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Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS



8th February, 2023

## PLANNING COMMITTEE - PRE-DETERMINATION HEARING

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet for a Pre-determination Hearing, in hybrid format, both in the Lavery Room - City Hall and remotely, via Microsoft Teams, on Tuesday, 14th February, 2023 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

#### AGENDA:

### 1. Routine Matters

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Declarations of Interest

### 2. **LA04/2021/1672/O**

Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved) for mixed use development on Sites A, B, C, D. Comprising up to 7,710 sqm GEA mixed use to include tourist hostel, residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise floor space (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or C1 or C2 or D1) units on Site A, up to 6,980 sqm GEA of Hotel (C2) floorspace on Site B, the erection of a multi-storey car park comprising of up to 231 spaces (4,130 sqm GEA) and up to 7,130 sqm GEA of employment or community (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2) floorspace on Site C and up to 1,110 sqm GEA mixed use to include residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or D1) floorspace on Site D.

Outline planning permission (with no matters reserved) for the erection of 94 residential dwellings (social housing). Comprising of 44 residential units on Site A and 50 residential units on Site D/NIE. Access to be provided from Raphael Street and Stewart Street respectively. Along with the provision of landscaping, parking, public open space, pumping station and associated works. Lands at the Gasworks Northern Fringe site; bounded to the north by McAuley Street Stewart Street and Raphael Street; Cromac Street to the west; the River Lagan and Belfast-Newry railway line to the east; and the Gasworks Business Park to the south (Pages 1 - 52)



# **Pre-Determination Hearing Report**

Summary		
Committee Meeting Date: 14 February 2023		
Application ID: LA04/2021/1672/O	Target Date:	
Proposal: Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved) for mixed use development on Sites A, B, C, D. Comprising up to 7,710 sqm GEA mixed use to include tourist hostel, residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise floor space (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or C1 or C2 or D1) units on Site A, up to 6,980 sqm GEA of Hotel (C2) floorspace on Site B, the erection of a multi-storey car park comprising of up to 231 spaces (4,130 sqm GEA) and up to 7,130 sqm GEA of employment or community (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2) floorspace on Site C and up to 1,110 sqm GEA mixed use to include residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or D1) floorspace on Site D.  Outline planning permission (with no matters reserved) for the erection of 94 residential dwellings (social housing). Comprising of 44 residential units on Site A and 50 residential	Location: Lands at the Gasworks Northern Fringe site; bounded to the north by McAuley Street Stewart Street and Raphael Street; Cromac Street to the west; the River Lagan and Belfast-Newry railway line to the east; and the Gasworks Business Park to the south.	
units on Site D/NIE. Access to be provided from Raphael Street and Stewart Street respectively. Along with the provision of landscaping, parking, public open space, pumping station and associated works.		
Applicant Name and Address: Belfast City Council and Radius Housing	Agent Name and Address: AECOM 10th Floor Clarence West Building 2 Clarence Street West Belfast BT2 7GP	

# Background:

This application was considered by the Planning Committee at its meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Committee resolved to approve the application, granting delegated authority to the Director of Planning and Building Control to finalise the wording of the conditions and the Section 76 Planning Agreement and resolve any outstanding issues. However, the Council had to first notify the application to the Department for Infrastructure, in accordance with the Planning (Notification of Applications) Direction 2017.

The Council was required to notify the Department as a significant objection had been submitted to the application from DfC Historic Environment Division, as reported in the Committee report to the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022, appended to this report.

The Department was notified of the application on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Following a request for further information from the Council, the Department issued its formal response to the notification on 7<sup>th</sup>

February 2023, confirming that it does not consider it necessary for the application to be referred to it for determination. It concluded that the application does not raise issues of such importance that their impact is considered to extend to a sub-regional or regional level, and the circumstances of the case are not exceptional such as to warrant the use of the Department's "call in powers".

The Department has therefore referred the application back to the Council to determine.

#### **Procedures**

Under Regional 7(1) of the Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, the Council is required to a hold a Pre-Determination Hearing where the Department returns an application to the Council to decide following notification to the Department under the Planning (Notification of Applications) Direction 2017.

The purpose of the Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH) is to give the applicant and interested parties an opportunity to appear before and be heard by a committee of the Council before it makes its decision.

The PDH follows a similar format to the main Planning Committee meeting although no decision on the application will be made at the PDH. The application will instead be determined at the Planning Committee meeting scheduled for later on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

The case officer report to the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Planning Committee is appended and this PDH report should be read in conjunction with the original report. In addition, the following update on consideration of the application is provided below.

# **Updated Assessment:**

Since the previous Committee report, a final set of draft conditions has been drafted in discussion with the applicant. These are detailed in **Appendix 1**, below. A revised Travel Plan has been received with subsequent consultation response from DFI Roads. Final consultation responses have also been received from DAERA NIEA, NI Water and Environmental Health. Clarification has been provided from the agent on the proposed residential parking ratio and on the specific uses within the mixed use buildings on Sites A and D. As reported to at the previous Committee meeting, a total of 265 letters of representation have been received.

