

## **Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021**

### **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 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021 by Nrek1 Limited care of Declan Brassil and Company Limited of Lincoln House, Phoenix Street, Smithfield, Dublin.

#### **Proposed Development comprises of the following:**

Demolition of all existing buildings and structures on the site and the construction of a six to nine storey mixed use building, including 134 number Build to Rent Apartments, with frontage onto Newmarket Square to the north, Ardee Street to the west and Mill Street to the south, consisting of the following:

- (a) 134 number Build to Rent apartment dwellings, comprising one number studio unit, 96 number one-bed units, seven number two-bed (three person) units and 30 number two-bed (four person) units. The proposed apartments are primarily provided from first to eight floor level (132 number units) with two number units provided at ground floor level fronting onto Ardee Street.
- (b) 314 square metres of private amenity space for the Build to Rent units is provided in the form of balconies on all elevations (53 number balconies), together with terraces to two number ground floor units and two number units at the seventh floor;
- (c) 1,131 square metres of external communal amenity space for future residents is provided in the form of a podium level communal courtyard (330 square

metres) and five number communal garden terraces at roof level (total of 801 square metres), incorporating associated landscaping, external lighting and seating areas.

- (d) 115.7 square metres of internal communal amenity space for future residents is provided at ground floor level, including a co-working area (60.6 square metres) and a games room (55.1 square metres).
- (e) The main resident access to the Build to Rent units is provided via a foyer (50 square metres) at ground floor level, incorporating a reception desk and management and maintenance office area. Ancillary services for Build to Rent residents at ground floor level include a refuse storage area (58.3 square metres) and a bicycle storage area (184.4 square metres) accommodating 238 number resident and visitor bicycle spaces and two number spaces for cargo bicycles. Additional external access to the bicycle and bin storage areas is provided via doors onto Mill Street.
- (f) 606.1 square metres gross floor area of ground floor level commercial and retail space is proposed, with direct frontage onto Newmarket Square and at the corner of Newmarket Square and Ardee Street. The commercial and retail unit includes a dedicated refuse storage area (27.9 square metres) and a bicycle storage area of 32 (7.7 square metres) accommodating eight number spaces. Additional external access to the bicycle and bin storage areas is provided via doors onto Newmarket Square.
- (g) The ground floor level also incorporates ancillary infrastructure and services for the building including an energy centre (80 square metres), water storage plant (58 square metres) and two number Electricity Supply Board substation and switch rooms. The Electricity Supply Board substation and switch rooms are accessed directly from Newmarket Square.

Other works include road, footpath, vehicular parking and public realm upgrade works are also proposed in the immediate vicinity of the proposed building. These proposals include the provision of enhanced pedestrian facilities along Newmarket Square, Ardee Street and Mill Street, and at the two number road junctions immediately to the north-west (Newmarket Square and Ardee Street and Chamber Street junction) and south-west (Mill Street and Ardee Street and Oscar Square and Clarence Mangan Road junction) of the site, respectively. Five number additional car parking spaces including one number dedicated car share space and one number loading bay, together with the relocation of an existing bus stop are also proposed along Ardee Street. The proposed development also includes all associated site and development works and ancillary infrastructure including water services, foul and surface drainage and connections, attenuation proposals, lighting, landscaping and boundary treatments on a site area of 0.32 hectares all located at Site bound by Newmarket Square to the north, Ardee Street to the west and Mill Street to the south including City House and Unit 3, Newmarket, Dublin 8.

## **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.**

## **Reasons and Considerations**

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

- (a) The location of the site in an inner city location in an area zoned for residential under Land Use Zoning Objective Z10 where residential development is permitted in principle under the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (b) The policies and objectives as set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (c) The nature, scale and design of the proposed development and the availability in the area of infrastructure;



- (d) The pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (e) The provisions of Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (f) The provisions of Housing for All, A New Housing Plan for Ireland issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage September 2021;
- (g) 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;
- (h) 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;
- (i) 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;
- (j) 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;
- (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 submissions and observations received;
- (m) The Chief Executive's Report from Dublin City Council;
- (n) The report of the Planning Inspector.

## **Appropriate Assessment: Stage 1**

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 Natura impact statement submitted with the application, and the Inspector's report and submissions on file. In completing the screening exercise, the Board adopted the report of the Inspector and concluded that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, 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 notwithstanding the fact that an Natura impact assessment was submitted by the applicant.

## **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening**

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment screening of the proposed development and considered that the Environment Impact Assessment Screening Report 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 and scale of the proposed development, which is below the threshold in respect of Class 10(i) and (iv) of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (b) The location of the site on lands zoned "Z10" where residential development and the commercial element is permitted in principle, the results of the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Plan,
- (c) The pattern of development in the surrounding area,
- (d) The availability of mains water and wastewater services to serve the proposed development,
- (e) 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,

- (f) 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),
- (g) The criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and
- (h) The features and measures proposed by applicant envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise be significant effects on the environment, including measures identified in the Outline Construction Management Plan, the Outline Construction Management Plan, Operational Waste Management Plan and the Infrastructure Report, the Bat and Bird Assessment, the Archaeological Desktop Report, the Architectural Conservation Report, the Wind Microclimate Study, and the Architectural Design Statement and the Landscape Design Report.

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.



