



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2019

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 30th day of August 2019 by Ruirside Developments Limited care of Stephen Little and Associates, 26/27 Upper Pembroke Street, Dublin.

Proposed Development:

A planning permission for a strategic housing development of approximately 1.247 hectares which is part of the former Premier Diaries site, Finglas Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.

The proposed development will consist of 245 number apartments, accommodated in three number buildings ranging in heights between six to ten storeys (including setback levels). 123 number of the apartments are two-bedroom, 73 number are one-bedroom and 49 number are studios.

Block number 1 comprises two elements that are six and nine storeys respectively (with the top floor of both elements setback) and will comprise 80 number apartments, with childcare facility (circa 260 square metres) and associated outdoor play area, residential management and amenity area (circa 256 square metres), energy centre, plant room, meter room, bicycle and bin stores are at ground floor level.

Block number 2 comprises two elements that are nine and 10 storeys respectively (with the top floor of both elements setback) and will comprise 102 number apartments, with an undercroft level providing car, bicycle and motorcycle meter room and bin stores.

Block number 3 comprises two elements that are six and eight storeys respectively (with the top floor of both elements setback) and will comprise 63 number apartments, with an undercroft level providing car, bicycle and motorcycle parking, bin stores, meter room and plant room.

All apartments are provided with balconies. Photovoltaic panels and telecoms antennae are provided on the roofs of the apartment buildings.

131 number car parking spaces in total are provided at surface and undercroft levels combined to cater for residential, childcare, visitor/drop-off and GoCar/Car Sharing (four number spaces). 295 number bicycle parking spaces provided at surface and undercroft levels combined. Five number motorcycle parking spaces are also provided.

Vehicular access is provided from the existing signalised junction on Finglas Road opposite Care Choice Nursing Home, with the entrance carriageway at this existing access to be narrowed to 9 metres, together with ancillary adjustments to the pavement and the signal locations at this entrance to the site. New boundary treatment on Finglas Road involving the removal of existing wall and replacement with low wall and fence. Creation of a new separate controlled pedestrian entrance to Finglas Road. Creation of a new gated entrance to the site from Glenhill Road to be used only for occasional Electricity Supply Board maintenance access.

All ancillary site development and landscape work, including boundary treatments, demolition of existing Electricity Supply Board building, removal of existing boundary wall to Finglas Road, provision of two number new Electricity Supply Board sub-stations. Public open space of 1,638 square metres is provided, including a new platform lift, ancillary steps and ramps.

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 site's location within the built-up area of Dublin in proximity to a range of services and facilities including the bus corridor along the Finglas Road;
- (b) policies and objectives in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022, including the zoning of the site for residential use under objective Z1;
- (c) the objectives of the Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework;
- (d) the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (e) 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;
- (f) 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;

- (g) the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government in March 2018;
- (h) the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, prepared by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (i) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development;
- (j) the planning history of the site;
- (k) the pattern of existing and permitted development on the site and in the area;
- (l) the submissions and observations received, and
- (m) the report of the Inspector.

It is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be consistent with national, regional and local planning policy, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity, would respect the existing character of the area 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.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment screening of the proposed development and considered that the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Exercise submitted by the applicant, identifies and describes adequately the direct, indirect, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed development on the environment.

Having regard to:

- (a) the nature, scale and extent of the proposed development on an urban site served by public infrastructure;
- (b) the absence of any significant environmental sensitivities in the area, and
- (c) the location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in article 109(3) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended),

the Board concluded that, by reason of the nature, scale and location of the subject site, the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Board decided, therefore, that an environmental impact assessment report for the proposed development was not necessary in this case.

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 proposed 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 Board Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. The 13 number parallel parking spaces to the rear of Blocks 1, 2 and 3 to be omitted and replaced with suitable hard and soft landscaping. Revised plans and particulars shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of works.

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

3. Details and samples of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development including pavement finishes shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Render to be omitted and replaced with a suitable durable material/finish. The balconies to the side and rear comprising steel balustrades shall be replaced with glass balustrades to match the Finglas Road elevation.

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

4. 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 amenity of property in the vicinity and the visual amenity of the area, and to allow the planning authority to assess the impact of any such development through the planning process.

5. Details of the proposed signage to the crèche to be submitted prior to occupation for the written agreement of the planning authority.

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

6. The proposed childcare facility shall be provided and retained as part of the development with access provided to both residents of the development and the wider community on a first come first served basis.

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

7. Proposals for a name and numbering scheme for the development and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all street signs numbers shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name 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 of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name.

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.

8. 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.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

9. The applicant or developer shall enter into water and/or wastewater connection agreement(s) with Irish Water prior to the commencement of this development.

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

10. 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.

11. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between 0700 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 amenity of property in the vicinity.

12. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall submit a Construction and Demolition Waste Management plan to the planning authority for agreement 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. This 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. The plan should also set out a detailed strategy and management plan for the removal of hazardous/contaminated soil and waste from the site including detail of estimated tonnages, relevant mitigation measures, destination for disposal/treatment and information on the authorized waste collector(s).

