



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2019

Planning Authority: Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County 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 4th day of September 2019 by KW PRS ICAV acting for and on behalf of its sub-fund KW PRS Fund 10 care of Brock McClure Planning and Development Consultants, 63 York Road, Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin.

Proposed Development:

A planning permission for a 'Build to Rent' strategic housing development located at a site of circa 1.8 hectares on lands adjacent to 'The Grange', Brewery Road / Stillorgan Road, Stillorgan, Blackrock, County Dublin. The site includes 'The Grange Select Marketing Suite', 'Oaktree Business Centre', 'The Lodge' and numbers 2 and 3 The Grange Cottages.

The proposed development will consist of the demolition (total circa 1,398 square metres gross floor area) of 'The Grange Select Marketing Suite' (one storey), 'Oaktree Business Centre' (two storeys) and 'The Lodge' (two storeys); and the construction of a new residential scheme of 287 residential units; residential tenant amenity space of circa 961.5 square metres; a crèche facility of circa 658 square metres; and a substation of circa 96.5 square metres in the form of six new blocks (Blocks H, J, M, N, P and Q) ranging in height from one to eleven storeys as follows.

The residential development provides for 287 number units (19 number studio units, 125 number one-bed units and 143 number two-bed units) in Blocks H, J, M and N as follows:

- Block H (seven to eleven storeys from Brewery Road) comprising 99 number apartments (six number studios, 50 number one-bed units and 43 number two-beds);
- Block J (five to ten storeys from Brewery Road) comprising 75 number apartments (36 number one-bed units and 39 number two-bed units);
- Block M (four to nine storeys from podium) comprising 73 number apartments (38 number one-bed units and 35 number two-bed units); and
- Block N (six to seven storeys from Brewery Road) comprising 40 number apartments (13 number studios, one number one-bed units and 26 number two-bed units).

Each residential unit has associated private open space in the form of a balcony/terrace/roof terrace.

The following residential tenant amenity space, crèche facility and substation proposals are also delivered:

- Blocks H (seven to eleven storeys) also contains a residential tenant amenity space of circa 961.5 square metres. This area includes a gym space, male and female changing areas, accessible changing areas, a cinema room, entrance lobby, lounge areas, kitchen/dining areas, games area, management suite, four number meeting rooms, co-working space, security/parcels area, storage areas, tea station, toilets, letter box area and all associated extraneous areas, all of which are areas dedicated to use by future tenants.
- Block P (three storeys) provides for a crèche facility of circa 658 square metres and associated outdoor play area in the form of a roof terrace of circa 222.9 square metres.
- Block Q (one-storey at basement level/level 00) provides for an Electricity Supply Board substation of circa 96.5 square metres.

A basement area (total circa 3,324.8 square metres) is also proposed below Blocks H, J and M at Level 00.

A total of 100 number car parking spaces (16 number at surface level and 84 number at basement level), 596 number bicycle spaces (518 number at basement level and 78 number at surface level) and five number motorcycle spaces (all at basement level) are proposed.

Waste Management areas and plant areas are also located at basement level.

Public open space is also proposed in the form of external residential amenity spaces, play areas, courtyards, gardens and trim trails (circa 10,465 square metres). Provision is also made for pedestrian connections to the adjoining park to the south west, the N11 Stillorgan Road to the north east and the existing 'The Grange' development to the south east.

Numbers 2 and 3 The Grange Cottages (single storey) are retained within the current proposal and works to these residential dwellings relate solely to landscape proposals. No works are proposed to the structure or layout of these units.

The development shall be accessed via the existing vehicular access point from Brewery Road. It is proposed to reconfigure the alignment of this vehicular access point to facilitate the proposed development and provide for improved access and egress for the overall 'The Grange' development.

The associated site and infrastructural works include provision for water services; foul and surface water drainage and connections; attenuation proposals; permeable paving; all landscaping works; boundary treatment; internal roads and footpaths; and electrical services.

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 Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (b) the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (c) 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;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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;
- (f) the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, prepared by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (g) the Planning System and Flood Risk Management guidelines (including the associated Technical Appendices) issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in November 2009;
- (h) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development;
- (i) the availability in the area of a wide range of social, community and transport infrastructure;
- (j) the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (k) the planning history within the area;

- (l) the submissions and observations received, and
- (m) 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 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

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment of the proposed development, taking into account:

- (a) the nature, scale, location and extent of the proposed development,
- (b) the environmental impact assessment report and associated documentation submitted with the application,
- (c) the submissions from the planning authority, the observers and the prescribed bodies in the course of the application, and
- (d) the Inspector's report.

The Board considered that the environmental impact assessment report, supported by the documentation submitted by the applicant, adequately considers alternatives to the proposed development, and adequately identifies and describes the direct, indirect, secondary and cumulative effects of the proposed development on the environment.

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment in relation to the proposed development and, in doing so, agreed with the examination, set out in the Inspector's report, of the information contained in the environmental impact assessment report, associated documentation submitted by the applicant, and submissions made in the course of the planning application, and adopted the Inspector's assessment in this regard.