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

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 would materially contravene the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 in relation to building heights, unit mix, private amenity space provision and units per core. The Board considers that, having regard to the provisions of section 37(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the grant of permission in material contravention of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 would be justified for the following reasons and considerations:

- the proposed development is considered to be of strategic and national importance given its potential as a site located within an area designated as 'Strategic Development and Regeneration Area 16 – Liberties and Newmarket Square in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 and its potential to substantively contribute to the achievement of the Government's national policy to increase housing supply, as set out in Housing for All, A New Housing Plan for Ireland issued by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage September 2021 and Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016. Furthermore, the location of the application site within a Strategic Development and Regeneration Area, in itself refers to the strategic importance of the site, which elevates it above other zoned lands contained in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022. Accordingly, the Board is satisfied that the provisions set out under section 37(2)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, are applicable with respect to the material contravention of the building heights, unit mix, private amenity space provision and units per core provisions of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022;

- it is considered that permission for the proposed development should be granted having regard to Government Policies, as set out in the Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework, in particular National Policy Objectives 27, 33 and 35, the provisions as set out in the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031, 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(a), and the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, in particular Specific Planning Policy Requirements 3, 6, 7 and 8. Accordingly, the Board is satisfied that the provisions as set out under section 37(2)(b)(iii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, are applicable with respect to the material contravention of the building heights, unit mix, private amenity space provision and units per core provisions of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022.



## Conditions

1. The 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, or as otherwise stipulated by conditions hereunder, and the 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. The proposed development shall be amended as follows:
  - (a) The omission of the ground floor apartments along Ardee Street and their replacement with communal amenity areas and uses to serve the development.
  - (b) Two number north facing one-bedroom apartments Type 1.3 on each floor from first floor through to sixth floor shall be amalgamated to form one number two-bedroom apartment on each floor.
  - (c) Two number north facing one-bedroom apartments Type 1.4 on each floor from first floor through to sixth floor shall be amalgamated to form one number two-bedroom apartment on each floor.

Revised plans and particulars showing compliance 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 residential amenities.

3. This permission relates to 120 number Build to Rent apartments and one number commercial unit only.

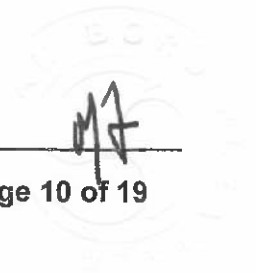
**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

4. The 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 issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2020 and not be used for short term rentals. No portion of this development shall be used for short term lettings.

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

5. 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 number years and where no individual residential units shall be sold separately for that period. The period of 15 number years shall be from the date of occupation of the first residential unit within the scheme.

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



6. 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.

7. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed buildings shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. In addition, details of a maintenance strategy for materials within the proposal shall also be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority, prior to the commencement of any works on site. In default of agreement the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

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

8. The commercial unit shall not be subdivided, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

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

9. Details of all security shuttering, external shopfronts, lighting and signage shall be as submitted to An Bord Pleanála with this application unless otherwise submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to occupation of the commercial and retail units.

**Reason:** In the interests of the amenities of the area and 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.

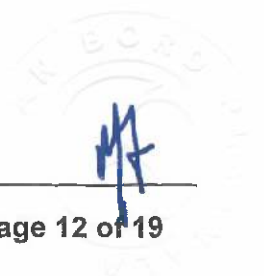
**Reason:** To protect the residential amenities of property in the vicinity and the visual amenities of the area.

11. No advertisement or advertisement structure other than those shown on the plans and particulars 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.

12. Proposals for a development name, 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. Thereafter, all such names and numbering shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme.

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



13. Proposed works to the roads including 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 (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. 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.

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

**Reason:** In the interests of public health and surface water management.

15. 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.

16. A final Mobility Management Plan or Residential Travel Plan shall be submitted for the development for written agreement with the planning authority prior to occupation of the development. The travel plan shall address the mobility requirements of future residents and should promote the use of public transport, cycling and walking. The residential travel plan shall, aside from the onsite car club facility, identify car club spaces outside of the development and in the vicinity of the site.

**Reason:** In the interest of orderly development.

17. 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 interests of residential and visual amenity.

18. The hours of operation of the roof terraces shall be 0700 to 2200 hours Monday to Sunday, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority.

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

19. Prior to the commencement of the development the applicant shall contact the Irish Aviation Authority in relation to all crane operations, with a minimum of 30 days prior notification of their erection. Details of a suitable marking and lighting scheme as agreed with the Irish Aviation Authority shall be submitted to the planning authority prior to the commencement of construction. Additional information regarding crane type (tower, mobile), elevation of the highest point of crane, dimensions of crane, ground elevation and location co-ordinate shall also be required by the Authority to allow for an aviation safety assessment.

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

20. 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.

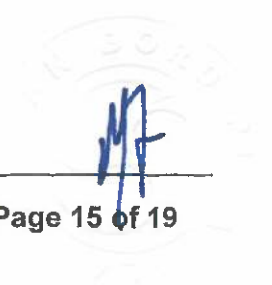
**Reason:** In the interests of visual and residential amenity.



21. 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, 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,
  - (d) agree in writing the archaeological method statements for mitigation with the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, prior to commencement of any works on site.

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.



22. 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 Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022.

23. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 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 amenities of property in the vicinity.

24. 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.

25. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction Environmental 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 noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction and demolition waste.

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

26. Construction and demolition waste shall be managed in accordance with a construction and demolition waste 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 of 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.

27. 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.

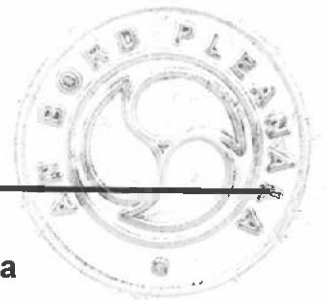
28. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the area of the planning authority that is provided or intended to be provided by or on behalf of the authority in accordance with the terms of the 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.

29. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution in respect of the Luas Cross City (St. Stephens Green to Broombridge Line in accordance with the terms of the Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme made by the planning authority under section 49 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 Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme made under section 49 of the Act be applied to the permission.

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



Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022