



# REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE

17 July 2014

# REPORT

**Subject Heading:**

P1053.13 - Land off Harlow Gardens, Romford - The erection of 3 no. 2 bed chalet bungalows and 2 no. 2 bed bungalows (received 21/08/13; amended plans received 03/12/13 and 06/03/14)

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**Policy context:**

Local Development Framework  
The London Plan  
National Planning Policy Framework

**Financial summary:**

None

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Clean, safe and green borough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excellence in education and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Value and enhance the life of every individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUMMARY**

This application relates to Council owned undeveloped land. The application proposes the erection of 3 no. 2 bed chalet bungalows and 2 no. 2 bed bungalows. The application was deferred at the Regulatory Services Committee of

8 May 2014 in order to allow members to do an unaccompanied site visit. The following report is unchanged from that which was previously deferred.

The application is recommended for approval subject to conditions and the applicant entering into a Section 106 Agreement.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes that the development proposed is liable for the Mayor's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in accordance with London Plan Policy 8.3 and that the applicable fee is based on an internal gross floor area of 78.9m<sup>2</sup> per bungalow and 96.8m<sup>2</sup> per chalet bungalow and amounts to £8,964.

That the proposal is unacceptable as it stands but would be acceptable subject to the applicant entering into a Section 106 Legal Agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), to secure the following:

- A financial contribution of £30,000 to be paid prior to commencement of development and to be used towards infrastructure costs.
- All contribution sums shall include interest to the due date of expenditure and all contribution sums to be subject to indexation from the date of completion of the Section 106 agreement to the date of receipt by the Council.
- To pay the Council's reasonable legal costs in association with the preparation of a legal agreement irrespective of whether the legal agreement is completed.
- Payment of the appropriate planning obligation/s monitoring fee prior to completion of the agreement.

That staff be authorised to enter into a legal agreement to secure the above and upon completion of that agreement, grant planning permission subject to the conditions set out below:

1. Time Limit: The development to which this permission relates must be commenced not later than three years from the date of this permission.

**Reason:** To comply with the requirements of section 91 of the Town and Country Act 1990.

2. Accordance with plans: The development hereby permitted shall not be carried out otherwise than in complete accordance with the approved plans listed on page 1 of this decision notice.

**Reason:** The Local Planning Authority consider it essential that the whole of the development is carried out and that no departure whatsoever is made from the details approved, since the development would not necessarily be acceptable if partly carried out or carried out differently in any degree from the details submitted. Also, in order that the development accords with Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61.

3. Parking standards: Before the building(s) hereby permitted is first occupied, provision shall be made for 10 no. off-street car parking spaces within the site and thereafter this provision shall be made permanently available for use, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** To ensure that adequate car parking provision is made off street in the interests of highway safety.

4. Materials: Before any of the development hereby permitted is commenced, samples of all materials to be used in the external construction of the building(s) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and thereafter the development shall be constructed with the approved materials.

**Reason:** To ensure that the appearance of the proposed development will harmonise with the character of the surrounding area and comply with Policy DC61 of the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document.

5. Landscaping: No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority a scheme of hard and soft landscaping, which shall include indications of all existing trees and shrubs on the site, and details of any to be retained, together with measures for the protection in the course of development. All planting, seeding or turfing comprised within the scheme shall be carried out in the first planting season following completion of the development and any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** In accordance with Section 197 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and to enhance the visual amenities of the development, and that the development accords with the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61

6. Standard flank wall condition: Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, no window or other opening (other than those shown on the submitted and approved plans,) shall be formed in the flank wall(s) of the building(s) hereby permitted, unless specific permission under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 has first been sought and obtained in writing from the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** In order to ensure a satisfactory development that will not result in any loss of privacy or damage to the environment of neighbouring properties which exist or may be proposed in the future, and in order that the development accords with Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61.

