

Delegated Decision Report

|                 |         |                           |  |
|-----------------|---------|---------------------------|--|
| Application No: | 25/0632 | Statutory Period Expires: |  |
|-----------------|---------|---------------------------|--|

|            |                                     |       |            |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Site:      | 20 Ridgeway Newport NP20 5AF        |       |            |
| Proposal:  | GARAGE CONVERSION TO HABITABLE ROOM |       |            |
| Applicant: | B Uddin                             |       |            |
| Type:      | Full                                | Ward: | Allt-yr-Yn |
| Decision:  | GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS       |       |            |

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 N/A.

2. SITE LOCATION AND CONTEXT

2.1 The application site comprises of a 2 storey detached dwelling located on the southern side of Ridgeway, a residential street within the defined settlement boundary. The property benefits from off street parking to the front and a private rear amenity space.

3. DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT

3.1 This application seeks consent for the conversion of the existing attached garage into additional living accommodation. The proposal would result in the garage area being utilised as a bathroom and storage area. Externally the alterations consist of the removal of the garage door and replacement with UPVC windows and bricked elevations to match the existing dwelling. A bird box is proposed on the front elevation as a biodiversity enhancement.

4. RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

| App Number | Proposal                        | Decision            | Decision Date |
|------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 23/0843    | PROPOSED REAR KITCHEN EXTENSION | APP with conditions | 11.01.2024    |

5. PLANNING POLICY

5.1 The National Development Framework: Future Wales - the National Plan 2040

Future Wales sets out the Welsh Government's land use priorities and provides a national land use framework for SDPs and LDPs. Future Wales concentrates on development and land use issues of national significance, indicating areas of major opportunities and change, highlighting areas that need protecting and enhancing and helping to co-ordinate the delivery of Welsh Government policies to maximise positive outcomes.

- Policy 1 - Where Wales Will Grow
- Policy 2 - Shaping Urban Growth and Regeneration - Strategic Placemaking
- Policy 9 - Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure
- Policy 12 – Regional Connectivity

## 5.2 Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12) 2024

3.3 - Good design is fundamental to creating sustainable places where people want to live, work and socialise.

3.4 - Meeting the objectives of good design should be the aim of all those involved in the development process and should be applied to all development proposals at all scales.

4.1.51 - Parking provision should be informed by the local context, including public transport accessibility, urban design principles and the objective of reducing reliance on the private car and supporting a modal shift to walking, cycling and public transport. Planning authorities must support schemes which keep parking levels down, especially off-street parking, when well designed.

## 5.3 Newport Local Development Plan (2011-2026)

GP2 - General amenity. There will not be a significant adverse effect on local amenity, including in terms of noise, disturbance, privacy, overbearing, light, odours and air quality

GP4 - General Development Principles. Highways and Accessibility states that development shall only be permitted if it is not detrimental to highway or pedestrian safety or result in traffic generation exceeding the capacity of the highway network

GP6 - Quality of design. Good quality design will be sought in all forms of development. the aim is to create a safe, accessible, attractive and convenient environment.

T4 – Parking. Development will be required to provide appropriate levels of parking, within defined parking zones, in accordance with adopted parking standards.

## 5.4 Supplementary Planning Guidance

5.4.1 The Newport City Council Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Guidance (adopted August 2015) is also relevant to the determination of this application.

## **6. CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

### **6.1 Welsh water:**

*The application appears to rely on existing sewer connections and no new connections are to be made with the public sewerage system.*

*Nonetheless, for the avoidance of doubt we would be grateful if you could provide the developer with the following advisory notes*

### **6.2 Local Highways Authority:**

*There are no dimensions to establish if the existing garage is suitable for car parking.*

*Furthermore, there are no details of bedroom numbers to help determine the SPG requirements for parking.*

*Access to the rear appears to be available, but there are no details of cycle storage. If the garage was not suitable for cars it could have been accepted as cycle storage.*

*The drive appears wide enough to provide three spaces, but the orientation would not allow a safe approach to highway for a car parked adjacent and parallel to the road.*

*On street parking is possible, so if there is a loss of parking it could be insignificant. Any loss of cycle storage could be replaced with a shed at the rear.*

## **7. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS**

7.1 Neighbour and Ward member notification letters were sent on 12/08/2025

7.2 NEIGHBOURS: No comment

7.3 COUNCILLORS: No comment

7.4 COMMUNITY COUNCIL: No comment

## **8. ASSESSMENT**

### **8.1 Principle of Development:**

8.1.1 The application site comprises of an existing residential dwelling within the defined settlement boundary where there is a presumption in favour of development and the efficient use of land is encouraged. As the property is existing there is a presumption in favour of development incidental to the enjoyment of the dwellinghouse, accordingly, no objection is raised to the principle of the development.

### **8.2 Visual Amenity/ Character and Appearance:**

8.2.1 The subject of this application is an existing attached garage that is positioned on the front of the dwellinghouse, therefore its visible within the public realm and will impact upon the amenity and character of the area, however given the limited change proposed it is not considered to result in a significantly different impact that would be harmful to the amenity or character of the area. The external finishes are proposed to match the existing dwelling which will result in a coherent visual impact. The proposal is considered to comply with the requirements of LDP Policy GP6 and the adopted Householder Extensions SPG.

