

HW Planning
5, Joyce House
Barrack Square
Ballincollig
Co. Cork

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000 (as amended) AND PLANNING REGULATIONS THEREUNDER

Decision Order Number: 1600	Date of Decision: 15-Dec-2022
Register Reference: SD22A/0401	Registration Date: 25-Oct-2022

Applicant: Emmaville Limited

Development: Demolition of the 4 existing shed structures on site within the curtilage of the protected structure; Retention and conversion of Scholarstown House (Protected Structure) into two residential units comprised of 1 two bed and 1 three bed units served by private open space in the form of ground floor terrace; The proposed works to Scholarstown House include but are not limited to internal re-configuration; Re-location of the staircase to its original location within the house; Removal of non-original features including the closing up of non-original openings; Creation of a new door opening within the existing alcove, and the blocking up of a window opening both located on the northern elevation; Construction of an apartment block ranging in height from 3 to 5 storeys containing 74 apartment units comprised of 32 one bed apartments, 33 two bed apartments, and 9 three bed apartments all served by private open space in the form of balconies and/or ground floor terraces; The proposed development also includes 100sq.m of residential amenities and facilities consisting of but not limited to a reception, communal amenity room and parcel room; The development will be served by a total of 40 car parking spaces and 183 cycle parking spaces accessed via a new pedestrian and vehicular access off Orlagh Grove with the existing entrances on Scholarstown Road and Orlagh Grove being re-configured to provide for pedestrian and cycle access; All ancillary development works required to facilitate the development including but not limited to, plant rooms, a substation, bin stores, landscaping, boundary treatments and lighting; The proposed development comprises the carrying out of works to a protected structure: Scholarstown House (RPS Ref: 322).

Location: Scholarstown House, Scholarstown Road, Dublin 16

Application Type: Permission

Dear Sir /Madam,

With reference to your planning application, received on 25-Oct-2022 in connection with the above, I wish to inform you that before the application can be considered under Section 33 of the Planning & Development Act 2000, six copies of the following ADDITIONAL INFORMATION must be submitted.

1. The applicant is requested to submit additional information to clarify the land use zoning of the site. The existing and proposed site layouts and boundaries should be overlaid with the SDCC County Development Plan 2022-2028 zoning maps.
2. The applicant is requested to submit additional information addressing the following concerns of SDCC's Architectural Conservation Officer:
 - (a) The majority of the work appear to have modest/minimal impacts. However, there are some areas of alterations and revisions to the original layout and insertion of additional services where negative impacts are likely.

The following items need to be addressed: -

 - It is considered that where original windows are proposed to be blocked up alternatives should be considered, or alternative designs considered in order to provide a solution and the retention.
 - Removal of original architectural features is not acceptable and where this has been indicated, mitigation measures or alternative floor plans should be provided in order to negate the removal of architectural features.
 - Where additional services are proposed details shall be provided on how services i.e., bathrooms and w/c will be integrated and how these will be ventilated etc.
 - The Conservation Methodology provides details on the architectural elements for repair which is very helpful in directing the works in accordance with best conservation principles and practice. There are no details included on any proposed energy efficiency works to the protected structure. Clarification should be sought with regard to any such works.

It is considered that in addition to the Conservation Methodology a Schedule of Works should be provided for each floor in order to specify all the works to include; interventions/revisions, conservation repairs and routine maintenance. A Schedule of Works and Method statement for the specific elements should also include how the items listed above will be dealt with as part of the entire scope of works to the protected structure.
 - (b) On assessing the existing Outbuildings and details provided, it is felt that the Building D should be re-examined with regard to its retention and adaptive reuse as part of the overall development. It is considered that the retention of an original early 19th century outbuilding would provide additional architectural interest and character to the site and will support the association with Scholarstown House and the overall setting of the original site. The original outbuildings should be considered with regard to possible retention for reuse or using the footprint and architectural elements of the outbuildings in the design of the new build allowing a sensitive building type and visual link and association with the Protected Structure.
 - (c) Although separation has been provided in providing limited but designed setting to the Protected Structure, it is considered that by virtue of the height of the proposed apartments the Protected Structure is completely overshadowed. The mass and scale of the apartment block which completely surround the Protected Structure to the rear as a backdrop and to the side, is overbearing and causes negative visual impacts. In order to less the visual impact the overall height, scale and mass of the 5-storey element needs to be reduced and overall design revised.

