

31 Lucan Heights
Lucan
Co. Dublin

9th September 2022

Senior Administrative Officer
Planning Department
South Dublin County Council
The Square
Tallaght
Dublin 24



Ref: Application SD22A/0324 - Demolition of an existing house, Hillhouse, Lucan Road and ancillary outbuildings and the construction of one 4 storey building accommodating 19 apartments comprised of 6 on- bedroom apartments and 13 two-bedroom apartments. Vehicular access to the proposed development will be solely via Lucan Road and Lucan Heights with 11 car parking spaces and 20 bicycle parking spaces and ancillary services including a detached water storage tank and bin store housing all on a site of 0.1925ha.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I wish to strongly object to the proposed development which I consider to be totally at odds with the principles of proper planning and development for the area. The reasons for my objection are detailed in the subsequent paragraphs.

(1) Density

The planning application proposes a four-storey in-fill development comprising 19 apartments on a small site of 0.1925 ha. The only way that this can be achieved is through a development that is excessive in terms of both scale and bulk, the proposed development equating to a density of c. 100 dwellings per hectare. This is contrary to H8 Objective 6 (p. 34) in the SDCC Development Plan 2016 - 2022 which refers to "a density range of 35 – 50 units per hectare to greenfield sites that are zoned residential" and far exceeds the densities in the nearby so-called 'high density' developments of Adamstown and Clonburris which attract 50-60 units per hectare and 36-40 units per hectare, respectively. Furthermore, the proposed development is clearly inconsistent and not in keeping with the existing dwelling density in Lucan Heights and The Cloisters which comprise low density semi-detached (for the most part) and detached properties.

For the reasons outlined above, this planning application should be rejected.

(2) Scale

This application follows from a previously refused planning application (SD20A/0142) but changes from this application are minimal, the proposed building remaining broadly similar in terms of scale and bulk to the previous application. Revisions to the previously rejected proposal are therefore not

sufficient and the overall building has not been adequately scaled back in bulk or massing. As such, the proposed development, located in a very prominent position, appears overly dominant and overbearing, resulting in harm to the visual and residential amenity of the area.

For these reasons, this planning application should be rejected.

(3) Privacy

Following from (1) and (2) above, the proposed development will compromise the privacy of residents in The Cloisters and in Lucan Heights from direct overlooking.

For the reasons outlined above, this planning application should be rejected.

(4) Lack of Parking

The plans for the proposed development include 11 car parking spaces. While recognising the need to promote the use of public transport, 11 parking spaces for a development of 19 apartments is wholly inadequate. Conservative or otherwise, a total of 11 parking spaces for the residents and visitors to the proposed development is totally inadequate and will result in Lucan Heights and The Cloisters becoming an overflow carpark for the development.

For the reasons outlined above, this planning application should be rejected.

(5) Traffic Safety Issues

The proposal will present very significant risks to the health and wellbeing of the many residents, old and young, for two reasons:

(a) Lucan Heights, The Cloisters and the laneway linking Lucan Heights and The Cloisters to the Lucan Road itself, currently provide access to schools, churches and other amenities in Lucan and its surrounds. Subject to traffic calming measures, vehicular access to the development via the Lucan Road is being proposed. The entrance to the development is located on the crest of a bend and in the immediate proximity of a traffic-controlled junction that is subject to significant tailbacks during the morning and evening commutes. Allowing access/ egress to the development via the Lucan Road, as is being proposed, is preposterous in that it will exacerbate significantly the dangers that already exist at this junction.

(b) The site is within 200 yards of four schools (three of which are primary schools) and within 400 yards of two other schools (one a primary school). Walkways and footpaths in Lucan Heights and The Cloisters serve as primary access routes (walking, scooting and cycling) for the daily commute to schools for many children. The wholly inadequate parking provisions in the proposed development (Point (4) above) and the certainty that Lucan Heights and The Cloisters will be the overflow car park for the proposed development, will inevitably result in a significant increase in car movements through these housing estates. This in turn will create a whole new set of dangers and risks to the existing users of the walkways and pathways in the vicinity of the proposed development.

For these reasons, this planning application should be rejected.

(6) Noise Pollution

The proposed development could be expected to accommodate up to 64 residents. This will represent a significant influx of residents into a settled and mature location with a significant number of elderly residents. Excessive noise pollution is therefore likely to be a significant and ongoing issue.

For this reason, this planning application should be rejected.

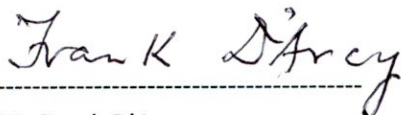
Summary

With regards to the previous planning proposal for this site (SD20A/0142), the applicant has failed to demonstrate how reasons for refusal are being addressed in the current proposal. Changes to the scale and of the proposed development are minimal and the development, which will result in significant parking and increased traffic movements in Lucan Heights and the Cloisters, will clearly present very significant risks and dangers to those using the footpaths and walkways in the vicinity of the development.

I do not object to development of this site in principle but what is currently proposed is unacceptable for all of the reasons outlined. This site is suitable for a much smaller development and one which is sympathetic to the existing character of Lucan Heights and the Cloisters.

Based on the reasons outlined, **the proposal in its current format should, however, be rejected.** I enclose my fee of €20 and request that South Dublin County Council make the decision to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank D'Arcy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

Mr Frank D'Arcy

Mr Frank D'Arcy
31, Lucan Heights
Lucan
Dublin

Date: 13-Sep-2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Register Ref: SD22A/0324
Development: Demolition of an existing house; Ancillary outbuildings and the construction of 1 two to four storey building accommodating 19 apartments comprised of 6 one bedroom apartments and 13 two bedroom apartments; Vehicular access to the proposed development will be via Lucan Road with traffic calming measures onto Lucan Road; 11 car parking spaces and 20 bicycle parking spaces and ancillary services including a detached water storage tank and bin store housing all on a site of 0.1925 hectares.
Location: Hillhouse, Lucan Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin
Applicant: Frances Dowling
Application Type: Permission
Date Rec'd: 08-Aug-2022

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your submission in connection with the above planning application. The appropriate fee of €20.00 has been paid and your submission is in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended). The contents of your submission will be brought to the attention of the Planning Officer during the course of consideration of this application.

This is an important document. You will be required to produce this document to An Bord Pleanála if you wish to appeal the decision of the Council when it is made. You will be informed of the decision in due course. Please be advised that all current applications are available for inspection at the public counter and on the Council's Website, www.sdblincoco.ie.

You may wish to avail of the Planning Departments email notification system on our website. When in the **Planning Applications** part of the Council website, www.sdblincoco.ie, and when viewing an application on which a decision has not been made, you can input your email address into the box named "**Notify me of changes**" and click on "**Subscribe**". You should automatically receive an email notification when the decision is made. Please ensure that you submit a valid email address.

Please note: If you make a submission in respect of a planning application, the Council is obliged to make that document publicly available for inspection as soon as possible after receipt. Submissions are made available on the planning file at the Planning Department's public counter and with the exception of those of a personal nature, are also published on the Council's website along with the full contents of a planning application.

Yours faithfully,

M. Furney
for **Senior Planner**