

## DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

AUTHORISATION	INITIALS	DATE
File completed and officer recommendation:	DB	02/10/20
Planning Development Manager authorisation:	TF	02/10/20
Admin checks / despatch completed	DB	05/10/20
Technician Final Checks/ Scanned / LC Notified / UU Emails:	BB	05/10/2020

**Application:** 20/01028/FUL **Town / Parish:** Harwich Town Council

**Applicant:** Mr and Mrs D Goff

**Address:** 359 Main Road Harwich Essex

**Development:** Proposed single storey rear and side extension.

### 1. Town / Parish Council

Harwich Town Council- No objection to the application

### 2. Consultation Responses

No responses received

### 3. Planning History

20/01028/FUL Proposed single storey rear and side extension. Current

### 4. Relevant Policies / Government Guidance

*NPPF National Planning Policy Framework February 2019*

*National Planning Practice Guidance*

*Tendring District Local Plan 2007*

QL9 Design of New Development

QL10 Designing New Development to Meet Functional Needs

QL11 Environmental Impacts and Compatibility of Uses

HG14 Side Isolation

*Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017)*

SPL3 Sustainable Design

## **Status of the Local Plan**

The 'development plan' for Tendring is the 2007 'adopted' Local Plan. Paragraph 213 of the NPPF (2019) allows local planning authorities to give due weight to adopted albeit outdated policies according to their degree of consistency with the policies in the NPPF. Paragraph 48 of the NPPF also allows weight to be given to policies in emerging plans according to their stage of preparation, the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies and the degree of consistency with national policy. As of 16th June 2017, the emerging Local Plan for Tendring is the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft.

Section 1 of the Local Plan (which sets out the strategy for growth across North Essex including Tendring, Colchester and Braintree) was examined in January and May 2018, with further hearing sessions in January 2020. The Inspector issued his findings in respect of the legal compliance and soundness of the Section 1 Plan in May 2020. He confirmed that the plan was legally compliant and that the housing and employment targets for each of the North Essex Authorities, including Tendring, were sound. However, he has recommended that for the plan to proceed to adoption, modifications will be required – including the removal of two of the three Garden Communities 'Garden Communities' proposed along the A120 (to the West of Braintree and on the Colchester/Braintree Border) that were designed to deliver longer-term sustainable growth in the latter half of the plan period and beyond 2033.

The three North Essex Authorities are currently considering the Inspector's advice and the implications of such modifications with a view to agreeing a way forward for the Local Plan. With the Local Plan requiring modifications which, in due course, will be the subject of consultation on their own right, its policies cannot yet carry the full weight of adopted policy, however they can carry some weight in the determination of planning applications – increasing with each stage of the plan-making process.

The examination of Section 2 of the Local Plan (which contains more specific policies and proposals for Tendring) will progress once modifications to the Section 1 have been consulted upon and agreed by the Inspector. Where emerging policies are particularly relevant to a planning application and can be given some weight in line with the principles set out in paragraph 48 of the NPPF, they will be considered and, where appropriate, referred to in decision notices. In general terms however, more weight will be given to policies in the NPPF and the adopted Local Plan.

## **5. Officer Appraisal**

### **Proposal**

The proposal seeks permission for the erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

### **Application Site**

The site is located to the South of Main Road within the development boundary of Harwich. The site serves an end of terrace semi-detached property constructed of red brickwork and a pitched tiled roof. The surrounding streetscene is comprised from dwellings of similar scale and design, materials present include brickwork and render.

## **Assessment**

### **Design and Appearance**

One of the core planning principles of The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as stated at paragraph 130 is to always seek to secure high quality design. Saved Policies QL9, QL10 and QL11 aim to ensure that all new development makes a positive contribution to the quality of the local environment, relates well to its site and surroundings particularly in relation to its form and design and does not have a materially damaging impact on the amenities of occupiers of nearby properties. Emerging Policy SP1 reflects these considerations.

The proposed rear and side extension will measure 5.1 metres wide by 6.6 metres deep with an overall height of 2.8 metres. The proposal is deemed to be of a size and scale appropriate to the existing dwelling and surrounding area. The site can accommodate a proposal of this size and scale whilst retaining adequate private amenity space.

The proposed extension will be located to the rear of the property and therefore is not visible from the streetscene. The proposal will be constructed from brickwork to match the existing dwelling, the roof will be flat and the windows and doors will be UPVC. The flat roof design is not consistent with the overall design of the existing dwelling, however as it is located to the rear this will not have an impact on the overall appearance of the site nor streetscene.

### **Impact to Neighbouring Amenities**

The NPPF, Paragraph 17, states that planning should always seek to secure a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. In addition, Policy QL11 of the saved plan states that amongst criteria 'development will only be permitted if the development will not have a materially damaging impact on the privacy, daylight or other amenities of occupiers of nearby properties'. These sentiments are carried forward by Policy SPL3 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017).

The nearest neighbouring properties are 357 Main Road to the East and 363A Main Road to the West.

### **Impact on 357 Main Road**

The Essex Design Guide makes reference to The Building Research Establishments report "Site Layout for Daylight and Sunlight" 1991 which suggests that obstruction of light and outlook from an existing window is avoided if the extension does not result in the centre of the existing window being within a combined plan and section 45 degree overshadowing zone. Using the sunlight/daylight calculations specified in the Essex Design Guide the 45 degree line down from the single storey rear extension would catch less than half of the window to the rear of No. 357. As a result the loss of light that the proposal will cause is not considered so significant as to justify refusing planning permission on these grounds.

Due to the single storey nature of the proposal with no side windows facing towards No.357, there will be no significant impact in terms of outlook or privacy.

## **Impact on 363A Main Road**

This dwelling is set away from the proposed development and is obscured by the presence of a fence and high hedge line. As a result, it is deemed that this development will not cause a significant impact on the loss of privacy nor daylight, nor to cause any other harm to the amenities of the adjacent neighbour.

## **Highway issues**

The proposal neither generates an additional need for parking nor decreases the existing parking provision at the site.

## **Other Considerations**

Harwich Council has no objection to this application

No other letters of representation have been received.

## **Conclusion**

It is considered that the proposed development is consistent with the National and Local Plan Policies identified above. In the absence of material harm resulting from the proposal the application is recommended for approval.

## **6. Recommendation**

Approval- Full

## **7. Conditions**

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason - To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plan; Drawing No. 359 MR. HAR/07/2020/04.

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

## **8. Informatives**

Positive and Proactive Statement

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development, as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.

<b>Are there any letters to be sent to applicant / agent with the decision?</b> <b>If so please specify:</b>	YES	NO
<b>Are there any third parties to be informed of the decision?</b> <b>If so, please specify:</b>	YES	NO