## Amended Travel Plan:

- An amended Travel Plan was submitted on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022, reflecting the 1 year Travel Card contribution (as presented in the previous Committee report), as opposed to the 3 years previously requested by DFI Roads.
- DFI Roads has considered this revised Travel Plan and responded on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022. DFI Roads has reiterated its previous position that the green measures offered within the above Travel Plan are insufficient, namely the Travel Card contribution. DFI Roads are of the opinion that a three year contribution is necessary, as opposed to one year as proposed. However, as previously reported, officers advise that a 1 year Travel Card contribution is appropriate given the highly central and sustainable location of the site. This is not considered to be a significant objection.

Officers advise that although this is an outline application, the detailed elements (namely those associated with the 94 residential units on Sites A and D/NIE) are the subject of a private streets layout and thus require private streets determination. Officers have requested that DFI Roads

provide PSD and any other additional conditions. Delegated is sought for the Director of Planning and Building Control to finalise the wording of the conditions.

# **Environmental Health Response**

- A final substantive response has been received from Environmental Health further to submission of additional noise information and contaminated land report.
- Environmental Health recommends that windows in habitable rooms on all residential units
  within Site A are capable of achieving a desired level of sound reduction and providing
  alternative means of ventilation. It notes previously recommended sound reduction
  specification for windows of bedrooms and living rooms as well as sound reduction
  specification of alternative means of ventilation at houses within Site D.
- It recommends acoustic fencing for all garden areas to the rear of dwellings in Sites A and D.
- The proposed foundations and floor construction of dwellings on Site D will mitigate against potential adverse vibration effects associated with the train movements on the railway line.
- In terms of the updated contaminated land report, Environmental Health recommends that a capping layer is incorporated to control the upward movement of mobile contaminants.
   Details to be provided in Remediation Implementation Plan, which should also include gas and vapour protection measures.

The conditions to address these issues are provided in **Appendix 1**.

## **DAERA NIEA Response**

- A final substantive response has been received from DAERA NIEA following submission of the updated contaminated land report.
- DAERA NIEA offers no objections subject to conditions relating to groundwater monitoring and identification and remediation of any unacceptable risks.

Conditions are included in **Appendix 1**.

# **NI Water Response**

A final substantive response has been received from NI Water confirming withdrawal of its
previous objection. It provides confirmation that a storm water off-setting solution has been
agreed. The developer will lay separate foul and storm sewers onsite. The re-development
will see areas of hardstanding currently draining to the combined sewer diverted to a
dedicated storm system.

NI Water has also requested the inclusion of a Grampian condition confirming that properties cannot be occupied until after 1 July 2023 (the date when additional treatment capacity will be available at Belfast WWTW). However, officer's advise that such a condition is not necessary as the development will not be ready for occupation within such a short timeframe.

# Other Updates

The following further late items were raised at the 27th June 2022 Planning Committee meeting.

- Clarification of uses within mixed use buildings the applicant has sought to clarify that the proposed uses within mixed use buildings on Sites A and D include community related uses, as referenced in the plans at **Appendix 2**, below.
- Clarification of residential parking ratio clarification provided by applicant that the parking ratio would be 0.63 spaces/residential unit. This is considered acceptable in view of the highly central and sustainable location of the site, and provision of green travel measures.
- 265 representations letters received, including support for:
  - Housing and 'social components' within Sites A and D
  - Community Infrastructure
  - New connections with wider city

However, concerns have also been raised with regard to how the proposed uses on Sites B and C will be agreed and operated. Officers advise that these elements form the more indicative parts of the proposal with all matters reserved. How these uses will operate will be detailed and assessed at reserved matters stage. The uses will be as set out in the outline planning permission, if granted, and the buildings will be required to fall within the height parameters set out in the submitted design code.

If the Planning Committee resolves to grant outline planning permission then it will be necessary for the developer contributions to be secured through a legal agreement between the Council as landowner and the developer/s when the site is leased/disposed of. For the avoidance of doubt, it is not possible for the Council to enter into a Section 76 planning agreement with itself as explained the previous Committee report.

# **Appendix 1 – Draft Planning Conditions**

#### TIME

- 1. The development hereby permitted must be begun by the following, whichever is the later.
- Five years from the date of this permission; or
- The expiration of two years from the date of approval of the last of the reserved matters

Reason: As required by Section 62 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

### **RESERVED MATTERS**

 Application/s for approval of the reserved matters in respect of all parts of the development, other than the 94 residential units across Sites A and D/NIE for which full details have been provided, shall be made to the Council within three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: As required by Section 62 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

3. No development shall commence on site, other than the 94 residential units across Sites A and D/NIE, unless details of the siting, design, external appearance, means of access and landscaping (herein called "the reserved matters") have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: This permission is in outline only and further details of the development are required under section 4(1) of The Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

4. The reserved matters referred to in condition 3 above shall include the following: Siting: the two dimensional location of buildings within the site.

Design: the two dimensional internal arrangement of buildings and uses and the floor space devoted to such uses, the three dimensional form of the buildings and the relationship with their surroundings including height, massing, number of storeys, general external appearance and suitability for the display of advertisements.

External appearance of the Buildings: the colour, texture and type of facing materials to be used for external walls and roofs.

