

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Melissa Tyler.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

25/01925/FPH

Single storey side/rear infill extension.

4 Oakfields Avenue

Knebworth

Hertfordshire

SG3 6NP

Submitted Plan Nos

Location Plan P1 P2 P3

1.0 Policies

D1 Sustainable design

D2 House exts, replcmnt dwellings outbuild

D3 Protecting living conditions

SECN12 Achieving well-designed places

2.0 **Site History**

2.1 08/00944/1HH Two storey side extension and associated loft conversion.
REFUSED

2.2 08/02016/1HH Single storey side extension following demolition of existing single storey rear extension and conservatory. CONDITIONAL PERMISSION

2.3 11/02907/1HH Retention of single storey side extension UNCONDITIONAL PERMISSION

2.4 24/00845/FPH Retention of first floor rear balcony area CONDITIONAL PERMISSION

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 None received

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 No. 4 comprises a large, two storey detached residential dwelling off Oakfields Avenue, Knebworth.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Planning permission is for a single storey side/rear infill extension.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in this case are the design of the development relative to the main dwelling and the impact the development has on the reasonable living conditions of neighbouring properties.

Design

4.3.2 The proposed extension is designed with modest dimensions and flat roof, incorporating matching brickwork to the external walls. In my opinion, these aspects and design are considered sympathetic to the host and neighbouring properties.

4.3.3 The proposed rear extension would be an infill extension. In my opinion, the proposed infill is subordinate in scale to the existing dwelling house and would not result in any unacceptable harm to the character of the dwelling.

4.3.4 This is considered in line with Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies D1, D2 and D3 of the Local Plan.

Impact on Neighbours

4.3.5 Whilst the proposal would increase the built form, the proposal has a sympathetic design and would not change the outlook from the neighbouring property given the existing brick wall. It is my view therefore, that this development will not result in an adverse impact upon the character and appearance of the street scene.

4.3.6 This development is therefore considered in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF.

Environmental Implications

4.3.7 The proposed development would be consistent with the criteria set out in Emerging Local Plan Policy D1 '*Sustainable Design*'. There are no other significant environmental implications as a result of the proposed development.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

4.3.8 This is a householder application which is exempt from BNG legislation defined under article 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 Overall, as stated above it is considered that the proposed development is compliant with the necessary provisions of the Local Plan policies and the guidelines set out in the NPPF.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

4.5.1 None.

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

4.6.1 None.

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 That planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions.

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out wholly in accordance with the details specified in the application and supporting approved documents and plans listed above.

Reason: To ensure the development is carried out in accordance with details which form the basis of this grant of permission.

3. The extension(s) hereby permitted shall be built in external materials to match the existing dwellinghouse unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA.

Reason: To protect the visual amenities of the locality and to comply with Policies D1 and D2 of the North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011 to 2031.

Biodiversity Net Gain

1. This development is not subject to the statutory Biodiversity Gain Plan condition because it is considered exempt under the statutory exemptions (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-exempt-developments>) or transitional arrangements in respect of the biodiversity gain condition.

Proactive Statement:

Planning permission has been granted for this proposal. Discussion with the applicant to seek an acceptable solution was not necessary in this instance. The Council has therefore acted proactively in line with the requirements of the Framework (paragraph 38) and in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Signed  Shaun Greaves Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 22 October 2025	