

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

Planning Authority: Dublin City Council

Application for permission under section 4 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, as amended, in accordance with plans and particulars, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 28th day of April 2021 by Balgriffin Park Limited care of McGill Planning Limited of 45 Herbert Lane, Dublin.

Proposed Development comprises of the following:

- (a) 260 number apartment units within an urban block (with six cores) ranging in height up to seven storeys. The unit mix will comprise of
- 108 number one-beds,
 - 135 number two-beds, and
 - 17 number three-beds (10 number duplexes and seven number apartments),

all with associated private balconies and terraces to the north, south, east and west elevations.

- (b) The development will also include circa 314 square metres of residential amenity facilities, circa 2,945 square metres of communal open space at podium level,
- (c) 199 number car parking spaces (180 number at undercroft level and 19 number at surface level), and 400 number bicycle parking spaces (384 number at undercroft level and 16 number at surface level).

- (d) Vehicular access to the undercroft parking area will be provided from Churchwell Crescent. All other site services and works to enable the development of the site will also be provided including bins, Electricity Supply Board substation and switch room, plant areas, boundary treatments and landscaping all located at this site at Belmayne P4, adjacent Churchwell Road and Churchwell Crescent, Belmayne, Dublin 13.

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 location of the site close to Dublin City centre and other local facilities and amenities, within an established built up area on lands with a zoning objective Z14, which is to 'seek the social, economic and physical development and or rejuvenation of an area with mixed use, of which residential and Z6 would be the predominant uses as set out in the Dublin City Council Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (b) The policies and objectives as set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 and Clongriffin - Belmayne Local Area Plan 2012-2018;

- (c) The location of the site within a Strategic Development and Regeneration Area 1 North Fringe and partly inside the North Fringe West Key District Centre 1;
- (d) Objectives 3a, 3b, 11, 13 and 35 of Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework;
- (e) The provisions as set out in the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan, part of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031;
- (f) The provisions of Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (g) The provisions of 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 2019, as amended;
- (h) The provisions of 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;
- (i) The provisions of the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (j) The provisions of the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2020;
- (k) The provisions of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management for Planning Authorities (including the associated Technical Appendices), issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2009;
- (l) The nature, scale and design of the proposed development;
- (m) The availability in the area of a wide range of educational, social, community and transport infrastructure,
- (n) The pattern of existing and permitted development in the area,

- (o) The Chief Executive's Report of Dublin City Council;
- (p) The submissions and observations received;
- (q) The report of the Planning 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, would respect the existing character of the area and would be acceptable in terms of traffic and pedestrian 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 Natura 2000 Sites, taking into account the nature, scale and location of the proposed development within a zoned and serviced urban area, the Appropriate Assessment Screening document 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 Information Report submitted by the developer which contains the information as set out in Schedule 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

Having regard to:

- (a) The nature and scale of the proposed development which is below the threshold in respect of Class 10(b)(iv) and Class 13 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (b) the location of the site close to Dublin City centre, within an established built up area on lands with a zoning objective Z14, which is to 'seek the social, economic and physical development and or rejuvenation of an area with mixed use, of which residential and Z6 would be the predominant uses, in the Dublin City Council Development Plan 2016-2022,
- (c) the existing use on the site and pattern of development in the surrounding area,
- (d) the planning history relating to the site and the surrounding area,
- (e) the availability of mains water and wastewater services to serve the proposed development,
- (f) the location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in Article 299(C)(1)(v) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (g) the provisions of the guidance as set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development, issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2003),
- (h) the criteria as set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and

- (i) the features and measures proposed by the developer envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise be significant effects on the environment, including measures identified in the Construction and Environmental Management Plan.

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

Conclusions on Proper Planning and Sustainable Development

The Board considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below that the proposed development would constitute an acceptable quantum and density of development in this accessible urban location, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area, would be acceptable in terms of urban design, height and quantum of development and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian safety. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. In coming to this conclusion, specific regard was had to the Chief Executive's Report received from the planning authority.

The Board considered that, while a grant of permission for the proposed Strategic Housing Development would not materially contravene a zoning objective of the statutory plans for the area, a grant of permission could materially contravene the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 in relation to building height and unit mix. The Board considers that, having regard to the provisions of section 37(2)(b)(i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the grant of permission in material contravention of the City Development Plan would be justified for the following reasons and consideration:

- (a) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended: the proposed development is in accordance with the definition of Strategic Housing Development, as set out in section 3 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, as amended, and delivers on the Government's policy to increase delivery of housing from its current under-supply as set out in Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness issued in July 2016. The subject site is located within a Strategic Development and Regeneration Area 1, that in itself implies strategic importance that elevates it above other residentially zoned lands contained in the development plan.
- (b) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(ii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended: the matter of conflicting objectives in the development plan, section 16.7 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 sets a limit of 16 metre building height (five storeys residential), but Policy UD07 of the Clongriffin - Belmayne Local Area Plan 2012-2018 allows up to six storeys depending on design. The statutory plans for the area contain conflicting objectives.
- (c) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(iii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended: regional planning guidelines for the area, the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031 seeks to increase densities on appropriate sites within Dublin City and Suburbs and this can result in taller buildings.

The proposed development in terms of height is in accordance with national policy as set out in the Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework, specifically National Policy Objective 13 and National Policy Objective 35, and is in compliance with the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018, in particular Specific Planning Policy Requirement 3. In terms of unit mix, the proposed development meets the requirements of Specific Planning Policy Requirement 1 of the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2020.