Means of Access: the location and two dimensional design of vehicular and pedestrian access to the site from the surroundings and also the circulation, car parking, facilities for the loading and unloading of vehicles and access to individual buildings within the site.

Landscaping: the use of the site not covered by buildings and the treatment thereof including the planting of trees, hedges, shrubs, grass, the laying of hard surface areas, the formation of banks, terraces or other earthworks and associated retaining walls, screening by fencing, walls or other means, the laying out of gardens and the provisions of other amenity features.

Reason: To enable the Council to consider in detail the proposed development of the site.

## **MATERIALS**

5. No external facing or roofing materials shall be applied to the 94 residential units across Sites A and D/NIE unless in accordance with a written specification of the materials, which shall have first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council.

Reason: In the interests of the character and appearance of the area.

#### **CONTAMINATED LAND**

6. Prior to the commencement of construction of the approved residential units on the areas of Sites A and D/NIE as defined on Drawing No. XX dated XX, a Remediation Implementation Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. This Remediation Implementation Plan should be based on the remediation proposals outlined in the AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Ltd report entitled 'Remediation Strategy, Belfast Gasworks, Radius Housing, Project number: 60635685, 9 November 2021' (Revision 0). The Remediation Implementation plan should be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance and must provide the final detail of the remediation works to be completed on the site and how they are to be verified. The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved Remediation Implementation Plan.

Reason: Protection of human health.

7. Prior to the occupation of any of the 94 residential units on Sites A and D/NIE as referred to in Condition No. 6 above, a Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Verification Report shall be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance. It must demonstrate that the mitigation measures outlined in the agreed Remediation Implementation Plan have been implemented and have broken the relevant contaminant linkages and that the site no longer poses a potential risk to human health.

Reason: Protection of human health.

8. If during the development works, new contamination or risks are encountered which have not previously been identified, works shall cease and the Council shall be notified immediately in writing. This new contamination shall be fully investigated in accordance with best practice. In the event of unacceptable risks being identified, a Remediation Strategy and subsequent Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council, prior to the development being occupied. If required, the Verification Report shall be completed by competent persons in accordance with best practice and must demonstrate that the remediation measures have been implemented and that the site is now fit for end-use.

Reason: Protection of human health.

9. At reserved matters stage a Detailed Remediation Strategy for the hotel, car park, commercial building and any of the mixed use buildings (on sites A and D/NIE) shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Council. This Detailed Remediation Strategy should consider the risk assessment presented within the AECOM Ltd report entitled 'Tier 2: Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment, Belfast Gasworks, Belfast City Council, Project reference: PR- 60554325\_ENV\_ACM\_RP\_003\_05, Project number: 60554325, 03 November 2021' (Revision 05). The Detailed Remediation Strategy should be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance and must provide the final detail of the remediation works to be completed on the

site and how they are to be verified. All construction thereafter must be in accordance with the approved Detailed Remediation Strategy.

Reason: Protection of human health.

10. Prior to occupation of the hotel, car park, commercial building or any of the mixed use buildings (on sites A and D/NIE), a Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Verification Report shall be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance. It must demonstrate that the mitigation measures outlined in the agreed Detailed Remediation Strategy have been implemented and have broken the relevant contaminant linkages and that the site no longer poses a potential risk to human health.

Reason: Protection of Human Health.

- 11. No development shall commence until the applicant has submitted a groundwater monitoring plan for the development works to the Council for its agreement. The groundwater monitoring plan should include:
- Groundwater monitoring locations down hydraulic gradient of the areas of groundwater contamination,
- Groundwater quality parameters and substances relevant to the contamination detected at the site,
- Limits of detection for the laboratory analysis of samples,
- A schedule of the monitoring proposed prior, during and post development works.

If potential unacceptable risks to receptors are identified Conditions Nos. 21 and 22 will apply.

Reason: Protection of environmental receptors to ensure the site is suitable for use.

12. After completing any remediation works under Conditions 6 and 8; and prior to occupation of the development, a verification report needs to be submitted in writing and agreed with Council. This report should be completed by competent persons in accordance with the Land Contamination: Risk Management (LCRM) guidance available at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/landcontamination-how-to-manage-the-risks.

The verification report should present all the remediation, waste management and monitoring works undertaken and demonstrate the effectiveness of the works in managing all the risks and wastes in achieving the remedial objectives. The report must also contain groundwater monitoring results.

Reason: Protection of environmental receptors to ensure the site is suitable for use.

#### **AIR QUALITY**

13. At reserve matters stage an air quality impact assessment shall be submitted to and approved by the Council. The assessment should have regard to recent up-to-date guidance and best practice for air quality, such as Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance document LAQM.TG(16) and Environmental Protection UK and the Institute of Air Quality Management, Land-use Planning & Development Control: *Planning For Air* 

Quality (January 2017). The assessment must demonstrate that there will be no significant adverse air quality impacts or exceedances of Air Quality Strategy objectives at relevant human receptor locations, associated with the development.

Where exceedances of air quality objectives are identified at relevant human receptor locations, the AQIA shall include appropriate mitigation measures to demonstrably achieve compliance with the objectives in the development year of opening.

Reason: Protection of human health against adverse air quality impact.