(d) It is considered that the overall design, mass and height should be reconsidered and revised in order to find a greater balance between the existing and new development. It is noted that the height has been reduced where the new block forms a backdrop to the protected structure, however, not enough has been done in relation to the overall design to the adjoining block to provide a building type that doesn't completely overshadow and dominate the entire site.

(e) As previously advised during pre-planning discussions the block form needs to be broken up in different heights and different treatments with some separation between to provide separate block forms. The outbuildings should be considered with regard to adaptive reuse and reflecting the outbuildings in the design ethos of one or two blocks or using the original footprint to provide additional new building where the existing corrugated shed is located. The elevational treatment and materiality should reflect a more rural and agricultural style of building type that would connect visually to the existing protected structure and provide high quality design and character to the site.

3. (a) The submitted Housing Quality Assessment states that the site area used to calculate residential density includes the letter of consent areas. This includes the public footpath along the eastern and northern boundaries of the site, which should not be included in the net developable area. The applicant is requested to advise the net developable area of the site and based on this, the proposed net residential density.
(b) The revised proposed development submitted in response to other additional information items herein may lower the net residential density. Additional consideration of the proposals with reference to Appendix 10 Building Height and Density Guide of the County Development Plan is warranted
4. The submitted Statement of Housing Mix references the permitted development of 590 residential units to the north-east of the site, ABP Ref. TA06S.305878. This permitted development should be taken into consideration in the assessment of dwellings by number of rooms within 1km of the subject site. It is noted that this assessment is based on CSO 2016 census data. Further consideration should be given to permitted development in this assessment. A revised statement should be submitted addressing this.
5. The applicant is requested to submit a revised proposed development addressing the following:
 - (a) The approach to height should be reconsidered in relation to impact on the Protected Structure and residential amenity. The Planning Authority would have concerns about where within the site, taller elements are proposed. The four storey element would be less than 1m from the south-western boundary, adjoining RES zoned lands. Windows to habitable rooms would be in close proximity to this boundary.. The applicant is requested to submit a revised design at this boundary, including providing an increased separation distance of the higher elements of the building from this boundary and improved boundary treatment, to help mitigate any overbearing impact.
 - (b) The ground floor terraces for Apartment Nos. 0008 and 0009 are not considered to be afforded sufficient privacy. An appropriate boundary and/or 'privacy strip' to these terraces should be provided to ensure privacy.
 - (c) No analysis of the proposed development in relation to the Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001) has been provided.
 - (d) Any revised design to Scholarstown House should be assessed in terms of daylight/sunlight accessibility. The proposed apartment building may need to be revised in relation to sunlight/daylight impact on Scholarstown House and its proposed gardens.
6. (a) Given the extent of existing trees and vegetation onsite and the number proposed for removal, the applicant is requested to assess the full ecological impact assessment of the proposed development as appropriate. This might include a breeding bird survey and other assessments.

(b) Additional tree planting should be provided as part of the landscape proposals in order to ensure that there is a positive net gain in terms of new tree proposed compared to those being removed. As a minimum existing tree lost should be replaced on a 3:1 ratio basis. Full details of all proposed tree planting should be provided on a detailed planting plan. This planting plan will include planting and maintenance specifications, including cross-section drawings, use of guards or other protective measures and confirmation of location, species and sizes, nursery stock type, supplier and defect period.