7. Obscure glazed windows: Notwithstanding the details shown on the approved plans, the proposed front and rear facing loft windows serving en-suite bathrooms and cupboards as well as the ground floor flank windows to plot 3 and plot 5 serving a lounge and kitchen shall be permanently glazed with obscure glass and with the exception of top hung fanlights shall remain permanently fixed shut and thereafter be maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority, in order that the development accords with Policy DC61 of the LDF.

**Reason:** In the interest of privacy.

8. Cycle storage: Prior to completion of the works hereby permitted, cycle storage of a type and in a location previously submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority shall be provided and permanently retained thereafter.

**Reason:** In the interests of providing a wide range of facilities for non-motor car residents, in the interests of sustainability.

9. Hours of construction: All building operations in connection with the construction of external walls, roof, and foundations; site excavation or other external site works; works involving the use of plant or machinery; the erection of scaffolding; the delivery of materials; the removal of materials and spoil from the site, and the playing of amplified music shall only take place between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm Monday to Friday, and between 8.00am and 1.00pm on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays and Bank Holidays/Public Holidays.

**Reason:** To protect residential amenity, and in order that the development accords with the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61.

10. Construction Method Statement: Before commencement of the proposed development, a scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority making provision for a Construction Method Statement to control the adverse impact of the development on the amenity

of the public and nearby occupiers. The Construction Method statement shall include details of:

- a) parking of vehicles of site personnel and visitors;
- b) storage of plant and materials;
- c) dust management controls;
- d) measures for minimising the impact of noise and, if appropriate, vibration arising from construction activities;
- e) predicted noise and, if appropriate, vibration levels for construction using methodologies and at points agreed with the Local Planning Authority;
- f) scheme for monitoring noise and if appropriate, vibration levels using methodologies and at points agreed with the Local Planning Authorities;
- g) siting and design of temporary buildings;
- h) scheme for security fencing/hoardings, depicting a readily visible 24-hour contact number for queries or emergencies;
- i) details of disposal of waste arising from the construction programme, including final disposal points. The burning of waste on the site at any time is specifically precluded.

And the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme and statement.

**Reason:** To protect residential amenity, and in order that the development accords the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61.

11. Highway Agreements: The necessary agreement, notice or licence to enable the proposed alterations to the Public Highway shall be entered into prior to the commencement of the development.

**Reason:** To ensure the interests of the travelling public and are maintained and comply with policies of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies, namely CP10, CP17 and DC61.

12. Secured by Design/Crime Prevention: Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved a full and detailed application for the Secured by Design award scheme shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority, setting out how the principles and practices of the Secured by Design Scheme are to be incorporated. Once approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the Metropolitan Police Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCOs), the development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed details.

**Reason:** In the interest of creating safer, sustainable communities, reflecting guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy 7.3 of the London Plan, and Policies CP17 'Design' and DC63 'Delivering Safer Places' of the LBH LDF.

13. Refuse and recycling: Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted, provision shall be made for the storage of refuse and recycling awaiting collection according to details which shall previously have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** In the interests of amenity of occupiers of the development and also the visual amenity of the development and the locality generally, and in order that the development accords with the LDF Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61

14. Permitted Development rights: Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the 1995 Order) (as amended) no extensions, roof extensions, roof alterations or outbuildings shall take place unless permission under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 has first been sought and obtained in writing from the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** In the interests of amenity and to enable the Local Planning Authority to retain control over future development, and in order that the development accords with Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC61.

15. Screen fencing: Prior to the commencement of the development, all details of boundary screening shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority the approved details shall be implemented immediately on approval and shall be permanently retained and maintained thereafter to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** To protect the visual amenities of the development and to prevent undue overlooking of adjoining properties.

16. Lighting: Before the building (s) hereby permitted is first occupied, a scheme for lighting within the development, to include the lighting along the access road, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The lighting shall be provided and operated in strict accordance with the approved scheme.

