

**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:	<b>2025/62/91711/E</b>
Site Address:	69, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR
Description:	Application for the installation of a drop kerb
Recommending Officer:	Faiza Bano

**DECISION – Full Conditional 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.**

Kirsty Nicholls

***AUTHORISED OFFICER***

**Date: 11-Sep-2025**

## **Officer Report – 2025/91711**

### **Site Description**

69, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR is a two-storey semi-detached property faced in brick and render.

The application property lies within a relatively uniform street scene, surrounded by properties of a similar size and scale.

The dwelling benefits from amenity space to the front and rear.

### **Description of Proposal**

The application is seeking planning permission for the installation of a dropped kerb to the front of the site.

### **History of Negotiations / Amendments Received**

Confirmation was sought regarding whether the existing front garden would be hard surfaced to accommodate new on-site parking. The applicant has submitted a block plan indicating the intention to convert the front of the property into off-street parking for two vehicles. To support sustainable drainage, block paving will be used throughout. Additionally, potted shrubs will be incorporated to soften the visual impact and enhance the overall landscaping.

### **Relevant Planning History**

2005/94089 - 77, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR - Erection of Two Storey Extension and Formation of Drop Crossing - Conditional Full Permission

2009/92646 - 73, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR - Formation of vehicular access - Conditional Full Permission

2012/91246 - 61, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR - Formation of vehicular access - Conditional Full Permission

2024/91822 - 63, Westfield Lane, Scholes, Cleckheaton, BD19 6DR - Formation of vehicular access - Conditional Full Permission

### **Representations**

Publication of the application has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's Development Management Charter (2024).

The application has been publicised on the Council's website and by site notice. The expiry date of the publicity period was 08/08/2025. No representations received.

## **Consultations**

**Kirklees Highways Development Management (informal)** – As the property is located on a classified 'B' road, provision for on-site turning is required to ensure vehicles can enter and exit the site in a forward gear. The width of the proposed access must align with the dimensions of the dropped kerb, which must be installed under a Section 184 agreement with the local highway authority.

## **Allocation and Policy**

The site is unallocated.

The following legislation, policy and guidance is considered relevant to the determination of this application:-

### *Kirklees Local Plan*

LP1 Achieving Sustainable Development

LP2 Place Shaping

LP21 Highway and Access

LP22 Parking

LP24 Design

LP30 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

### *National Policies and Guidance*

National planning policy and guidance is set out in National Policy Statements, primarily the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published December 2024, 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 2 - Achieving sustainable development

Chapter 12 - Achieving well-designed places

Chapter 14 - Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Chapter 15 - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

### *Supplementary Planning Documents / guidance*

Kirklees Highway Design Guide (adopted November 2019)

House Extensions and Alterations SPD (adopted June 2021)

## The Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note

### Legislation

The Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).  
The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 sets out that in considering planning applications the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise

### **Assessment**

The following matters are considered in the assessment below –

1. Principle of development
2. Impact upon the character and appearance of the area (including impact upon historic environment)
3. Impact upon residential amenity
4. Impact upon highway safety
5. Climate Change
6. Other matters – e.g. trees/ecology (e.g. bats)
7. Representations
8. Conclusion

### **1 – Principle of Development**

#### *Sustainable Development*

NPPF Paragraph 11 and LP1 outline a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Paragraph 8 of the NPPF identifies the dimensions of sustainable development as economic, social and environmental (which includes design considerations). It states that these facets are mutually dependent and should not be undertaken in isolation.

The dimensions of sustainable development will be considered throughout the proposal.

Paragraph 11 concludes that the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where specific policies in the NPPF indicate development should be restricted. This too will be explored.

Policy LP2 sets out that all development proposals should seek to build on the strengths, opportunities and help address challenges identified in the Local Plan. Policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant and states that “good design should be at the core of all proposals in the district”.

Given the site is in a sustainable location adjacent to properties with a similar relationship to the street scene, it is considered that the principle is acceptable.

## **2 – Impact on character and appearance of the area:**

### *Visual Amenity*

Section 12 of the NPPF discusses good design. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, it creates better places in which to live and work and helps to make development acceptable to communities. Local Plan Policies LP1, LP2 and most importantly LP24, are all also relevant. All the policies seek to achieve good quality design that retains a sense of local identity, which is in keeping with the scale of development in the local area and is visually attractive.

Local Plan Policy LP24(a) states that all proposals should promote good design by ensuring the following: *‘the form, scale, layout and details of all development respects and enhances the character of the townscape, heritage assets and landscape’*.

Key Design Principles 1 and 2 of the Council’s adopted House Extensions & Alterations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) seek to ensure development is subservient to the host property and in keeping with the character of the locality.