### **8.3 Residential Amenity:**

8.3.1 The proposed development would not result in an enlargement of the existing footprint or built form, therefore any impact arising from the development is not considered to have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the living conditions of neighbouring occupiers. The use of the garage as additional residential accommodation is not considered to prejudice the living conditions of neighbouring occupiers.

### **8.4 Highway/Pedestrian Safety:**

8.4.1 The proposal will result in the loss of the existing attached garage, However the size of the garage is 3.7m x 2.4m and therefore, it is noted that the internal dimensions of the garage do not meet the standards of the Parking Standard SPG and therefore, it is the view of the Local Planning Authority that it cannot be counted as a carparking space. Accordingly, the development would not result in a loss of onsite parking provision. It is also noted that there are no planning conditions that would restrict the use of the garage or require its retention.

8.4.2 Additionally the required 3no. parking spaces are accommodated at the property. However, the Local Authorities Highway Team has noted that the garage could represent a loss of cycle storage. While the applicant has not sent in proposed drawings for this, there is sufficient parking in the area to ensure that harm will not be caused.

### **8.5 Biodiversity:**

8.5.1 Policy 9 of Future Wales states that in all cases, action towards securing the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity (to provide a net benefit), the resilience of ecosystems and green infrastructure assets must be demonstrated. Policy GP5 of the NLDP supports this and states that proposals will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance ecological networks and features of importance for biodiversity. In this case a bird box has been proposed, this is considered to be appropriate when considering the scale and context of the development.

8.5.2 In accordance with Chapter 6 of PPW 12 due regard has been given to the fact that the application should be accompanied by a Green Infrastructure Statement, however given the scale of the development proposed it is not considered proportionate to request one in this instance

## **9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### **9.1 *Crime and Disorder Act 1998***

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. This duty has been considered in the evaluation of this application. It is considered that there would be no significant or unacceptable increase in crime and disorder as a result of the proposed decision.

### **9.2 *Equality Act 2010***

The Equality Act 2010 identifies a number of 'protected characteristics', namely age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation; marriage and civil partnership.

### **9.3 Having due regard to advancing equality involves:**

- removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics;
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these differ from the need of other people; and
- encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

### **9.4 The above duty has been given due consideration in the determination of this application. It is considered that there would be no significant or unacceptable impact upon persons who share a protected characteristic, over and above any other person, as a result of the proposed decision.**

### **9.5 *Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (Welsh language)***

Section 31 of the Act clarifies that impacts on the Welsh language may be a consideration when taking decisions on applications for planning permission so far as it is material to the application. This duty has been given due consideration in the determination of this application. It is considered that there would be no material effect upon the use of the Welsh language in Newport as a result of the proposed decision.

### **9.6 *Newport's Well-Being Plan 2018-23***

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 imposes a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development in accordance with the sustainable development principle to act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This duty has been considered during the preparation of Newport's Well-Being Plan 2018-23, which was signed off on 1 May 2018. The duty imposed by the Act together with the goals and objectives of Newport's Well-Being

Plan 2018-23 have been considered in the evaluation of this application. It is considered that there would be no significant or unacceptable impact upon the achievement of wellbeing objectives as a result of the proposed decision.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 The proposed development has been considered against the requirements of the relevant local and national planning policies and is considered to be compliant. The development would be in keeping with the character and appearance of the host dwelling while not having a harmful impact upon residential amenity. Therefore, the proposal is recommended for approval subject to condition.

## **11. DECISION**

### **Approve subject to the following conditions:**

1. The materials used to finish the development hereby permitted shall only be of materials that match the existing dwelling.  
Reason: To ensure the development is completed in a manner compatible with its surroundings, in accordance with Policy GP6 of the Newport Local Development Plan (adopted January 2015).
2. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the following plans and documents: Site Location Plan and Existing/ Proposed Floor Plan, PL10.  
Reason: In the interests of clarity and to ensure the development complies with the submitted plans and documents on which this decision was based.
3. The biodiversity enhancement scheme as shown on approved plan PL10 shall be implemented in accordance with the approved plans prior to the first beneficial use of the development hereby approved and retained as such for the lifetime of the development.  
Reason: In the interest of protected species, in accordance with Policy 9 of Future Wales and Policy GP5 of the Newport Local Development Plan 2011-2026 (adopted January 2015).
4. The front window hereby approved shall be fitted with obscure glazing to a minimum of level 5 on the Pilkington Scale of Obscurity and maintained as such for the lifetime of the development.  
Reason: To protect the living conditions of neighbouring occupiers, in accordance with Policy GP2 of the Newport Local Development Plan (adopted January 2015).

## *NOTE TO APPLICANT*

01 This decision relates to plan Nos: Site Location Plan and Existing/ Proposed Floor Plan, PL10.

02 The development plan for Newport is the Newport Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026 (Adopted January 2015). GP2, GP4, GP6 and T4 were relevant to the determination of this application.

03 Due to the minor nature of the proposed development (including any demolition) and the location of the proposed development, it is considered that the proposals did not need to be screened under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.