

**KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
INVESTMENT & REGENERATION SERVICE**

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) – SECTION 70

DELEGATED DECISION TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Reference No: 2021/62/92133/E

Site Address: Dewsbury And District Hospital, Halifax Road,
Dewsbury, WF13 4HS

Description: Installation of a single electrical substation

Recommending Officer: Jennifer Booth

DECISION – CONDITIONAL FULL PERMISSION

I hereby authorise the approval of this application for the reasons set out in the officer's report and recommendation annexed below in respect of the above matter.

Paul Dowd

AUTHORISED OFFICER

Date: 14-Jul-2021

OFFICER REPORT

Site Description

The application site relating to the Energy Centre behind the Ambulance Station within the grounds of Dewsbury and District Hospital, which is located off Halifax Road in Dewsbury.

Within the wider hospital site, there are some areas of trees which are protected by a Tree Preservation Order. However, there are none close to the application site. Nos. 128-130 Healds Road, to the south, is a listed building but, is a sufficient distance from the application site that it would not be affected by the proposals.

Description of Proposal

The proposal is for the installation of a single electrical substation, within a glass reinforced plastic cabinet.

The flat roofed cabinet would measure 2.8 metres wide by 2.8 metres long, with a total height of 2.3 metres.

Relevant Planning History

There have been several planning applications, principally for extensions, relating to the wider Dewsbury and District Hospital site. However, none are considered relevant to the determination of this application.

Representations

The application was advertised by site notice, which expired on 06/07/2021.

Following the above publicity, no representations were received.

Consultation Responses

None.

Policy

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that planning applications be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The statutory Development Plan for Kirklees is the Local Plan (adopted 27th February 2019).

The site is UNALLOCATED on the Kirklees Local Plan Proposals Map.

On 12th November 2019, the Council adopted a target for achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2038, with an accompanying carbon budget set by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. National Planning Policy includes a requirement to promote carbon reduction and enhance resilience to climate change through the planning system and these principles have been incorporated into the formulation of Local Plan policies. The Local Plan pre-dates the declaration of a climate emergency and the net zero carbon target. However, it includes a series of policies, which are used to assess the suitability of planning applications in the context of climate change. When determining planning applications, the Council will use the relevant Local Plan policies and guidance documents to embed the climate change agenda.

Kirklees Local Plan Policies

- **LP 1** – Achieving sustainable development
- **LP 2** – Place shaping
- **LP 22** – Parking
- **LP 24** – Design
- **LP 49** – Education and health care needs

National Policies and Guidance:

National planning policy and guidance is set out in National Policy Statements, primarily the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published 19th February 2019, and the Planning Practice Guidance Suite (PPGS) first launched 6th March 2014 together with Circulars, Ministerial Statements and associated technical guidance.

The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and is a material consideration in determining applications.

- Chapter 8 – Promoting healthy and safe communities
- Chapter 12 – Achieving well-designed places

Assessment

The following matters are considered in the assessment below –

- 1) Principle of development
- 1) Impact on visual amenity
- 2) Impact on residential amenity
- 3) Impact on highway safety
- 4) Other matters
- 5) Representations
- 6) Negotiations
- 7) Conditions
- 8) Conclusion

1 – Principle of development:

The site is without notation on the Kirklees Local Plan (KLP), policy LP1 of which states that when considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the NPPF. In terms of making alterations within the grounds of the hospital, policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant, in conjunction with chapter 12 of the NPPF, regarding design. In this case, the principle of development is considered acceptable and the proposal shall now be assessed against all other material planning considerations, including visual and residential amenity, as well as highway safety.

The proposals would enhance the facilities at the hospital and, as such, are considered compliant with policy LP49 of the KLP and chapter 8 of the NPPF.

These issues along with other policy considerations will be addressed below.

2 – Impact on visual amenity:

The application site is located within part of the hospital complex and would be positioned so that it would not be highly visible, if visible at all, from surrounding public aspects. The electrical substation would be sited so that it would be in an area, which is set down from the main road and, thus, would be viewed against the backdrop of the larger, Energy Centre and Ambulance Station and would, therefore, appear in keeping with the context of the hospital buildings, thus complying with the aims of policy LP24 of the KLP, as well as the aims of chapter 12 of the NPPF.