**Reason:** In the interest of residential amenity.

17. Wheel washing: Before the development hereby permitted is first commenced, wheel scrubbing/wash down facilities to prevent mud being deposited onto the public highway during construction works shall be provided on site in accordance with details to be first submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved facilities shall be retained thereafter and used at relevant entrances to the site throughout the duration of construction works.

**Reason:** In order to prevent materials from the site being deposited on the adjoining public highway, in the interests of highway safety and the amenity

of the surrounding area, and in order that the development accords with the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policies DC61 and DC32.

18. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved details of existing ground levels and proposed ground and finished floor levels shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans unless otherwise submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** In the interests of neighbouring amenity and to accord with Policy DC61 of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document.

19. Tree protection: No building, engineering operations or other development on the site, shall be commenced until a scheme for the protection of preserved trees on the site has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such scheme shall contain details of the erection and maintenance of fences or walls around the trees, details of underground measures to protect roots, the control of areas around the trees and any other measures necessary for the protection of the trees. Such agreed measures shall be implemented before development commences and kept in place until the approved development is completed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

**Reason:** To protect the trees on the site

## INFORMATIVES

1. Fee Informative:

A fee is required when submitting details pursuant to the discharge of conditions. In order to comply with the Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2012, which came into force from 22.11.2012, a fee of £97 per request or £28 where the related permission was for extending or altering a dwellinghouse, is needed.

2. Planning Obligations

The planning obligations recommended in this report have been subject to the statutory tests set out in Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 and the obligations are considered to have satisfied the following criteria:-

- (a) Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
- (b) Directly related to the development; and
- (c) Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

3. The applicant is advised that planning approval does not constitute approval for changes to the public highway. Highway Authority approval will only be given after suitable details have been submitted, considered and agreed. Any proposals which involve building over the public highway as managed by the London Borough of Havering, will require a licence and the applicant must contact StreetCare, Traffic and Engineering on 01708 433750 to commence the Submission / Licence Approval process.
4. The developer, their representatives and contractors are advised that planning permission does not discharge the requirements under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. Formal notifications and approval will be needed for any highway works (including temporary works) required during the construction of the development.
5. The applicant is advised that if construction materials are proposed to be kept on the highway during construction works then they will need to apply for a license from the Council.
6. With regards to surface water drainage it is the responsibility of the developer to make proper provision for drainage to ground, water courses or a suitable sewer. In respect of surface water it is recommended that the applicant should ensure that storm flows are attenuated or regulated into the receiving public network through on or off site storage. When it is proposed to connect to a combined public sewer, the site drainage should be separate and combined at the final manhole nearest the boundary. Connections are not permitted for the removal of Ground Water. Where the developer proposes to discharge to a public sewer, prior approval from Thames Water Developer Services will be required. They can be contacted on 0845 850 2777.
7. In aiming to satisfy condition 12 the applicant should seek the advice of the Police Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCOs). The services of the Police DOCOs are available free of charge and can be contacted via docomailbox.ne@met.police.uk or 0208 217 3813. It is the policy of the local planning authority to consult with the DOCOs in the discharging of community safety condition(s).
8. Statement Required by Article 31 (cc) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management) Order 2010: No significant problems were identified during the consideration of the application, and therefore it has been determined in accordance with paragraphs 186-187 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

### **Mayoral CIL**

The proposed development is liable for the Mayor's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in accordance with London Plan Policy 8.3. The applicable fee is based on an internal gross floor area of 448.2m<sup>2</sup> which, at £20 per m<sup>2</sup>, equates to a Mayoral CIL payment of £8,964 (subject to indexation).



## REPORT DETAIL

### 1. Site Description

- 1.1 The application site is an empty piece of land which is located to rear of the properties along Harlow Gardens, Romford. The site is surrounded by residential dwellings. The ground has a severe slope down from northeast to southwest. The site has an overall area of approximately 2496m<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.2 Development in the vicinity is characterised by 2-storey and 3-storey residential dwellings with various different external finishing.

