

DELEGATED REPORT

Application No:	P/21/0232
Site Address:	107 And 108 Haydn Terrace Penydarren Merthyr Tydfil
Development:	Refurbishment of flats, including the installation of external render and new windows
Case Officer:	David James
Site Visit:	2nd August 2021
Application Expiry Date:	26th August 2021
Consultation reply date expired:	27th July 2021

APPLICATION SITE

The application site relates to two blocks of flats situated within the residential area of Penydarren. The properties face in a south easterly direction and are bound by a highway to the front, dwellings to the northeast and rear, and a dwelling, commercial property, and block of garages to the south west.

The application site lies within the settlement boundary as designated within the Merthyr Tydfil Replacement Local Development Plan 2016 – 2031.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

This application seeks full planning permission for the installation of an external render system, as part of the refurbishment of the blocks of flats.

The proposed external render would have a dashed finish, replacing the existing brickwork finish. Rendered panels and a soldier course of brickwork would replace the existing timber panels, below the windows.

The submitted plans indicate that the windows of the flats would be replaced on a like-for-like basis, with new upvc window replacing the existing upvc windows.

PLANNING HISTORY

There is no planning history relevant to the determination of this application.

CONSULTATION

None undertaken.

PUBLICITY

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012, letters were sent to the adjoining properties.

No letters of objection were received following this publicity exercise.

POLICY CONTEXT

National Policy

The Future Wales – the National Plan 2040 sets out a strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 11 (February 2021) sets out the land use policies of the Welsh Government. The most relevant sections are:

Sections 3.3 – 3.16 sets out the principles of good design in new development proposals, which should take into account its relationship to its surrounding context.

The policies in PPW are supported by Technical Advice Notes (TANs). The most relevant TAN to this application is as follows:-

TAN 12 - Design advises that the Assembly Government is strongly committed to achieving the delivery of good design in the built and natural environment, which is fit for purpose and delivers environmental sustainability, economic development, and social inclusion at every scale throughout Wales.

Local Policy

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2016-2031:

Policy SW4 – Settlement boundaries

Policy SW11 – Sustainable design and Placemaking

Policy CW1 – Historic Environment

Policy EnW1 – Nature Conservation and Ecosystem Resilience

Policy EnW3 – Regionally Important Geological Sites, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserves and Priority Habitats and Species

Policy EnW4 – Environmental Protection

Other Material Considerations – Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG):

SPG 4 - Sustainable Design

SPG 5 - Nature and Development

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The main issues to consider when assessing this application relate to whether the proposal would have an acceptable impact on the character and appearance of the existing property and wider street scene. The impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents is also an important consideration.

The proposed external works to the blocks of flats are considered to be acceptable in terms of their design. It is noted that other dwellings within the immediate area have similar dashed and rendered finishes, and upvc windows. As such, these changes would not appear out of place or adversely impact on the character or visual amenities of the application site or wider area. In this respect, the proposal is found to be in accord with Policy SW11 of the LDP.

Regard has also been had for the impact of the proposal on the residential amenities of the surrounding occupants. In this respect, given the nature of the proposal (the replacement of the external finishes of the buildings and the direct replacement of the windows), it is not considered that it would result in any harmful impact in terms of overbearing impact or loss of light. No additional windows are proposed, nor would any of the existing window openings be altered. As such, the proposal would not result in any additional loss of privacy or overlooking.

Overall, having considered the above and without any objections following the publicity exercise, the development is deemed to be acceptable with respect to residential amenity and thus in compliance with Policy SW11 of the LDP.

The duty to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, under section 3 of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ("the WBFG Act") has been taken into consideration when determining this application. In reaching the following recommendation, the ways of working set out at section 5 of the WBFG Act have been considered and thus the proposal is in accordance with the sustainable development principle through its contribution towards one or more of the Welsh Ministers well-being objectives set out as required by section 8 of the WBFG Act.

Accordingly the following recommendation is made:

RECOMMENDATION: BE APPROVED subject to the following CONDITIONS:

1. The development shall begin not later than five years from the date of this decision.

Reason - To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

21004 P01: Proposed Elevations received 1st July 2021

OL-20-0536: Overlay Image received 1st July 2021

Reason -To ensure compliance with the approved plans and clearly define the scope of the permission.

INFORMATIVES

1. All bats and their roosts are protected against disturbance under UK and European legislation. If works are planned on a building/tree in which bats are found to be roosting, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) must be contacted. They must be given reasonable time to advise as to whether the works should be carried out and, if so, the method to be used.

If work has already commenced and bats are found, or if any evidence that bats are using the site as a roost is found, work should cease and NRW should be contacted immediately.

2. All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) while they are breeding. Works to any trees, hedgerows and other suitable nesting bird habitat which are to be removed or pruned as part of the proposal should only be carried out outside the bird breeding season. The bird breeding season typically extends between March to August inclusive.

If any vegetation removal or site clearance works are scheduled to commence in the bird nesting season it is advised that the advice from an Ecologist is sought. Any active nests will need to be protected until the young have fledged.



RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED

Head of Town Planning

DATE:

10/8/21