

## DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

AUTHORISATION	INITIALS	DATE
File completed and officer recommendation:	CC	04.05.2021
Planning Development Manager authorisation:	SCE	04.05.2021
Admin checks / despatch completed	ER	05/05/2021
Technician Final Checks/ Scanned / LC Notified / UU Emails:	CC	05.05.2021

**Application:** 21/00370/FUL **Town / Parish:** Clacton Non Parished

**Applicant:** Mr Alfie Leonard

**Address:** 10 Totteridge Close Clacton On Sea Essex

**Development:** Proposed conversion of garage into habitable accommodation and erection of single storey rear extension.

### **1. Town / Parish Council**

Clacton Non-Parished      No Comments Required

### **2. Consultation Responses**

Not Applicable

### **3. Planning History**

21/00370/FUL      Proposed conversion of garage into habitable accommodation and erection of single storey rear 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

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

SP1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

## **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 Paragraph 213 of the NPPF (2019) allows local planning authorities to give due weight to adopted albeit outdated policies according to their degree of consistency with the policies in the NPPF.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. In this latter regard, as of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 'Section 1' of the emerging Local Plan for Tendring (Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft) has been adopted and forms part of the 'development plan' for Tendring.

Section 1 of the Local Plan (which sets out the strategy for growth across North Essex including Tendring, Colchester and Braintree) has been examined by an Independent Planning Inspector who issued his final report and recommended 'main modifications' on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The Inspector's report confirms that, subject to making his recommended main modifications (including the removal from the plan of two of the three 'Garden Communities' proposed along the A120 i.e. those to the West of Braintree and on the Colchester/Braintree Border), the plan is legally compliant and sound and can proceed to adoption. Notably, the housing and employment targets in the plan have been confirmed as sound, including the housing requirement of 550 dwellings per annum in Tendring.

The Council has now formally adopt Section 1 of the Local Plan, in its modified state, at the meeting of Full Council on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021, at which point it became part of the development plan and carries full weight in the determination of planning applications – superseding, in part, some of the more strategic policies in the 2007 adopted plan.

The examination of Section 2 of the Local Plan (which contains more specific policies and proposals for Tendring) will proceed in early 2021 and two Inspectors have been appointed by the Secretary of State to undertake the examination, with the Council preparing and updating its documents ready for the examination. In time, the Section 2 Local Plan (once examined and adopted in its own right) will join the Section 1 Plan as part of the development plan, superseding in full the 2007 adopted plan.

Where emerging policies are particularly relevant to a planning application and can be given 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.

## **5. Officer Appraisal (including Site Description and Proposal)**

### Proposal

This application seeks permission for the conversion of garage into habitable accommodation and erection of single storey rear extension.

### Application Site

The site is located towards the east of Totteridge Close, within the development boundary of Clacton on Sea. The site serves a detached two storey dwelling constructed from brickwork with a pitched tiled roof. The garage is attached to the dwelling and located towards the north of the site. There is a paved driveway area to the front of the site and a lawn area.

### 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 garage conversion will have minor amendments to the dwellings overall appearance. The garage door will be replaced with one window finished in Brown UPVC with gold all bar glazing, to match those of the existing dwelling. There will be no other changes to the external appearance of the existing garage. The proposed garage conversion is therefore considered acceptable in terms of design and appearance.

The proposed extension will be located to the rear of the garage, it will measure 5.1 metres deep by 3.5 metres wide with an overall flat roof height of 2.6 metres. The extension is of a scale and size appropriate to the existing dwelling with the application site retaining adequate private amenity space. The extension will be of a design and appearance in keeping with that of the existing dwelling. The exterior walls will be of a matching brickwork, aluminium bi-fold doors with a black powder finish will be installed to the rear and the windows will be brown UPVC with gold all bar glazing to match the existing. The flat roof design is considered acceptable in this instance as it is located to the rear and not visible to the streetscene. The extension is therefore considered acceptable in terms of design and appearance.

### 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 in Policy SPL3 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017).

The proposed development is of a single storey nature and therefore poses no significant risk of overlooking or loss of privacy to the adjacent neighbours.

The proposed extension will be built long the shared neighbouring boundary line north of the site, however due to the neighbouring dwellings positioning within their site the proposed extension will have no effect on the loss of light to this property.

The proposal is considered acceptable in terms of residential amenities.

### Highway issues

The existing garage is too small to be considered an acceptable parking space by Essex County Council Highways Parking standards, which states a garage should measure a minimum of 7 m x 3 m. The garage conversion therefore cannot be said to cause loss of a parking space in terms of planning. Furthermore there is adequate parking provision to the front of the site on the paved driveway. The proposed development is therefore considered acceptable in terms of highway safety.

### Other Considerations

Clacton is non-parished and therefore no comments are required.

No other letters of consideration 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 / Reasons for Refusal**

- 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. 01 Revision A.

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