Reason: In the interest of orderly development and sustainable waste management.

13. 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 include details and location of proposed construction compounds, details of intended construction practice for the development, noise management measures, and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

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

14. 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.

15. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall submit, for the written agreement of the planning authority, a Mobility Management Strategy which 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. Access to bicycle storage shall be provided for all residents of the permitted apartments. The authorised car parking shall be used only by residents of the authorised apartments or by those providing services to them.

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

16. All of the communal parking areas serving the apartments shall be provided with ducting for electric vehicle charging points, to allow for the provision of future 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.

17. The following requirements in terms of traffic and transportation shall be incorporated and, where required, revised drawings / reports showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development:
 - (a) The existing access/egress serving the development onto the public road shall be incorporated onto the existing traffic signals on the Finglas Road. This will require new signals, ducting poles, alterations to the existing footpath and upgrade of existing signals and PROM. Prior to commencement of any development the above works shall be agreed in writing with the planning authority. All works shall be carried out at the applicant's expense at no cost to the local authority. The carrying out of these works shall be completed in full prior to the occupation of the proposed development.
 - (b) The roads and traffic arrangements serving the site (including footpath connections and 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.
 - (c) The roads layout including junctions, parking areas, footpaths, cycle paths and kerbs, pedestrian crossings, car parking bay sizes and road access to the development shall comply with the requirements of the Design Manual for Roads and Streets and with any requirements of the planning authority for such road works.

- (d) The materials used in any roads/footpaths/set down areas provided by the developer shall comply with the detailed standards of the planning authority for such road works.

Reason: In the interests of traffic, cyclist and pedestrian safety.

18. No dwelling units within the proposed development shall be sold separately, independent from the associated car parking provision. All the proposed car parking spaces shall be for occupants of the residential units and shall be sold with the units and not sold separately or let independently from the residential development.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development.

19. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, details of 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 unit.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

20. 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.

21. The landscaping scheme shown on landscape drawing number MER-BSL-00-XX-DR-L- 0002 General Arrangement Plan, as submitted to the An Bord Pleanála on the 30th day of August 2019 shall be carried out within the first planting season following substantial completion of external construction works.

The gated fence located between the identified public and private open space shall be omitted.

All planting shall be adequately protected from damage until established. Any plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, within a period of five years from the completion of the development, 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 interests of residential and visual amenity.

22. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall retain the professional services of a qualified Landscape Architect as Landscape Consultant throughout the life of the site development works and shall notify the planning authority of that appointment in writing. The developer shall engage the Landscape Consultant to procure, oversee and supervise the landscape contract for the implementation of the permitted landscape proposals. When all landscape works are inspected and completed to the satisfaction of the Landscape Consultant, he/she shall submit a Practical Completion Certificate (PCC) to the planning authority for written agreement, as verification that the approved landscape plans and specification have been fully implemented.

Reason: To ensure full and verifiable implementation of the approved landscape design proposals for the permitted development, to the approved standards and specification.

23. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to and agree in writing with the planning authority a properly constituted Owners' Management Company. This shall include a layout map of the permitted development showing the areas to be taken in charge and those areas to be maintained by the Owners' Management Company. Membership of this company shall be compulsory for all purchasers of property in the development. Confirmation that this company has been set up shall be submitted to the planning authority prior to the occupation of the first residential unit.

Reason: To provide for the satisfactory future maintenance of this development in the interest of residential amenity.

24. The glazing system of the building shall have suitable sound insulation performance values. Prior to any development taking place on the site, the developer shall submit to and agree in writing with the planning authority details of the glazing system to be installed supported by laboratory tests confirming the sound insulation performance of the glazing system to currently recognised EU standards.

Reason: To protect the residential amenity of future occupants of the apartments.

25. The mitigation measures contained in Ecological Impact Assessment shall be implemented in full.

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

26. The developer shall facilitate the archaeological appraisal of the site and shall provide for the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features which 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 (including hydrological and geotechnical investigations) relating to the proposed development, and
- (b) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist prior to the commencement of development. The archaeologist shall assess the site and monitor all site development works.

The assessment shall address the following issues:

- (i) the nature and location of archaeological material on the site, and
- (ii) the impact of the proposed development on such archaeological material.

A report, containing the results of the assessment, shall be submitted to the planning authority and, arising from this assessment, the developer shall agree in writing with the planning authority details regarding any further archaeological requirements (including, if necessary, archaeological excavation) prior to commencement of construction works. 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 area and to secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) and protection of any archaeological remains that may exist within the site.

27. 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.

28. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company, or such other security as may be acceptable to the planning authority, to secure the reinstatement of public roads which may be damaged by the transport of materials to the site, coupled with an agreement empowering the planning authority to apply such security or part thereof to the satisfactory reinstatement of the public road. 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: In the interests of traffic safety and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