### 2. Description of Proposal

- 2.1 The application seeks permission for the erection of 3 no. 2 bed chalet bungalows and 2 no. 2 bed bungalows with associated parking and amenity. The proposed bungalows would be arranged on site as 2 no. detached bungalows situated along the narrowest part of the site and a terrace of 3 chalet bungalows situated in the wider part (south-eastern corner) of the site.
- 2.2 The detached bungalows would measure 8.45m in width and between 8.35m and 10.6m in depth. The terrace of 3 chalet bungalows would measure 21.4m in width and 9.15m in depth. The bungalows would be finished with hipped styled roofs measuring 2.3m in height to eaves and 5.1m to the ridge. The terrace of 3 chalet bungalows would be finished with a chalet style dual pitched roof measuring 2.4m in height to eaves and 6.55m to the ridge. The proposed chalet bungalows would also feature 2 no. front dormers and a rear dormer measuring 1.6m in width, 2.7m in depth and 2.2m in height to the top of the dual pitched roofs.
- 2.3 The proposed bungalows would consist of a bathroom, kitchen / dining room, living room and two bedrooms. The proposed chalet bungalows would consist of a bathroom, kitchen / dining room, lounge and a bedroom at ground floor and a cupboard, en-suite bathroom and bedroom in the loft space.
- 2.4 The development proposes a new 4.8m wide access road off Harlow garden. Parking provision for 10 vehicles would be provided, 2 spaces to the rear of plots 1 and 2 respectively and two spaces to the front of each of the chalet bungalows.
- 2.6 The dwellings would have a northwest-southeast orientation with garden spaces towards the rear (northwest) for plot 2 and southeast for plots 1, 3,

4 and 5, measuring approximately 102m<sup>2</sup> for plot 1, 139 m<sup>2</sup> for plot 2, 98m<sup>2</sup> for plot 3 and 71m<sup>2</sup> for plot 4 and 79m<sup>2</sup> for plot 5.

### **3. History**

3.1 No recent, relevant planning history.

### **4. Consultation/Representations**

4.1 Notification letters were sent to 44 neighbouring properties and 7 letters of objections were received raising the following concerns:

- Concerns over narrowness of access road and the ability of fire and emergency vehicles to access the site
- Proposal will add to the existing parking problem in Harlow Gardens
- Overlooking
- Lack of green space in the area
- Decrease in property value
- Streetlights would impact on residential amenity
- Removal of an oak tree unacceptable
- Increase in noise and disturbance
- Removal of trees would result in increased water runoff

4.2 The Highway Authority has raised no objection to the proposal.

4.3 The Borough Designing Out Crime Officer requires a Secured by Design condition.

4.4 The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority are satisfied with the proposal.

4.5 London Fire Brigade has recommended the installation of 1 private fire hydrant which has been indicated on a plan received 16/09/2013.

### **5. Relevant Policies**

5.1 Policies CP1 (Housing Supply), CP17 (Design), DC3 (Housing Design and Layout), DC33 (Car parking), DC35 (Cycling), DC55 (Noise), DC61 (Urban Design), DC63 (Crime) and DC72 (Planning Obligations of the Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Documents and the Residential Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), Planning Obligations SPD and the Residential Design SPD are also relevant.

5.2 Policies 3.3 (Increasing Housing Supply), 3.4 (Optimising Housing Potential), 3.5 (Quality and Design of Housing Developments), 3.8 (Housing Choice), 6.9 (Cycling), 6.10 (Walking), 6.13 (Parking), 7.1 (Building London's Neighbourhoods and Communities), 7.2 (Inclusive

Design), 7.3 (Designing out Crime), 7.4 (Local Character), 7.5 (Public Realm), 7.6 (Architecture) of the London Plan (2011).

- 5.3 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 6 “Delivering a wide Choice of Homes”, and Section 7 “Requiring Good Design”.

## **6. Staff comments**

- 6.1 This proposal is put before the Committee owing to the application site comprising land owned by the Council. The main issues to be considered by Members in this case are the principle of development, the site layout and amenity space, design/street scene issues, amenity implications, loss of trees and parking and highways issues.