# **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

14. No development shall commence on sites A and D/NIE as shown on Plan No. XX dated XXXXXX (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) unless an Environmental Construction Management Plan (CEMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Environmental Construction Management Plan shall include measures to control noise, dust, vibration and other nuisance during the demolition/construction phase. No development (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) shall be carried out unless in accordance with the approved Environmental Construction Management Plan. The CEMP must also have due regard to Parts 1 and 2 of BS 5228:2009+A1:2014 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites, Noise and Vibration.

The dust management measures shall be based on the dust risk assessment and recommendations detailed by AECOM Consultants within Chapter 6 of the Air Quality Screening Report (June 2021) and have cognisance to good practice contained within the IAQM, 'Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction version 1.1', and dated February 2014.

No variations to the CEMP shall be implemented without prior written agreement of the Council and the development shall be carried out in accordance with the revised arrangements at all times.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the area and to ensure effective avoidance and mitigation measures have been planned for the protection of the water environment.

15. No development shall commence on sites the parts of Sites A and D not covered by condition No. 14, or on B and C, as shown on Plan No. XX dated XXXXXX (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) unless an Environmental Construction Management Plan (CEMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Environmental Construction Management Plan shall include measures to control noise, dust, vibration and other nuisance during the demolition/construction phase. No development (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) shall be carried out unless in accordance with the approved Environmental Construction Management Plan. The CEMP must also have due regard to Parts 1 and 2 of BS 5228:2009+A1:2014 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites, Noise and Vibration.

The dust management measures shall be based on the dust risk assessment and recommendations detailed by AECOM Consultants within Chapter 6 of the Air Quality Screening Report (June 2021) and have cognisance to good practice contained within the IAQM, 'Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction version 1.1', and dated February 2014.

No variations to the CEMP shall be implemented without prior written agreement of the Council and the development shall be carried out in accordance with the revised arrangements at all times.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the area and to ensure effective avoidance and mitigation measures have been planned for the protection of the water environment.

#### **NOISE MITIGATION**

16. At reserve matters stage, development-specific noise assessments, for all aspects of the proposal with all matters reserved on sites A and D (sub-areas), B and C as shown on Plan No. XX dated XXXXXX), shall be submitted detailing the baseline noise conditions and identifying any potential noise generating sources associated with the proposals. Suitable mitigation measures shall be recommended for each subsequent block within each phase of development.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

17. Prior to installation of windows within the hereby approved residential units of site A as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, the applicant shall submit to the Council, for review and approval in writing, the final window schedule. The schedule shall detail the selected window configuration and sound reduction performance (both in terms of the Rw and Rw+Ctr) proposed for habitable rooms on all facades of residential units. The window specification for habitable rooms shall be capable of achieving a minimum sound reduction of 25dBRw+Ctr as determined by acoustic consultant FR Mark & Associates. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

18. Prior to installation within the hereby approved residential units within Site A as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, the applicant shall submit to the Council, for review and approval in writing, confirmation of the acoustic specification of the proposed alternative means of ventilation. The specification for the chosen means of alternative ventilation shall demonstrate that the use of the alternative means of ventilation, when open (in the case of acoustically attenuated vents) or, when operating (in the case of mechanical means of ventilation), will not compromise the recommended internal noise levels of habitable rooms during the day and at night as outlined in British Standard BS8233:2014. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

19. Prior to installation of windows within the hereby approved residential units within site D/NIE as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, the applicant shall submit to the Council, for review and approval in writing, the final window schedule. The schedule shall detail the selected window configuration and sound reduction performance of the proposed windows to habitable rooms on all facades of residential units. The window specification shall be capable of achieving a minimum sound reduction of 24dBRw+Ctr in living rooms and 21dBRw+Ctr and 34dBRw in bedrooms as determined and presented on page 29, table 12 of the FR Mark & Associates 'Noise and Vibration' chapter submitted in support of the proposed Outline Hybrid application (uploaded on the planning portal on the 21st July 2021). The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

20. Prior to installation within the hereby approved residential units of Site D/NIE as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, the applicant shall submit to the planning Council, for review and

approval in writing, confirmation of the acoustic specification of the alternative means of ventilation. The specification for the chosen means of alternative ventilation shall demonstrate that the alternative means of ventilation, when open (in the case of acoustically attenuated vents) or, when in the operation (in the case of mechanical means of ventilation), will not compromise the recommended internal noise levels of habitable rooms during the day and at night as outlined in British Standard BS8233:2014. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

21. Prior to occupation of the residential units within site A as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, the developer shall submit a verification report to the Council demonstrating that the window schedule and alternative means of ventilation, as approved, have been installed by way of a written declaration from the supplier and installation contractor confirming such installation.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

22. Prior to occupation of the residential units within site D/NIE as defined on Plan No. XX dated XX, a verification report shall be submitted to the Council demonstrating that the window schedule and alternative means of ventilation as approved have been installed by way of a written declaration from the supplier and installation contractor confirming such installation.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