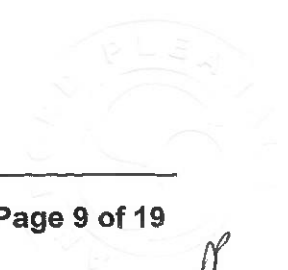
- (d) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(iv) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended: the pattern of development and permissions granted in the area since the adoption of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 where taller buildings were proposed, recent planning permissions for strategic housing granted in the wider area include An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-304196-19 and An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-305943-19 refer.

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. (a) The road and cycle network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs shall be in accordance with the detailed construction standards of the planning authority for such works and design standards outlined in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets and the National Cycle Manual.
- (a) An appropriately scaled layout drawing, providing for a north south access local access road, together with pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, all of which shall comply with the provisions as set out 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 2019, as amended, along the western boundary of the application site, shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to the commencement of development.



- (b) Materials shall be in accordance with the document Construction Standards for Roads and Street Works in Dublin City Council. Any works to the public road and the public realm including provision of any upgraded junctions and pedestrian crossings, road and footpath modifications including location of on-street parking, lighting, drainage and materials considered acceptable to Dublin City Council shall be carried out at the developer's expense. All works shall be completed and operational prior to first occupation of the development.

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

Reason: In the interests of amenity and of traffic and pedestrian safety.

3. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings and buildings shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. In default of agreement the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

4. 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.

5. No advertisement or advertisement structure other than those shown on the drawings submitted with the application shall be erected or displayed on the building or within the curtilage of the site in such a manner as to be visible from outside the building, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

6. Proposals for an estate and street name, apartment 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 unit 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 or 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 legibility and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

7. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall include lighting along pedestrian routes through open spaces details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development or installation of lighting. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any house.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

8. 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.

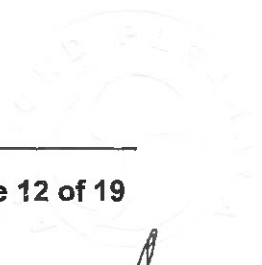
Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

9. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into water and or wastewater connection agreement(s) with Irish Water.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

10. (a) Prior to the opening or occupation 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 carpooling by residents, occupants and staff employed in the development and 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.
- (b) The Mobility Management Strategy shall incorporate a Car Parking Management Strategy for the overall development, which shall address the management and assignment of car spaces to residents and uses over time and shall include a strategy any car-share parking. Car parking spaces shall not be sold with units but shall be assigned and managed in a separate capacity via leasing or permit arrangements.

Reason: In the interest of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport, traffic and pedestrian safety.



11. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces should be provided with electric vehicle charging stations or points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces facilitating the installation of electric vehicle charging points or stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of electric vehicle ducting and charging stations or points has not been submitted with the application, in accordance with the above noted requirements, the development shall submit such proposals shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the occupation of the development.

Reason: To provide for and or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of electric vehicles.

12. 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 commencement of development the developer shall submit to the planning authority for written agreement revised surface water storage calculations to account for 20% Climate Change as per the "Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment", a Stage 2 - Detailed Design Stage Storm Water Audit. Upon Completion of the development, a Stage 3 Completion Stormwater Audit to demonstrate Sustainable Urban Drainage System measures have been installed and are working as designed and that there has been no misconnections or damage to storm water 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.

13. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with the detailed comprehensive scheme of landscaping, which accompanied the application submitted, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity

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

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

15. 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:
- (a) Location of the site and materials compound(s) including area(s) identified for the storage of construction refuse;
 - (b) Location of areas for construction site offices and staff facilities;
 - (c) Details of site security fencing and hoardings;

- (d) Details of on-site car parking facilities for site workers during the course of construction;
- (e) Details of the timing and routing of construction traffic to and from the construction site and associated directional signage, to include proposals to facilitate the delivery of abnormal loads to the site;
- (f) Measures to obviate queuing of construction traffic on the adjoining road network;
- (g) Measures to prevent the spillage or deposit of clay, rubble or other debris on the public road network;
- (h) Alternative arrangements to be put in place for pedestrians and vehicles in the case of the closure of any public road or footpath during the course of site development works;
- (i) Details of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and monitoring of such levels;
- (j) Containment of all construction-related fuel and oil within specially constructed bunds to ensure that fuel spillages are fully contained. Such bunds shall be roofed to exclude rainwater;
- (k) Off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste and details of how it is proposed to manage excavated soil;
- (l) Means to ensure that surface water run-off is controlled such that no silt or other pollutants enter local surface water sewers or drains.
- (m) A record of daily checks that the works are being undertaken in accordance with the Construction Management Plan shall be kept for inspection by the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of amenities, public health and safety.

16. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Saturdays inclusive, 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.

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. 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 occupation of the development.

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

19. 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] for each apartment unit 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: In the interest of residential amenity, and to ensure the provision of adequate refuse storage.

20. Prior to the commencement of any house or duplex unit in the development as permitted, the developer 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 house or duplex unit, pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that restricts all houses and duplex units permitted, to first occupation by individual purchasers, those not being a corporate entity, and or by those eligible for the occupation of social and or affordable housing including cost rental housing.

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

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.

22. 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.

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

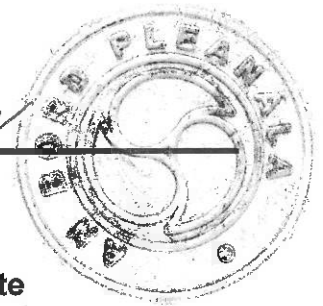
Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Terry Prendergast

Terry Prendergast

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**



Dated this *17th* day of *August* 2021