### *6.2 Principle of Development*

- 6.2.1 Policy CP1 indicates that outside town centres and the Green Belt, priority will be made on all non-specifically designated land for housing. The proposal is for redevelopment of a derelict site within an existing residential area. The proposal is therefore acceptable in principle and in accordance with Policy CP1 and Policy 3.3 of the London Plan which seeks to increase London’s housing supply.

### *6.3 Site Layout / Amenity Space*

- 6.3.1 Policy 3.8 of the London Plan states that DPD policies should offer a range of housing choices, in terms of the mix of housing sizes and types, taking account of the housing requirements of different groups. Policy 3.5 states that Local Development Frameworks should incorporate minimum space standards. The Mayor has set these at 70m<sup>2</sup> for a 2-bed 4-person flat and 83m<sup>2</sup> for a 2-bed 4-person two storey dwelling. The minimum space requirements for flats has been used in order to evaluate the proposed bungalows as they do not fall in the 2 or 3-storey category. The proposed dwellings have individual internal floor space of 78.9m<sup>2</sup> and 96.8m<sup>2</sup> respectively which is in line with the recommended guidance and considered acceptable.

- 6.3.2 The Council's Residential Design SPD in respect of amenity space recommends that every home should have access to suitable private and/or communal amenity space in the form of private gardens, communal gardens, courtyards, patios, balconies or roof terraces. In designing high quality amenity space, consideration should be given to privacy, outlook, sunlight, trees and planting, materials (including paving), lighting and boundary treatment. All dwellings should have access to amenity space that is not overlooked from the public realm and this space should provide adequate space for day to day uses.

- 6.3.3 Amenity space would mainly be provided with garden spaces towards the rear, measuring approximately 102m<sup>2</sup> for plot 1, 139 m<sup>2</sup> for plot 2, 98m<sup>2</sup> for plot 3 and 71m<sup>2</sup> for plot 4 and 79m<sup>2</sup> for plot 5. The site currently has

screen fencing around its boundaries however, fencing can be required by means of a planning condition to those boundaries that do not have appropriate fencing.

6.3.4 Amenity provision in the locality is generally arranged towards the rear of dwellings. Staff consider the amenity space to be sufficient and would not detract from the surrounding area. Staff are of the opinion that the garden areas would be large enough to be practical for day to day use and with the provision of fencing, would be in most cases be screened from general public views and access, providing private and usable garden areas. Staff are mindful that there would be some overlooking to the rear gardens of plot no.'s 1 and 2 from the 3 storey building at No. 5 to 10, 11 and 12 Harlow Gardens, however this will be a buyer beware scenario where future buyers would be aware of the potential impact on their amenity. As a result, it is considered that the proposed amenity areas of the new dwellings are acceptable in this instance.

6.3.5 The residential density range for this site is 30 - 50 units per hectare. The proposal would result in a density of approximately 20 units per hectare. Although the density range is below the recommended range it is considered acceptable given the nature and siting of the development.

6.3.6 In terms of the general site layout, the proposed detached dwellings would have sufficient spacing towards the front with generous amenity areas towards the rear, and therefore are not considered to appear as an overdevelopment of the site. The proposal would be towards the rear gardens of the surrounding properties and with sufficient spacing between buildings, is not considered to appear as a cramped form of development. The layout of the site is therefore considered acceptable.

#### 6.4 *Impact on Local Character and Street Scene*

6.4.1 Policy DC61 seeks to ensure that new developments are satisfactorily located and are of a high standard of design and layout. Furthermore, the appearance of new developments should be compatible with the character of the surrounding area, and should not prejudice the environment of the occupiers and adjacent properties. Policy DC61 states that planning permission will only be granted for development which maintains, enhances or improves the character and appearance of the local area.

6.4.2 The proposal would not form part of the Harlow Gardens street scene. The development is proposed towards the rear of garden areas of the surrounding properties and would therefore only be visible within the rear garden environment.