23. Prior to occupation of any residential unit within Site A as defined on Plan No XX dated XX, a 1.83m high acoustic barrier fence of a minimum self-weight of 25kg/m2, with no gaps, shall be erected along the rear boundary of those gardens at the residential units within site A as shown on the Todd Architect's drawing referenced: GSW-ACM-SW-XX-DR-LA-600001 P4 - Proposed Landscape Layout Sheet 1 'Proposed Landscape Layout – Sheet 1' Rev P4. GSW-ACM-SW-XX-DR-CT-600002 P4 - Proposed Landscape Layout Sheet 2 'Proposed Landscape Layout – Sheet 2'.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

24. Prior to occupation of any residential unit within Site D/NIE as defined on Plan No XX dated XX, a 1.83m high acoustic barrier fence of a minimum self-weight of 25kg/m2, with no gaps, shall be erected along the rear boundary of those gardens at the residential units within site A as shown on the Todd Architect's drawing referenced: GSW-ACM-SW-XX-DR-LA-600001 P4 - Proposed Landscape Layout Sheet 1 'Proposed Landscape Layout – Sheet 1' Rev P4. GSW-ACM-SW-XX-DR-CT-600002 P4 - Proposed Landscape Layout Sheet 2 'Proposed Landscape Layout – Sheet 2'.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

25. Prior to construction of the residential units closest to the railway line within Site D/NIE (Site Nos. X-X), the applicant shall submit to the Council, for review and approval in writing, final details of the foundations and floor construction. The details shall be accompanied with a report / statement from the acoustic consultant confirming that the proposed construction will mitigate against potential adverse vibration effects associated with the train movements on the railway line.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

26. At reserved matters stage for the hotel, car park, commercial building and any of the mixed use buildings (on sites A and D) (as shown on Plan X, dated X), site and development-specific noise assessments shall be submitted detailing the baseline noise conditions and identifying any potential noise generating sources associated with the proposals. Suitable mitigation measures shall be recommended for each subsequent block within each phase of development.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGY**

27. No works shall be carried out within Sites A and D/NIE as shown on Plan No. X dated XXXXXX (other than those required to fulfil this condition) until a programme of archaeological work (POW) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council.

The POW shall provide for:

- The identification and evaluation of archaeological remains within the site;
- Mitigation of the impacts of development through licensed excavation recording or by preservation of remains in-situ;
- Post-excavation analysis sufficient to prepare an archaeological report, to publication standard if necessary; and
- Preparation of the digital, documentary and material archive for deposition.

The development shall not be carried out within Sites A and D/NIE, unless in accordance with the approved POW.

Reason: to ensure that archaeological remains within the application site are properly identified, and protected or appropriately recorded.

28. No works shall be carried out within Sites B and D (those parts not covered by condition No. 28) as shown on Plan No. XX dated XXXX (other than those required to fulfil this condition) until a programme of archaeological work (POW) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council.

The POW shall provide for:

- The identification and evaluation of archaeological remains within the site;
- Mitigation of the impacts of development through licensed excavation recording or by preservation of remains in-situ;
- Post-excavation analysis sufficient to prepare an archaeological report, to publication standard if necessary; and
- Preparation of the digital, documentary and material archive for deposition.

The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved POW.

Reason: to ensure that archaeological remains within the application site are properly identified, and protected or appropriately recorded.

29. A programme of post-excavation analysis, preparation of an archaeological report, dissemination of results and preparation of the excavation archive shall be undertaken in

accordance with the programme of archaeological work approved under condition Nos. X and X (above). These measures shall be implemented and a final archaeological report shall be submitted to Belfast City Council within 12 months of the completion of archaeological site works, or as otherwise agreed in writing with Belfast City Council.

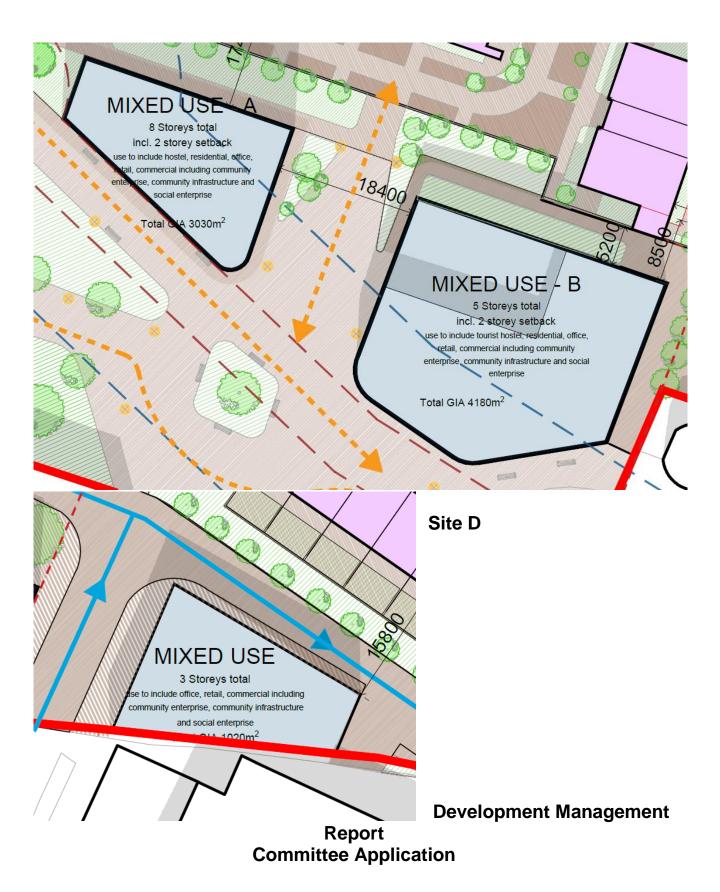
Reason: To ensure that the results of archaeological works are appropriately analysed and disseminated and the excavation archive is prepared to a suitable standard for deposition.

