



REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE

24 October 2013

REPORT

Subject Heading:

**P0858.13 - Land rear of 137 -151
Montgomery Crescent, Romford**

**The erection of 2 no. 2 bed chalet
bungalows with associated parking**

(Application received 10th July 2013)

Report Author and contact details:

**Helen Oakerbee, 01708 432800
helen.oakerbee@havering.gov.uk**

Policy context:

Local Development Framework

Financial summary:

None

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

Ensuring a clean, safe and green borough	[]
Championing education and learning for all	[]
Providing economic, social and cultural activity in thriving towns and villages	[X]
Value and enhance the life of our residents	[X]
Delivering high customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	[]

SUMMARY

This application relates to Council owned undeveloped land. The application proposes the erection of 2 no. 2 bed chalet bungalows. Staff consider the proposal to be acceptable.

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 96.8m² per bungalow and amounts to £3,872.

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 £12,000 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 Planning Act 1990 (as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

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 4 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 southeast facing dormers serving en-suite bathrooms and the northwest dormers serving cupboards 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 interests 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 Methodology Statement: Before development is commenced, 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) Highways Licence Agreement: 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: Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of the measures to be incorporated into the development demonstrating how 'Secured by Design' accreditation might be achieved shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details, and shall not be occupied or used until written confirmation of compliance with the agreed details has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA

Reason:

In the interest of creating safer, sustainable communities, reflecting guidance set out in PPS1, Policy 4B.6 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) Ground Contamination: Before any part of the development is occupied, site derived soils and/or imported soils shall be tested for chemical contamination, and the results of this testing together with an assessment of suitability for their intended use shall be submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, all topsoil used for gardens and/or landscaping purposes shall in addition satisfy the requirements of BS 3882:2007 "Specification of Topsoil".

Reason:

To ensure that the occupants of the development are not subject to any risks from soil contamination in accordance with Development Control Policies Development Plan Document Policy DC53 .

15) Permitted Development rights: Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Order 2008 Article 3, Schedule 2, Part 1, Classes A, B, C, D and E, which amends the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the 1995 Order) 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 .

16) 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.

17) Sprinkler System: Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted, provision shall be made for the installation of a domestic sprinkler system to each of the dwellings on Plot 1 and Plot 2. Thereafter this provision shall be retained permanently unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason:

In lieu of adequate access for a Fire Brigade pump appliance and in the interest of amenity and safety for future occupiers.

18) 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.

19) 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.

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 Crime Prevention Design Advisor. The services of the local Police CPDA is available free of charge through Havering Development and Building Control or Romford Police Station, 19 Main Road, Romford, Essex, RM1 3BJ." It is the policy of the local planning authority to consult with the Borough CPDA 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.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Site Description

- 1.1 The application site is an empty piece of land which is located to the rear of No.'s 137 to 151 Montgomery Crescent. The site is surrounded by residential dwellings. The ground level drops down from Montgomery Crescent and Bridgewater Road towards the subject site. The site has an overall area of approximately 1581m².
- 1.2 Development in the vicinity is characterised by 2-storey residential terraced dwellings. There is no characteristic built form and dwellings are constructed from a mix of bricks and render.

2. Description of Proposal

- 2.1 The application seeks permission for the erection of 2 no. 2 bed chalet bungalows with associated parking and amenity.
- 2.2 The dwellings would measure 7.35m in width and 9.2m in depth. They would each have a chalet style roof and would measure 2.4m to the eaves and 6.6m to the top of its ridge. The dwellings would be centrally located towards the southeastern part of the site and will be set 4.2m off the closest boundary.
- 2.3 Three dormer windows are proposed, two to the front roof slope and one to the rear. The dormers would measure 1.6m in width, 2.9m in depth and 2.2m in height to the top of the dual pitched roofs.
- 2.4 On ground floor level would be a bathroom, kitchen / dining room, lounge and a bedroom. In the loft space would be a bedroom, en-suite bathroom and walk-in cupboard. Windows and doors would generally be arranged to the front (northwest) and rear (southeast) with flank wall windows at ground floor to the northern elevations.
- 2.5 The proposal would retain the existing access to the site measuring approximately 3.2m in width.
- 2.6 There would be a bin collection point along the access road, approximately 49m from the front of the proposed dwelling and 27m from the edge of the highway.

2.7 Parking provision for 4 vehicles would be provided on a hardstanding to the front of the dwellings as well as 4 visitor spaces to the northwestern part of the site.

2.8 The dwelling would have a northwest-southeast orientation with garden spaces towards the rear (southwest) and wrapping around to the sides, measuring approximately 215m² for plot 1 and 270m² for plot 2.

3. Relevant History

3.1 No relevant history.

4. Consultations/Representations

4.1 Notification letters were sent to 30 neighbouring properties and 3 letter of objections were received raising the following concerns:

- Proposal would result in the loss of rear pedestrian access
- Concerns over access arrangements during construction and damage to existing dwelling

4.2 The Council's Environmental Health Service requested a soil import condition.

4.3 The Highway Authority has raised concerns over the distances residents will be required to carry their waste. Under Schedule 1, Part H of the Building Regulations (2000), residents should not be required to carry waste more than 30m to the bin collection point

4.4 The Borough Crime Prevention Design Advisor requires a Secured by Design condition.

4.5 The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority has stated that the access for Fire Brigade vehicles would not comply with section 11 of ADB volume 1 and domestic sprinkler systems may be considered as an alternative.