6.4.3 Development in the vicinity is characterised by 2-storey and 3-storey residential dwellings with various different external finishing.

6.4.4 In terms of its design and visual appearance, Staff are of the opinion that the development of the proposed detached and terraced dwellings in this

location would have an acceptable appearance with no harmful impact to the character and appearance of the surrounding area. In light of sufficient separation distances between the proposed dwelling and neighbouring properties, Staff are of the opinion that the proposal would not appear as a cramped form of development and overall would have an acceptable design and appearance, compliant with the aims and objectives of Policy DC61 of the Local Development Framework.

## 6.5 *Impact on Amenity*

- 6.5.1 Policy DC61 considers that new developments should not materially reduce the degree of privacy enjoyed by the occupants of adjoining properties or have an unreasonably adverse effect on sunlight and daylight to adjoining properties.
- 6.5.2 Consideration should be given to the potential impact as a result of the severe level change dropping down from the northeast to the southwest of the site. The level changes would have an impact on the properties situated along Highfield Close and consideration has been given to limit any southeast facing flank windows to mitigate the potential for overlooking. Although there will be a living room flank window to the southwestern elevation of the bungalow proposed to plot 1, Staff do not consider this to result in a harmful impact given the separation distance of 8m to the southwestern boundary and 32m to the nearest residential dwelling to the southwest.
- 6.5.3 Consideration has also been given to the potential impact on outlook to these dwellings along Highfield Close. Given the severe slope of the subject site the proposed bungalows would appear higher than bungalows when viewed from the rear gardens of these neighbouring properties. Staff acknowledge that there would be some impact in terms of outlook, however do not consider it to be to such an extent as to warrant a refusal. Any impact would be mitigated by the separation distances in excess of 30m between the existing and proposed dwellings and the distance of 8m from the rear boundaries of the existing properties along Highfield Close to the nearest proposed dwelling.
- 6.5.4 In reference to the terrace of bungalows, neighbouring dwellings to the south and southeast are separated from the proposed dwellings by approximately 28m and 32m respectively at the nearest points. Neighbouring dwellings to north and northeast are separated from the proposed dwellings by approximately 14m and 19m respectively at the nearest points.
- 6.5.5 The property most affected by the proposed terraced block would be No. 3 Harlow Gardens with a front to side separation distance of 19m. Although there would be some impact in terms of overlooking the rear garden of this neighbouring occupier, Staff consider the distance to be sufficient to mitigate any loss of privacy. This is however a matter of judgement and members may attach different weight to loss of amenity as a result of

overlooking. Staff are mindful that the severe down slope from northeast to southwest could result in overlooking from the southwestern flank windows. As these windows are secondary windows to a kitchen and lounge, an obscure glazing condition will be imposed in order to mitigate any potential for overlooking. Staff do not consider the proposed terrace block to have an unacceptable impact on neighbouring amenity.

- 6.5.6 The proposed detached bungalows are situated towards the middle of the subject site at the narrowest part. Neighbouring dwellings to the southwest and north east are separated from the proposed dwellings by approximately 31m and 11m respectively at the nearest points. Staff do not consider these neighbouring properties to be negatively affected by the proposed detached bungalows given the northwest southeast orientation and no flank windows proposed at first floor. Also given the severe down slope from northeast to southwest, any overlooking to the northeast at ground floor would be mitigated by high fencing.
- 6.5.7 Overall, Staff do not consider unacceptable levels of overshadowing or overlooking to occur as a result of the proposed bungalows.
- 6.5.8 In terms of vehicular activity and the proposed parking arrangement, Staff are of the opinion that 5 x 2-bed bungalows would not give rise to an unacceptable level of vehicular activity.
- 6.5.9 In terms of general noise and disturbance, it is not considered that the addition of 5 no. dwellings would give rise to any undue levels of noise and disturbance to the surrounding neighbouring properties within what is a predominantly residential area.
- 6.5.10 It should however be noted that although Staff consider the proposal to be acceptable in its current form, given the size of the proposed bungalow development in relation to the resultant limited plot space, any additions, extensions or alterations to the dwelling may result in harm to the character of the surrounding area and neighbouring amenity. In light of this, Staff are of the opinion that all Permitted Development Rights for the proposed development should be removed in order to safeguard the appearance of the rear garden environment and amenities of neighbouring occupiers.
- 6.5.11 It is therefore considered that the layout, siting and design of the proposed development would be acceptable with no material harmful impact on the amenities of neighbouring properties. The development is therefore considered to comply with the aims and objectives of Policies CP17 and DC61 of the LDF Development Control Policies DPD in respect of its impact on neighbouring amenity.