The Board considered and agreed with the Inspector's reasoned conclusions that the main significant direct and indirect effects of the proposed development on the environment are, and would be mitigated, as follows:

- (i) A positive impact with regard to population and material assets due to the increase in housing stock that would be made available in the city.
- (ii) Traffic and Transport: Potential for moderate short-term impacts in terms of construction traffic will be mitigated as part of a construction management plan. There will be no significant negative impact on traffic junctions in the immediate area and any potential impact will be mitigated by way of design and implementation of the Car Parking and Mobility Management Strategy for the development.
- (iii) Landscape and Visual Impacts: There will be changed views from various locations given the change from a largely vacant/low scale brownfield site to a high-density residential development. The lands are zoned for residential development and the proposal is not expected to involve the introduction of new or uncharacteristic features into the local or wider landscape character setting, relative to what exists in the immediate and wider area. The potential impact will be mitigated by the design, retention of specified trees and hedgerows, and proposed landscaping. The proposed development would not have a significant negative impact on the landscape.
- (iv) Biodiversity Impacts: Significant direct local impacts on existing flora and fauna will be mitigated by a range of measures identified in the environmental impact assessment report, including construction management measures, protection of trees to be retained, landscaping, measures in relation to bats and birds, use of bat and bird boxes, and removal of Japanese Knotweed plants from the site through the implementation of an Invasive Species Management Plan. The proposed development would not have a significant negative impact on biodiversity.

- (v) Potential impacts on water, which are proposed to be mitigated by construction management measures and implementation of sustainable drainage system measures.
- (vi) Potential impacts on air quality and climate, which will be mitigated by measures set out in the environmental impact assessment report.
- (vii) Potential effects arising from noise and vibration during construction, which will be mitigated by appropriate management measures.

The Board concluded that, subject to the implementation of the mitigation measures set out in the environmental impact assessment report, and subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the effects on the environment of the proposed development, by itself and in combination with other development in the vicinity, would be acceptable. In doing so, the Board adopted the report and conclusions of the Inspector.

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 pedestrian and traffic safety and convenience. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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 Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the plans and particulars, including Chapter 20 of the Environmental Impact Assessment 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. The proposed 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 (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 and in the interest of clarity.

4. 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 proposed 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.

5. 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.

6. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall appoint a qualified arborist as an arboricultural consultant for the entire period of the construction. All trees and hedgerows within and on the boundaries of the site shall be retained and maintained, with the exception of the following:
- (a) Specific trees, the removal of which is authorised in writing by the planning authority to facilitate the development.
 - (b) Trees which are agreed in writing by the planning authority to be dead, dying or dangerous through disease or storm damage, following submission of a qualified tree surgeon's report, and which shall be replaced with agreed specimens.
 - (c) The removal of shrubs and trees from the development site shall only be carried out in the months from September to February inclusive, that is, outside the main bird breeding season.

Reason: In the interests of amenity, ecology and sustainable development.

7. Retained trees and hedgerows shall be protected from damage during construction works. Within a period of six months following the substantial completion of the proposed development, any planting which is damaged, or dies, shall be replaced with others of similar size and species

Reason: In the interests of amenity, ecology and sustainable development.

8. Measures proposed in the environmental impact assessment report, to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on bats, including methods of felling trees, the installation of bat boxes and with regards to any removal of ivy from the cottages facing the N11 national road, shall be implemented in full.

Reason: To conserve bat species, which are afforded a regime of special protection under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

9. The developer shall comply with all requirements of the planning authority in relation to roads, access, lighting and parking arrangements, including facilities for the recharging of electric vehicles. In particular:
- (a) The roads and traffic arrangements serving the site (including sightlines, 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:
 - (i) The roads layout shall comply with the requirements of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, in particular carriageway widths, corner radii and pedestrian crossings.
 - (ii) 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.
 - (iii) The developer shall carry out a Stage 2 (which shall include a Road Safety Audit, Access Audit, Cycle Audit and Walking Audit), which shall be submitted to the planning authority for its written agreement. The developer shall carry out all agreed recommendations contained in the audits, at the developer's expense.
 - (b) Within six months of substantial completion of the development a Stage 3 Quality Audit (including Road Safety Audit, Access Audit, Cycle Audit and Walking Audit), of the constructed development shall be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement.
 - (c) All car parking spaces shall be provided with electric vehicle charging points. Details of how it is proposed to comply with this requirement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.
 - (d) Clearly designated spaces for car share use shall be provided.
 - (e) 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.

In default of agreement, the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

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

10. 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 shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority.

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

11. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed buildings and detailed public realm finishes shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of 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 apartment 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 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 signs, and dwelling 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 and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

15. 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. All existing over ground cables shall be relocated underground as part of the site development works.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

16. 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 (including hydrological and geotechnical investigations) relating to the proposed development,
 - (b) employ a suitably qualified archaeologist who shall carry out site testing and monitor all site investigations and other excavation works, following demolition, 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 (in situ or by record) of any remains that may exist within the site.

17. The 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.

18. 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 State 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 interests of public health and surface water management.

19. 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 amenities of property in the vicinity

20. Prior to commencement of development the developer shall submit and obtain the written agreement of the planning authority, 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 for the ongoing operation of these facilities.

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

21. 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. Details of the Invasive Species Management Plan for this site shall be incorporated within this plan. 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.

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 a demolition management plan, together with 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. 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.

24. 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.

25. 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.

26. 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.