The works to the front of the dwelling include the resurfacing of the existing front amenity space with permeable block paving. The House Extensions and Alterations SPD deters the loss of soft landscaping and replacement all hard surfacing as a negative design feature; as such, the applicant has confirmed potted shrubs will be added for soft landscaping.

The works to facilitate access and parking acceptable in the context of the character of the host dwelling and street scene, complying with Policies LP1, LP2, and LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Key Design Principles 1 and 2 of the House Extensions and Alterations SPD, and Section 12 of the NPPF.

## **3. Impact on Residential Amenity**

Sections B and C of LP24 states that alterations to existing buildings should: *“...maintain appropriate distances between buildings’ and ‘...minimise impact on residential amenity of future and neighbouring occupiers.”*

Further to this, Paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that planning decisions should ensure that developments have a high standard of amenity for existing and future users.

Key Design Principle 3 states that extensions and alterations should be designed to achieve reasonable levels of privacy for both inhabitants, future occupants and neighbours.

Key design principle 5 relates to overshadowing/loss of light and details that extensions and alterations should not adversely affect the amount of natural light presently enjoyed by a neighbouring property.

Key design principle 6 seeks to ensure developments preventing overbearing impact and that extensions and alterations should not unduly reduce the outlook from a neighbouring property.

Principle 7 of the House Extensions SPD requires development to ensure an appropriately sized and useable area of private outdoor space is retained.

Given the nature of the proposal, it is considered that there will be no significant impact on overshadowing, loss of light, or overbearing onto neighbouring properties. Moreover, the footfall at the front portion of the application site will not increase to a significant degree to impact on the privacy of neighbouring occupants. Furthermore, all amenity space to the rear will remain, which is considered to be an appropriate amount of private outdoor space.

It is therefore considered that in terms of residential amenity, the proposed development would have an acceptable impact and comply with all relevant policies.

#### **4. Impact on Highway Safety**

Policies LP21 and LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 9 of the NPPF relate to access and highway safety and are considered to be relevant to the consideration of this application. The Council's adopted Highway Design Guide and Key Design Principle 15 of the adopted House Extensions & Alterations SPD which seek to ensure acceptable levels of off street parking are retained are also considered to be of relevance.

The application has been informally reviewed with KC Highways Development Management and was considered acceptable as the proposal would be a reasonable distance away from any junctions and the adjoining dwellings have a similar relationship with the street scene.

In the event that planning permission is approved, it is recommended a note be added to the decision notice which advises that a separate consent is required to make alterations to the highway and that a permeable surface is required.

As such, the development is acceptable and would accord with Highway Design Guide SPD, Policies LP21 and LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Principle 15 of the Council's Street Design Guide and Chapter 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

#### **5. Climate Change**

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 predates 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.

Considering the scale and nature of the proposed development, especially that it is for private use, it is considered that the proposed development would not have an impact on climate change that needs mitigation to address the climate change emergency. The proposed development would therefore comply with Chapter 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

## **6. Other Matters**

None.

## **7. Representations**

No representations have been received.

## **8. Conclusion**

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.

This application has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan and other material considerations. It is considered, the proposed development would result in harm to highway safety and is therefore not sustainable development and is therefore recommended for refusal.

**Recommendation**

**APPROVE**

**Decision Authorisation: Delegated Powers**

**Application Number: 2025/91711**

**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.

1. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in complete accordance with the plans and specifications 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 so as to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development on completion, and to accord with Policies LP1, LP2, LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan and advice within the National Planning Policy Framework.

**NOTE:** The approved vehicle parking areas will need be surfaced and drained in accordance with the Communities and Local Government; and Environment Agencies 'Guidance on the permeable surfacing of front gardens (parking areas)' published 13th May 2009 (ISBN 9781409804864) as amended or superseded.

[www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens)

**NOTE:** The granting of planning permission does not authorise the carrying out of works within the highway and the changes to the access within the adopted highway fronting the property will need to be constructed under a section 184 agreement of the 1980 Highways Act (vehicle crossings over footways and verges). You are required to consult the Design Engineer (Kirklees Street Scene: 01484 221000) with regard to obtaining this permission and approval of the construction specification. Interference with the highway without such permission is an offence which could lead to prosecution.

Plans and specifications schedule:-

Plan Type	Reference	Version	Date Received
Location Plan	-	-	25-Jun-2025
Block Plan	Amended Block Plan		09/09/2025
Proposed Site / Block Plan	Plan drawing	-	25-Jun-2025
Climate Change Statement	-	-	25-Jun-2025

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 Authority have, where possible, made a preapplication advice service available, complied with the Kirklees Development Management Charter 2024 and otherwise actively engaged with the applicant in dealing with the application. No amendments were sought.

Date: 08/09/2025

