

Board Order ABP-319328-24

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022 Planning Authority: Limerick City and County Council Planning Register Reference Number: 2460010

Appeal by Tom Ryan of Ballynoe, Mungret, County Limerick and by Others against the decision made on the 29th day of February, 2024 by Limerick City and County Council to grant permission, subject to conditions, to Loughmore Healthcare Number 2 Limited care of HRA Planning of 3 Hartstonge Street, Limerick for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: A two storey nursing home, single storey service building and a biodiversity area on a site (which has an existing planning permission for a 82 bed nursing home, planning reference number P17/677 and P20/93). The proposed nursing home comprises provision of 130 number bedspaces in 128 number bedrooms with dining areas, communal areas, production kitchen, staff facilities and first floor terrace, internal secure landscaped courtyard, external roof plant and PV panels. The proposed service building comprises staff facilities, ESB substation and switchroom, laundry facilities, goods store and waste management areas. The development will also consist of a new site entrance, on-site car and bicycle parking, foul pumping station, totem sign, boundary fencing and all associated site works at Baunacloka, Mungret, County Limerick.

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

Having regard to the provisions of the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, the location of the site, and the scale and quantum of development, as proposed, it is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not impact adversely on existing residential amenity, would represent an appropriate design response to the site's context, would not lead to the creation of a traffic hazard or obstruction of road users, and would not be prejudicial to public health. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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 and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

 The mitigation measures contained in the submitted Natura Impact Statement (NIS), shall be implemented.

Reason: To protect the integrity of European Sites.

- (a) Mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the plans and particulars, including the Ecological Impact Assessment submitted with this application shall be carried out in full, except where otherwise required by conditions attached to this permission.
 - (b) The developer shall retain a qualified ecologist for the duration of the development to ensure that the mitigation measures recommended are implemented in full.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment.

4. Details (including samples) of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

5. No advertisement or advertisement structure, the exhibition or erection of which would otherwise constitute exempted development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), shall be displayed or erected on the building exterior/within the curtilage of the site without a prior grant of planning permission.

Reason: To protect the visual amenities of the area.

6. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900, 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.

- 7. The developer shall comply with all requirements of the planning authority in relation to roads, access, signage, lighting and parking arrangements, including facilities for the recharging of electric vehicles. In particular:
 - (a) The recommendations of the Road Safety Audit shall be addressed in full, prior to occupation of the proposed development.
 - (b) A minimum of 10% of car parking spaces shall be provided with electric vehicle charging stations or points, at least one of which shall serve a car club or car share space, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces to facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging points or stations at a later date.
 - (c) 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.
 - (d) 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 traffic, cyclist and pedestrian safety; to provide for and future proof the development and in the interest of clarity.

8. The internal road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority and in all respects with the standards set out in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS).

Reason: In the interests of pedestrian and traffic safety.

9. 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.

10. 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 and to ensure a satisfactory standard of development.

11. Prior to the commencement of development the developer shall enter into a connection agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann (Irish Water) to provide for a service connection(s) to the public water supply and/or wastewater collection network.

Reason: In the interest of public health and to ensure adequate water/wastewater facilities.

12. (a) The site shall be landscaped in accordance with the submitted scheme of landscaping, details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The developer shall retain the services of a suitably qualified landscape architect throughout the life of the site development works. The approved landscaping scheme shall be implemented fully in the first planting season following completion of the development and any plant materials that die or are removed within three years of planting shall be replaced in the first planting season thereafter.

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(b) Details of hard landscaping materials and boundary treatment shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory completion and maintenance of the development in the interests of residential and visual amenity.

13. 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/installation of lighting.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

14. The construction of 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. The plan shall provide details of intended construction practice for the development, including a detailed traffic management plan, and noise management measures.

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

15. 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 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.

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16. 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.

17. 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 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.

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18. 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 of the provided 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.

Eamonn James Kelly Member of An Bord Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Board.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2025

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