Having taken the above into account, the proposed cabinet would not cause any significant harm to the visual amenity of either the hospital site or the wider street scene, thus complying with policy LP24 of the KLP and the aims of chapter 12 of the NPPF.

3 – Impact on residential amenity:

Consideration in relation to the impact on the residential amenity of neighbouring occupants shall now be set out in terms of policy LP24 c), which states that proposals should promote good design by, amongst other things, extensions minimising impact on residential amenity of future and neighbouring occupiers.

In this instance, given the position of the works proposed, there are no residential properties in proximity to the site, which could be affected by the works proposed.

Accordingly, the proposals are considered not to result in any adverse impact upon the residential amenity of any neighbouring occupants, thereby complying with policy LP24 of the KLP (b) and paragraph 127 (f) of the NPPF.

4 – Impact on highway safety:

The proposal would not result in any intensification of the hospital use. However, it would result in the loss of at least one parking space. However, this is a minimal loss and, with the significant parking provision within the hospital grounds, the loss is considered not to materially compromise the parking provision. Therefore, the scheme would not represent any additional harm in terms of highway safety and, as such, it complies with policy LP22 of the KLP.

5– Other matters:

Carbon Budget

The proposal is a small-scale development to an existing hospital. As such, no special measures are required in terms of the planning application, with regards to carbon emissions. However, there are controls in terms of Building Regulations, which would need to be adhered to as part of the construction process and which would require compliance with national standards.

There are no other matters for consideration.

6 – Representations:

None.

7 – Negotiations:

None.

8 – Proposed conditions

Along with the standard timescale condition, which is a requirement of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, it is considered appropriate to add the following condition:

- Accordance with the approved plans, to ensure the development is carried out in line with the officer's assessment.

9 – Conclusion:

This application to erect a substation within the grounds of Dewsbury District Hospital has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan, as listed in the policy section of the report, the NPPF and other material considerations. Given the acceptable design and lack of harm in terms of visual and residential amenity, the proposed extension is considered acceptable.

The NPPF has introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The policies set out in the NPPF, taken as a whole, constitute the Government's view of what sustainable development means in practice.

As set out above, this application has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan and other material considerations. It is considered that the development would constitute sustainable development and it is, therefore, recommended for approval.

Recommendation

Approve

Decision Authorisation - Delegated Powers

Application Number: 2021/92133

Officer Recommendation: Approve

Conditions and Reasons

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun within three years of the date of this permission.

Reason: Pursuant to the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in complete accordance with the plans and specifications schedule listed in this decision notice, except as may be specified in the conditions attached to this permission, which shall in all cases take precedence.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt as to what is being permitted and to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development on completion, and to accord with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan, and the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework.

NOTE: The granting of planning permission does not override any private legal rights or consents that may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant / developer to ensure that all appropriate consents are in place prior to any development commencing; during the period of construction existing access for neighbouring properties is maintained; and no damage is caused to the access driveway or any surrounding properties.

NOTE: To minimise noise disturbance at nearby noise sensitive uses, it is generally recommended that activities relating to the erection, construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of buildings, structures or roads shall not take place outside the hours of:

07.30 and 18.30 hours, Mondays to Fridays, 08.00 and 13.00 hours, Saturdays, with no working Sundays or Public Holidays. In some cases, different site-specific hours of operation may be appropriate.

Under the Control of Pollution Act 1974, Section 60 Kirklees Environment and Transportation Services may control noise from construction sites by serving a notice. This notice can specify the hours during which the works may be carried out.

Plans and specifications schedule:

Plan Type	Reference	Web ID	Date Received
Location plan	-	874349	24/05/2021
Proposed site plan	-	874347	24/05/2021
Proposed plans	-	875817	24/05/2021
Wider hospital site plan	-	875837	24/05/2021

Pursuant to article 35 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework, the Local Planning Authority has, where possible, made a pre-application advice service available, complied with the Kirklees Development Management Charter 2015 and otherwise actively engaged with the applicant in dealing with the application. As the submitted plans were considered acceptable, no changes were sought.

Report Dated

12/07/2021