30. No piling work should commence, other than those relating to detailed approval for 94 residential units on sites A and D/NIE, until a piling risk assessment, undertaken in full accordance with the methodology contained within the Environment Agency document on "Piling and Penetrative Ground Improvement Methods on Land Affected by Contamination: Guidance on Pollution Prevention", has been submitted in writing and agreed with the Council. The methodology is available at: <a href="http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140329082415/http://cdn.environment-agency.gov.uk/scho0501bitt-e-e.pdf">http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140329082415/http://cdn.environment-agency.gov.uk/scho0501bitt-e-e.pdf</a>.

Reason: Protection of environmental receptors to ensure the site is suitable for use.

Appendix 2 - Plan showing mixed use buildings

# Site A



# **Summary**

Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday 27 June 2022

# **Application ID:** LA04/2021/1672/O

### Proposal:

Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved) for mixed use development on Sites A, B, C, D. Comprising up to 7,710 sqm GEA mixed use to include tourist hostel, residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise floor space (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or C1 or C2 or D1) units on Site A, up to 6,980 sqm GEA of Hotel (C2) floorspace on Site B, the erection of a multi-storey car park comprising of up to 231 spaces (4,130 sqm GEA) and up to 7,130 sqm GEA of employment or community (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2) floorspace on Site C and up to 1,110 sqm GEA mixed use to include residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or D1) floorspace on Site D.

Outline planning permission (with no matters reserved) for the erection of 94 residential dwellings (social housing). Comprising of 44 residential units on Site A and 50 residential units on Site D/NIE. Access to be provided from Raphael Street and Stewart Street respectively. Along with the provision of landscaping, parking, public open space, pumping station and associated works.

#### Location:

Lands at the Gasworks Northern Fringe site; bounded to the north by McAuley Street Stewart Street and Raphael Street; Cromac Street to the west; the River Lagan and Belfast-Newry railway line to the east; and the Gasworks Business Park to the south.

Referral Route: Application for Major development / BCC as joint applicant / BCC as landowner

# Recommendation: Approval

## **Applicant Name and Address:**

Belfast City Council and Radius Housing

## **Agent Name and Address:**

AECOM 10th Floor Clarence West Building 2 Clarence Street West Belfast BT2 7GP

### **Executive Summary:**

This is a hybrid application seeking outline planning permission for mixed use development as described above. All matters are reserved in respect of the proposed hotel, multi-storey car park,

Class B, Class C, Class D and community uses. No matters are reserved (i.e. full details are provided) in respect of the proposed 94 residential units. The residential element is in effect an application for full planning permission, but procedurally it is an outline application. A broad range of uses have been included in the mixed use proposals. Indicative floorplans and accommodation schedules have been provided to illustrate how the "outline elements" could be delivered to comply with the relevant planning policy framework and the proposed parameters provided on the application drawings. Outline elements include an extension to the existing Radisson Blu Hotel; a commercial building corresponding with the previously approved office block on Site C (reference: LA04/2016/2267/F); a multi-storey car park and three mixed-use buildings on Sites A and D.

The application also seeks outline planning permission (with no matters reserved) for the erection of 94 residential dwellings (social housing). Comprising of 44 residential units on Site A and 50 residential units on Site D/land owned by NIE. Access is to be provided from Raphael Street and Stewart Street respectively. Along with the provision of landscaping, parking, public open space, pumping station and associated works.

The key issues in the assessment of the proposed development are:

- Principle of development of residential and other mixed uses
- Impact on Built Heritage
- Impact on the character and appearance of the area
- Open Space Provision
- Traffic and Parking
- Impact on Amenity
- Land contamination
- Impact on Air Quality
- Noise and Odour
- Drainage and Flooding
- Waste Water Capacity
- Impact on Protected Sites
- Other Environmental Matters
- Developer Contributions
- Pre-application Community Consultation

The proposal will provide a comprehensive mixed use regeneration scheme on zoned lands within the Gasworks estate. The mix of industrial/commercial units is complimented by much needed social housing comprising 94 units, and is considered to follow the thrust of BUAP, and draft BMAP zonings for the area.

Consultation responses are summarised below.