## 6.6 *Highways / Parking Issues*

- 6.6.1 Policy DC33 in respect of car parking refers to the density matrix in Policy DC2. The site has a PTAL rating of 1-2 and therefore requires 2 - 1.5

parking spaces per unit for a development of this type. The development would provide a total of 10 x No. parking spaces. In terms of the number of spaces proposed, the provision of off-street parking spaces would comply with the requirements of Policy DC33 and no issues are raised in this respect.

6.6.2 The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority has raised no objection and is satisfied that a pump appliance can access the site. The request for a new fire hydrant is not a planning consideration and has been forwarded to the applicant for their information.

6.6.3 A condition would be added to provide storage for 2 no. cycle spaces per dwelling in order to comply with the Council's standards.

6.6.4 In light of the above, the proposal is considered to satisfy the requirements of Policy DC2 and DC33 and would not result in any highway or parking issues.

#### 6.7 *The Mayor's Community Infrastructure Levy*

6.7.1 The proposed development is liable for the Mayor's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in accordance with London Plan Policy 8.3. The applicable fee is based on an internal gross floor area of 448.2m<sup>2</sup> which equates to a Mayoral CIL payment of £8,964.

#### 6.8. *Planning Obligations*

6.8.1 In accordance with the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document a financial contribution of £30,000 to be used towards infrastructure costs arising from the new development is required. This should be secured through a S106 Agreement

#### 6.9 Trees

6.9.1 The applicant only proposes the removal of one tree situated near the northwestern corner of the site. Staff consider the removal of this tree acceptable as it is not protected by a Tree Protection Order (TPO). The existing dense tree cover on the southwestern boundary and the large tree to the front of plot 5 would be retained. A tree protection condition would be requested in order to safeguard the existing trees during the construction phase.

#### 6.10 *Other Issues*

6.9.1 With regards to refuse collection, Staff consider the access arrangements to be sufficient to allow a refuse vehicle to enter the site, turn around and exit again in forward gear. A refuse condition will be added to ensure that refuse collection and storage arrangements are submitted to the Council for approval prior to the occupation of the development.

6.9.2 Neighbouring objections relating to the lack of green space and loss of property values are not a material consideration.

## **7. Conclusion**

7.1 Overall, Staff are of the opinion that the proposal would not detract from the character of the surrounding area or neighbouring properties. It is considered that the proposal presents an acceptable degree of spacing between buildings and is not considered to appear as unacceptably dominant or visually intrusive as seen from neighbour's rear gardens. On balance, Staff also consider any potential impact on neighbouring amenity to be acceptable. Overall, Staff consider the development to comply with Policy DC61 and the provisions of the LDF Development Plan Document. Approval is recommended accordingly.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial Implications and risks:**

This report concerns only material planning issues. Any land transaction between the applicant and the Council is dealt with independently.

### **Legal Implications and risks:**

Legal resources will be required to prepare and complete the legal agreement.

### **Human Resource Implications:**

None

### **Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications:**

The proposed dwellings would be constructed to meet the Lifetime Homes Standard which means that they would be easily adaptable in the future to meet the changing needs of occupiers.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Application forms and plans received 21/08/13; amended plans received 03/12/13 and again on 06/03/14.