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, and parking and highways issues.

6.2 Principle of Development

- 6.2.1 The site lies outside the Metropolitan Green Belt, Employment Areas, Commercial Areas, Romford Town Centre and District and Local Centres. The principle of residential development is considered acceptable in land use terms and the provision of additional housing is consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 6.2.2 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 83m² for a 2-bed 4-person dwelling. The proposal has an internal floor space of 96.8sq.m which is in line with the recommended guidance and considered acceptable.

- 6.2.3 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 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.

- 6.3.2 Amenity space would mainly be provided with garden spaces towards the rear (southeast) and wrapping around to the sides, measuring approximately 215m² for plot 1 and 270m² for plot 2. 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.
- 6.3.3 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 area would be large enough to be practical for day to day use and with the provision of fencing, would be screened from general public views and access, providing private and usable garden areas. As a result, it is considered that the proposed amenity area of the new dwelling would comply with the requirements of the Residential Design SPD and is acceptable in this instance.
- 6.3.4 The residential density range for this site is 30 - 50 units per hectare. The proposal would result in a density of approximately 13 units per hectare. Although the density range is below the recommended range it is considered acceptable given the nature and siting of the development.
- 6.3.5 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 of the LDF Development Plan Document 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 of the DPD 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 Montgomery Crescent 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 The characteristic built form in the immediate surrounding area are mainly two storey terraced dwellings built from a mix of bricks and render.

6.4.4 In terms of its design and visual appearance, Staff are of the opinion that the development of the proposed detached 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 Neighbouring properties to the west and south are separated from the proposed dwelling by approximately 7m and 19m respectively at the nearest point. The distance is considered acceptable as the proposed dwellings are chalet bungalows with the proposed dormers facing southwest to be obscure glazed as they serve en-suite bathrooms. Any potential impact to these properties is therefore considered acceptable. Also no flank windows are proposed at first floor. The windows situated at ground floor will be located behind fencing.

6.5.3 The nearest dwelling towards the west and north are situated 16.5m and 9.55m away respectively. Staff do recognise that the front dormers have the potential to cause overlooking to the rear gardens of No. 47 North Hill Drive and No's 147 and 145 Montgomery Crescent; however the proposed dwellings would be at an oblique angle to the rear gardens of these properties. A condition would also be imposed to have two of the front dormers serving cupboards obscure glazed and fixed shut with the exception of the top hung fanlight. It should also be noted that none of these neighbouring occupiers have objected to the proposal. Staff consider the potential impact in terms of overlooking to be acceptable on balance, however members may wish attach different weight to the impact on neighbouring amenity.

6.5.4 Overall, Staff do not consider unacceptable levels of overshadowing or overlooking to occur as a result of the proposed chalet bungalows.

6.5.5 In terms of vehicular activity and the proposed parking arrangement, Staff are of the opinion that 2 x 2-bed bungalows would not give rise to an unacceptable level of vehicular activity.

6.5.6 In terms of general noise and disturbance, it is not considered that the addition of 2 no. family dwelling would give rise to any undue levels of noise and disturbance to the surrounding neighbouring properties within what is a predominantly residential area.

6.5.7 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.

6.5.8 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 in Romford. The development would provide a total of 4 x No. parking spaces to the northwestern side of the dwelling. 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 A condition would be added to provide storage for 4 no. cycle spaces in order to comply with the Council's standards.

6.6.3 The access road would not have sufficient width for Fire Brigade vehicles to access the subject site, however the Fire Brigade have no objection subject to a condition requiring domestic sprinklers to the proposed dwellings.

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 193.6m² which equates to a Mayoral CIL payment of £3,872.

6.8. Planning Obligations

6.8.1 In accordance with the Draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document a financial contribution of £12,000 to be used towards

infrastructure costs arising from the new development is required. This should be secured through a S106 Agreement

6.9 Other Issues

6.9.1 With regards to refuse collection, similar to other dwellings in the Borough, future occupiers would be required to leave refuse bags close to the highway on collection days. There would be a bin collection point along the access road, approximately 49m from the front of the proposed dwelling and 27m from the edge of the highway. The bin collection point is within an acceptable distance from the highway in order for refuse collection to take place however concerns are raised regarding the distance of 49m to the front of the dwellings. Although this scenario is not ideal Staff do not consider it sufficient reason to refuse the application as future buyers/occupiers would be aware of the situation and make the choice regarding the acceptability of the refuse storage distance from the proposed dwellings. Members may however attach different weight to the refuse arrangements and consider these to be unacceptable..

6.9.2 Neighbouring objections relating to the loss of pedestrian access to the rear of their gardens is not a material planning consideration. Access arrangements is a Civil matter between the neighbours and the new land owner.

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 and the refuse arrangements to be acceptable however Member may attach different weight to these two aspects of the development and may wish to refuse the proposal on refuse and amenity grounds. 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 Resources implications and risks:

None.

Equalities implications and risks:

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

Application forms and plans received on 10 July 2013.