## Statutory consultees

DFC Historic Environment Division – objection
DFI Roads – further issues need to be addressed
NI Water – objection
DAERA – awaiting response
Rivers Agency – no objection
Shared Environmental Services – no objection
NI Transport Holding Company – no objection
NIHE – supports the proposal

## **Non-statutory consultations**

Environmental Health – awaiting further response

BCC Plans and Policy team – no objection

BCC Landscape Planning & Development Team - no objection

BCC City Regeneration & Development – no objection

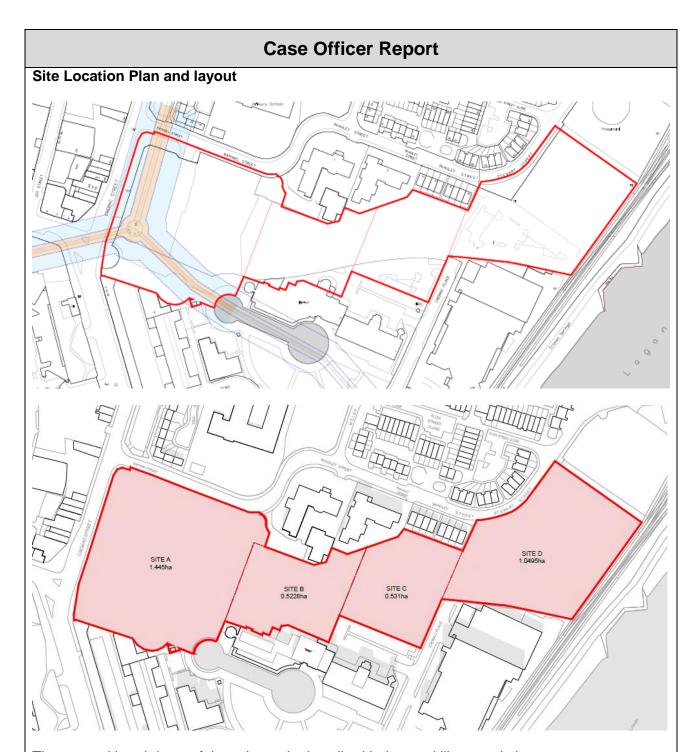
BCC Economic Development Unit – no objection

DFC Historic Environment Division (HED) has expressed concern about the potential impact of the taller elements of the proposal on nearby listed buildings in the area. NI Water has highlighted concerns about the capacity of waste water treatment infrastructure. DFI Roads is seeking further information in terms of the submitted Travel Plan and green travel measures, including a commitment to Travel Cards, Car Club membership and Belfast Bikes membership.

One third party objection has been received, which raises issues regarding direct access from residential to non-residential uses within the site, proposed retail and potential for anti-social behaviour.

It is recommended that planning permission is granted subject to conditions and Developer Contributions being sought through a legal agreement between the Council as landowner and the developer/s when the site is leased/disposed of.

In view of the objection from DFC HED and current position of DFI Roads, the application will need to be notified to the Department for Infrastructure in accordance with the Planning (Notification of Applications) Direction 2017. Assuming that the Department does not "call in" the application, the application will then need to be subject to a Pre-Determination Hearing before further consideration by the Planning Committee.



The general breakdown of the scheme is described below and illustrated above:

Site A - Residential and Mixed Use

Site B - Proposed Hotel Extension

**Site C** – Commercial and Mutli-storey Car Park

Site D - Residential and Mixed Use



# 1.0 Description of Proposed Development

- 1.1 The application site is divided into four areas, defined on an overall "masterplan" as Site A, B, C and D, as illustrated above.
- Although the application is in outline it is effectively a hybrid application, part "outline" and part "full". The "outline elements" with all matters reserved relate to up to 7,710 sqm GEA mixed use to include tourist hostel, residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise floor space (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or C1 or C2 or D1) units on Site A, up to 6,980 sqm GEA of Hotel (C2) floorspace on Site B, the erection of a multi-storey car park comprising of up to 231 spaces (4,130 sqm GEA) and up to 7,130 sqm GEA of employment or community (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2) floorspace on Site C and up to 1,110 sqm GEA mixed use to include residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or D1) floorspace on Site D.
- 1.3 The "full elements" (with no matters reserved) relate to the two residential sites within the overall masterplan area, one containing 44 units and accessed off Raphael Street (Site A) and the other containing 50 units and accessed off Stewart Street (Site D).
- 1.4 A breakdown of the proposed floor space is set out below.

Site/Block	Use	Gross Internal Area sqm	Net Internal Area sqm
Site A/Block A	Retail	420	336
-	Office	1,260	1,050
	Residential	1,350	1,086
Site A/Block B	Tourist Hostel	4,180	3,585
Site B	4 star Hotel	6,590	102 bedrooms
Site C	Multi Storey Car Park	3,990	231 spaces
	Office	6,520	5,430
Site D	Office	1,020	880
Total		25,330	

