

NORTH HERTS COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: PLANNING CONTROL AND CONSERVATION Andrew Hunter	From: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Alan Stone Ext 4108
	Date: 2 nd June 2024
Our Ref: 6260/25	Your : 25/01014/FP Ref:
Subject: Full Planning Permission : Erection three storey building comprising 35no. retirement living apartments with associated communal areas, landscaping and parking following demolition of existing buildings. Land At Birchwood And Silverdale And Three Trees And Willow Close, Old Charlton Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2AJ	

Comments:

Thank you for consulting Environmental Protection on this application. I can respond as follows.

Noise:

The application is supported by a noise assessment which concludes that standard double glazing will suffice in relation to noise, but this is on the understanding that MVHR is installed. I have no objections to this, however, require the following condition on any decision notice should you be minded to grant approval.

No development shall take place until a scheme for protecting the proposed dwellings from noise from road traffic has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. None of the dwellings shall be occupied until such a scheme has been implemented in accordance with the approved details and it shall be retained in accordance with those details thereafter.

Contaminated Land:

We also need to see information on land contamination, and I recommend the following conditions in pursuit of this.

No development approved by this permission shall take place until the following has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority:

- A Phase 1 Desk Study report documenting the ground conditions of the site with regard to potential contamination;
- A Phase 2 Site Investigation (where shown as necessary the Phase 1 Desk Study);

- A Phase 3 Remediation Scheme (where shown as necessary by the Phase 2 Site Investigation)

All such work shall be undertaken in accordance with BS:10175:2011 or other appropriate guidance issued by the regulatory authorities. The work shall be sufficient to ensure that measures will be taken to mitigate any risks to human health and the wider environment.

Reason: To protect human health and to ensure that no future investigation is required under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Prior to any permitted dwelling being occupied a validation report shall be submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate the effectiveness of any agreed Remediation Strategy. Any such validation shall include responses to any unexpected contamination discovered during works.

Reason: To protect human health and to ensure that no future investigation is required under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Local Air Quality:

North Herts Council have specific air quality planning guidance that can be found at <http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/environmental-health/pollution/air-quality/air-quality-and-planning>

Application of the guidance to a development of this scale and location defines the site as being a MINOR scale development and so the following condition is recommended to ensure that appropriate local air quality mitigation is provided.

EV Recharging Infrastructure Condition

Prior to occupation, the proposed new development shall incorporate Electric Vehicle (EV) ready domestic charging points on the following basis:

1 charging point per unit (dwelling with dedicated parking) or 1 charging point per 10 spaces (unallocated parking)

The final provision and EV specification should be submitted to and agreed with the Council on the basis of a detailed proposal.

Reason: To contribute to the objective of providing a sustainable transport network and to provide the necessary infrastructure to help off-set the adverse impact of the operational phase of the development on local air quality.

Informative

1) EV Charging Point Specification:

A charging point shall be installed by an appropriately certified electrician/electrical contractor in accordance with the following specification. The necessary certification of electrical installation should be submitted as evidence of appropriate installation to meet the requirements of Part P of the most current Building Regulations.

Cable and circuitry ratings should be of adequate size to ensure a minimum continuous current demand for the vehicle of 16A and a maximum demand of 32A (which is recommended for Eco developments)

- A separate dedicated circuit protected by an RBCO should be provided from the main distribution board, to a suitably enclosed termination point within a garage or an accessible enclosed termination point for future connection to an external charge point.
- The electrical circuit shall comply with the Electrical requirements of BS7671: 2008 as well as conform to the IET code of practice on Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment installation 2012 ISBN 978-1-84919-515-7 (PDF). This includes requirements such as ensuring the Charging Equipment integral protective device shall be at least Type A RCD (required to comply with BS EN 61851 Mode 3 charging).
- If installed in a garage all conductive surfaces should be protected by supplementary protective equipotential bonding. For vehicle connecting points installed such that the vehicle can only be charged within the building, e.g. in a garage with a (non-extended) tethered lead, the PME earth may be used. For external installations the risk assessment outlined in the IET code of practice must be adopted, and may require additional earth stake or mat for the EV charging circuit. This should be installed as part of the EV ready installation to avoid significant on cost later.
- A list of authorised installers (for the Government's Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme) can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-low-emission-vehicles>
- UK Government issued legislation in 2021 to require domestic EV charge points to be smart, thus we recommend that all charge points will be capable of smart charging, as detailed in UK Gov regulations.

2) The above condition is considered relevant and reasonable for the following reasons:

- Paragraphs 170 (e), 181 of the NPPF, which refer to the effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution (including air pollution) on health, the natural environment (including air quality).
- Paragraphs 102 (d), 105 (e) and 110 (e) of the NPPF, which refer to the need to promote sustainable transport including the provision for charging plug-in and other ultra low emission vehicles.
- HCC Local Transport Plan (LTP4) 2018-2031 which includes an objective to 'preserve the character and quality of the Hertfordshire environment' and 'make journeys and their impact safer and healthier', as well as its Emissions Reduction Policy 19.
- It is consistent with the approach specified in the NHDC Air Quality Planning Guidance Document, which is referenced within the current consultation version of the Local Plan.

For such a development, this would comprise 1 charging point per unit (dwelling with dedicated parking) or 1 charging point per 10 spaces (unallocated parking)

Regards
Alan Stone