surrounding properties.

6. Prior to the commencement of development, the following details shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with the planning authority:
  - (a) Details of the public realm on Mill Street and Clarence Mangan Road, including materials to be used in roads / footpaths, car and cycle parking provision, landscaping and access via the existing right of way at the southern end of the site.
  - (b) Details of areas to taken in charge.
  - (c) A public lighting plan.
  - (d) Details of proposed works at the River Poddle bank including photographic record of existing boundary walls and River Poddle banks and surrounds; detailed schedules of any repair and reinstatement works; method statement for raking out and re-pointing of stonework and associated repair details; details of historic stone coursing, sizes of stone as well as mortar composition and colour; full details of any proposed new element such as toothing-in and repair work. All new elements to match the historic walls and River Poddle banks.

- (e) Details of the proposed junction between the historic archway at number 10 Mill Street and the proposed development.
- (f) Details of servicing arrangements for the commercial / retail units.

**Reason:** In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

7. (a) Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to, and obtain the written consent of, the planning authority for:
- (i) A tree protection plan.
  - (ii) A programme of tree surgery works.
  - (iii) A detailed landscaping plan including specific details as to the plant sizes and species to be used.
  - (iv) Details of all proposed hard surface finishes, including samples of proposed paving slabs/materials for footpaths, kerbing and road surfaces within the development.
- (b) A suitably qualified landscape architect shall be appointed prior to the commencement of any development on the subject site to oversee and monitor the project construction and early operational stages of development in regard to the implementation and monitoring of tree protection measures outlined in the environmental report received by the planning authority.
- (c) Landscaping of the overall development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed landscaping plan required under condition 7(a) above and shall be carried out and completed prior to the completion of development and prior to the occupation of any units hereby permitted.

**Reason:** To protect the amenity value of existing trees and ensure a high-quality landscape design throughout the scheme in the interest of proper planning and sustainable development.

8. Details and samples of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development including external shopfronts, signage, 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 the visual amenities of the area.

9. The proposed shopfront shall be in accordance with the following requirements:
  - (a) signs shall be restricted to a single fascia sign using sign writing or comprising either hand-painted lettering or individually mounted lettering,
  - (b) lighting shall be by means of concealed neon tubing or by rear illumination,
  - (c) no awnings, canopies or projecting signs or other signs shall be erected on the premises without a prior grant of planning permission,
  - (d) an external roller shutter shall not be erected, and
  - (e) no adhesive material shall be affixed to the windows or the shopfront.

**Reason:** In the interest of visual amenity.

10. No additional development shall take place above roof parapet level, 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.



11. Proposals for a development name, and for residential unit /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. The proposed name shall be based on local historical or topographical features, or other alternative acceptable to the planning authority, and shall be in both Irish and English. Thereafter, all such names and numbering shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme.

**Reason:** In the interest of urban legibility.

12. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, communal television, telephone and public lighting cables) shall be run underground within the site. In this regard, ducting shall be provided to facilitate the provision of broadband infrastructure within the proposed development.

**Reason:** In the interest of orderly development and the visual amenities of the area.

13. 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.

14. Water supply and drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services. The following specific requirements shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development, unless otherwise stated:
- (a) Full details of proposed green roofs including construction and maintenance plan;
  - (b) Implementation of mitigation measures in the site-specific Flood Risk Assessment.

**Reason:** In the interest of public health.

15. (a) All foul sewage and soiled water shall be discharged to the public foul sewer.
- (b) Only clean, uncontaminated storm water shall be discharged to the surface water drainage system.

**Reason:** In the interest of public health.

16. The streets and footpaths within the development shall comply with the requirements and specifications of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) issued in 2013 and shall comply with the following requirements:
- (a) The roads and traffic arrangements serving the site (including signage) shall be in accordance with the detailed requirements of the planning authority for such works and shall be carried out at the developer's expense.
  - (b) The materials used in any roads / footpaths provided by the developer shall comply with the detailed standards of the planning authority for such road works.
  - (c) The developer shall carry out a Stage 3 Road Safety Audit of the constructed development on completion of the works and submit to the planning authority for agreement and shall carry out and cover all costs of all agreed recommendations contained in the audit.

- (d) Drop off and collection shall be as stated in the Student Management Plan.
- (e) The existing laneway from Sweeney's Terrace site shall be opened for use as a pedestrian access to the development and maintained as such.
- (f) Car parking and cycle parking shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority.

Revised drawings showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** In order to comply with the guidance given in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets and to provide an integrated street network that is safe and convenient for all road users and in particular pedestrians and that achieves an acceptable standard of urban design.

17. The developer shall facilitate the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features that may exist within the site. In this regard, the developer shall:
- (a) notify the planning authority in writing at least four weeks prior to the commencement of any site operation relating to the proposed development,
  - (b) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site investigations and other excavation works, and
  - (c) provide arrangements, acceptable to the planning authority, for the recording and for the removal of any archaeological material which the authority considers appropriate to remove.

In default of agreement on any of these requirements, the matter shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

**Reason:** In order to conserve the archaeological heritage of the site and to secure the preservation and protection of any remains that may exist within the site.

18. The mitigation measures outlined in the Ecology Report submitted with this application shall be carried out in full, except where otherwise required by conditions of this permission.

**Reason:** To protect the environment.

19. A plan containing details for the management of waste within the development, including the provision of facilities for the storage, separation and collection of the waste and, in particular, recyclable materials 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.

20. 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.

**Reason:** In the interest of sustainable waste management.

21. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between 0800 to 1900 hours 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.

22. 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.

23. A detailed construction traffic management plan shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The plan shall include details of arrangements for routes for construction traffic, parking during the construction phase, the location of the compound for storage of plant and machinery and the location for storage of deliveries to the site.

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

24. Prior to the opening of the development, a Mobility Management Strategy 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 car-pooling to reduce and regulate the extent of parking. The mobility strategy shall be prepared and implemented by the management company for all units within the development. Details to be agreed with the planning authority shall include the provision of centralised facilities within the development for bicycle parking, shower and changing facilities associated with the policies set out in the strategy.

**Reason:** In the interest of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport.

25. 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.

26. 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.

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

27. 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

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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

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**Michelle Fagan**  
**Member of An Bord Pleanála**  
**duly authorised to authenticate**  
**the seal of the Board.**

**Dated this      day of      2019**