

Planning Department
South Dublin County Council
County Hall Tallaght,
Dublin 24, D24 A3XC

DONAL HICKEY ARCHITECTS

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Date: 2nd December 2021

Re: RFI - SD21A/0233 -1 Killakee Park D24 W9T2

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of Donal and Imelda Hickey please find attached our response to the RFI Decision No 1367. Attached are 6 copies of our report and the drawings.

We have consulted the planning department and traffic in advance of preparing our submission and presented to them our response to the RFI. We explained that some aspects of which were not possible to incorporate into our proposal as they would undermine the principals of the design and its purpose.

Donal and Imelda Hickey, the applicants, appointed DHA to design a house which will provide suitable accommodation for Donal's disabilities so that he may remain in his home and be cared for in that setting. As Donal's health has deteriorated it has increasingly restricting his mobility and their current house is unsuitable. Donal must negotiate stairs, narrow doorways and corridors which are impacting on his quality of life. The restrictive nature of Donal and Imelda's current house, which is to be retained, also makes caring for Donal's needs unnecessarily difficult, realities which will become more difficult as Donal's illness progresses.

Donal and Imelda are not unique in the difficulties they are experiencing and the mismatch between them and their existing home. The house they live in was built for a growing population in the early 1970's. Most were young couples and the house types built in Firhouse and many of Dublins outer suburbs catered for this family type with standardised 3 bedroom two storey semi-detached houses. It is recognised that these outer suburbs now create a challenge for Local Authorities as the predominant house types are increasingly unsuitable for larger families, those with disabilities and the ageing population. Our clients who have lived in this community since the construction of their home in the 1970's wish to age in place and build a new house more suitable to their current and future needs on their own site which overlooks a park.

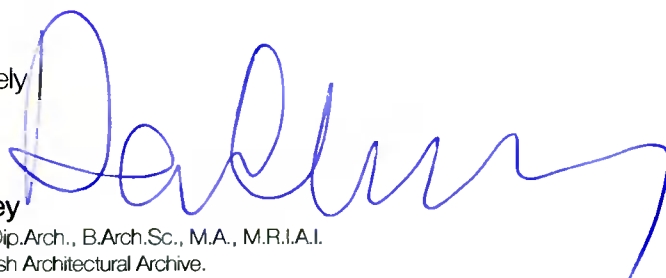


We trust that it will be recognised that while our proposal is tailored to the needs of our clients it may also be suitable in the future for larger families, families with accessibility needs or facilitate the principal of 'Ageing in Place'. We recognise the concern of the local authority that this new house type sets a precedent, we would argue that this house if built would make a positive contribution to the spectrum of housing in the area. It is located on a suitable corder sites of which there are few remaining available and as such could not become a dominant or common type in this area.

Our proposed house is larger than the original predominant house type in Firhouse so that its ground floor is wholly accessible for someone in a wheelchair with a ground floor accessible bedroom and accessible shower room and toilet. The first floor has four rooms three of which are bedrooms. This is to facilitate a future 'live in carer' so that our clients can remain in their home and community for as long as possible. Our clients have asked that a second living space, 'a study' is provided at first floor so that a future carer has some level of independence and private space.

We would ask the council to support our application. Should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

yours sincerely



Donal Hickey

Dip.Arch, Tech., Dip.Arch., B.Arch.Sc., M.A., M.R.I.A.I.

Member of the Irish Architectural Archive.

Registered Architect in Ireland Reg.No. 08140

Attached:

We have attached 6 No copies of the following documents and drawings in support of our application.

Documents

Cover Letter.

Request For Information Report.

Drawings:

PL - 101 Rev: B Proposed Site, Floor Plans and Elevations

PL - 103 Rev: B Proposed North, West & East Elevations.

T - 010 Proposed Site & Traffic Option A: Remove Street Tree

T - 011 Proposed Site & Traffic Option A: Remove Street Tree