7. The Roads Department request the following additional information:

(a) The proximity of access to the Scholarstown Road roundabout may present risks. There is a raised pedestrian crossing at the access. To achieve the sight lines when exiting the development motorists will need to stop closer to the intended stop line, this will mean stopping on the pedestrian crossing. There is no elevation detailing the access location, a detailed visibility splay is required to ascertain if boundary treatment, street trees etc will limit forward visibility from the development. The road safety audit notes that on street parking on one side of Orlagh Grove if allowed to continue will obstruct visibility to and from the development and compromise safe unobstructed two-way movement on the road. The proximity to the access point of the neighbouring retail units could cause visibility issues when used simultaneously leading to traffic hazard. Because of the nature of the neighbouring retail units, they would have a high frequency traffic use, resulting in an increased risk. The applicant is requested to move the proposed access location away from the other access or provide some mitigation to reduce the frequency of use of the other access.

(b) This development would be considered in zone 1 for parking as the near by public transport is not high frequency nor multidirectional, and the nearest LUAS stop is over 5km away (the transport assessment notes the development is in close proximity). A ratio of 0.64 has been applied to other developments in the area and would be considered appropriate for this, therefore the roads department consider the parking rate of 40no. a little low and would request additional parking closer to 49no. spaces. A revised layout of not less than 1:200 scale showing the location and number of parking spaces to be provided at the development should be submitted. Please refer to Table 12.25: Maximum Parking Rates (Residential) – from the SDCC County Development Plan 2022-2028.

(c) A revised layout not less than 1:200 scale showing the pedestrian routes within the development. All footpaths shall be a minimum of 2.0m wide.

(d) A revised layout not less than 1:200 scale of the elevation of the access location detailing the boundary walls and gates at vehicle access points shall be limited to a maximum height of 0.9m, and any boundary pillars shall be limited to a maximum height of 1.2m, in order to improve forward visibility for vehicles.

(e) Details of discussions with Public Realm in resolving Tree conflict with access point.

(f) A revised layout of not less than 1:200 scale a swept path analysis showing how the cars can safely access and egress the parking spaces for the development.

(g) Accurate plans demonstrating the provision of a visibility splay with 2.4 meters set back at a 1.05 meter height from ground level and 49 meters sight lines in both directions from the entrance. Sight lines should be shown to the near side edge of the road to the right-hand side of entrance and to the centreline of the road to the left-hand side of the entrance (when exiting). The visibility shall consider the proximity of the vehicle access to the south.

(h) A revised layout of not less than 1:200 scale detailing a cycle route from the proposed access to the existing cycle infrastructure on the Scholarstown Road.

(i) Internal access should be provided to the bicycle store at ground floor within the proposed apartment building.

(j) It is not clear where all the external bicycle parking spaces are, in order to meet the 183 no. total stated. The applicant is requested to clarify this.

8. (a) Proposed surface water attenuation calculations are unclear. The applicant is requested to submit a report showing surface water attenuation calculation in table format. Show the site area in m², and areas of different surface types in m². Examples of surface types are buildings, green roofs, roads, pathways, permeable paving, green areas and their respective run off coefficients. Show in a report the SAAR (Standard annual Average Rainfall) value and green field run off rate in litres/second/hectare for the proposed development site. Use Met Eireann rainfall figures for the site when calculating the surface water attenuation required.

(b) The applicant is requested to submit a drawing showing the capacity in m³ of surface water attenuation provided in m³ of each SuDS (Sustainable Drainage System) system

NOTE: The applicant should note that any submission made in response to the above will be examined and MAY be deemed to be SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION by the Planning Authority. In this event the applicant(s) will be subsequently notified and requested to publish a notice in an approved newspaper and erect or fix a site notice on the land or structure to which the further information relates and to submit copies of the both the newspaper and site notices to the Planning Authority in accordance with Article 35 (1) (a) and (b) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Note: The applicant must submit the Further Information within **6 months** of the **date of decision**. If the information is not received within this period, the planning authority shall declare the application to be withdrawn.

Please ensure that your reply to this Request for Additional Information is accompanied by a covering letter marked “ADDITIONAL INFORMATION” and that the Planning Register Reference Number given above is quoted on the covering letter.

Signed on behalf of South Dublin County Council

Register Reference: SD22A/0401

Date: 16-Dec-2022

Yours faithfully,

Pamela Hughes
for **Senior Planner**