1.5 Whilst the application includes floorplans and accommodation schedules for the outline elements, these are provided for indicative purposes only. These indicate how the masterplan could be delivered. Illustrative details relating to materials, building types, and internal layouts are included within the Design Code and Design and Access Statement. Parameters plans are provided that show the maximum height of buildings. 1.6 Full details have been provided of the proposed housing in Sites A and D. 1.7 The proposal was subject to a Pre-Application Discussion although not all issues had been resolved at the point the planning application was submitted. 2.0 **Description of Site** 2.1 The site is previously developed (brownfield) land on the northern periphery of the city centre enclosed by roads and built form (predominantly residential to the north and commercial to the south). Cromac Street to the west leads on from Ormeau Road, and forms a junction with Ormeau Avenue. Ormeau Road is one of the main arterial routes to and from the city centre and beyond. The buildings within the Gasworks estate are located to the south of the site including Listed buildings. A railway line immediately abuts the eastern boundary of the site with the River Lagan just beyond this. 2.2 The site is relative flat and has an area of approximately 3.55 ha 2.3 Site A is a rectangular site of approximately 1.1 ha and is situated immediately adjacent to Cromac Street. It is currently used as a council staff car park and is largely enclosed by boundary mesh fencing. Housing is located to the opposite site of Rapheal Street to the north. The site backs onto the Gas Works to the south. 2.4 Site B is further east and immediately to the rear of the existing Radisson hotel (6 storeys) and has an approximate area of 0.56 ha. Part of the site is currently in the hotel's demise. The current boundary to Raphael Street is comprised of metal fencing. To the north of this part of the site are 4 storey residential apartments. 2.5 Site C is located further to the east again and to the north of the existing 'Lighthouse' office building and consists partly of surface car parking and partly vacant land. It has an area of approximately 0.55 ha. To the north is three storey residential housing. Part of this site has been the subject of a recent planning approval LA04/2016/2267/F for office development, granted 15th April 2022. 2.6 Site D currently comprises approximately 0.43ha of Council owned land, mostly used as a short stay visitors car park. The boundary to the north of this part of the site is a 2m high wall and fence which currently separates the Gasworks site from the Market residential area. An additional 0.52ha of lands owned by Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) and is incorporated within this masterplan, separated by fencing and overgrown vegetation. The current NIE site fronts onto Stewart Street within the Market area. A play park is located to the north. 2.7 The site is not within a Conservation Officer or Area of Townscape Character. However, the Linen Conservation Area is located very close by to the west of the site, approximately 20m from its western most boundary to the other side of Cromac Street. 3.0 **Relevant Planning History** 3.1 Z/2001/0983/F - Reduction in car parking provision from 198 to 183 - non compliance with condition No.2 of application Z/1999/2850/F. Permission Granted 31st May 2001

3.2	Z/2001/2500/F - Relocation of existing 109 space ancillary car park. Permission Granted 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2002.
3.3	Z/2008/0518/F - Proposed 9-storey, 169-bed courtyard hotel incorporating restaurant, bar, dry fitness, small meeting rooms, access and servicing arrangements. Permission Granted 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2010.
3.4	LA04/2016/2267/F - Erection of office building (ranging in height from four to six storeys) and associated access road, re-configuration of existing car park and ancillary works at Site C. Permission Granted 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2022.
4.0	Policy Framework
4.1	Belfast Urban Area Plan 2001 (BUAP)
	Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (v2004 and v2014) Public Local Inquiry into Objections to the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 Part 2 'Report on Belfast City Council Area' Belfast Local Development Plan 2035 Draft Plan Strategy
4.2	Regional Development Strategy Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland Planning Policy Statement 3 – Access, Movement and Parking Planning Policy Statement 4 – Planning and Economic Development Planning Policy Statement 6 – Planning, Archaeology and the Built Heritage Planning Policy Statement 7 – Quality Residential Environments Planning Policy Statement 8 – Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation Planning Policy Statement 12 – Housing in Settlements Planning Policy Statement 13 – Transportation and Landuse Planning Policy Statement 15 – Planning and Flood Risk Creating Places
5.0	Statutory Consultees
	DFC Historic Environment Division – objection DFI Roads – further issues need to be addressed NI Water – objection DAERA – awaiting response Rivers Agency – no objection Shared Environmental Services – no objection NI Transport Holding Company – no objection NIHE – supports the proposal
6.0	Other Material Considerations
	The Belfast Agenda BCC's Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan (Published April 2018)
7.0	Non-Statutory Consultees
	Environmental Health – awaiting further response BCC Plans and Policy team – no objection BCC Landscape Planning & Development Team – no objection BCC City Regeneration & Development – no objection BCC Economic Development Unit – no objection

# 8.0 Representations

One third party representation has been received, expressing the following concerns.

Uncontrolled access from housing onto 'non-residential' parts of the site.

Officer response: The two main housing areas link into the main road and public footpath network to either end of the masterplan area on Cromac Street (Site A) and Stewart Street (Site D). The most obvious link between residential and non-residential occurs at Site A but this will ensure the residents can avail of the adjacent public realm space off Cromac Place and promote this sense of a sustainable mixed use development and avoid any obtrusive visual barrier between the two parts of the site. At Site D the link is much less obvious with a narrow pedestrian linkage from Stewart Street south to the proposed central non-residential elements. These links promote connectivity and provide much needed linkages from the site and beyond to the city centre to the west through the existing housing and River to the north and east.

Proposed retail uses and potential for anti-social behaviour particularly at night.

**Officer response**: the nature of the retail units, if delivered, including their detailed design and any necessary mitigation can be considered further at reserved matters stage. At this stage there is no objection in principle to retail units at this location as part of a comprehensive mixed use scheme.

#### 9.0 PLANNING ASSESSMENT

### **Development Plan Context**

- 9.1 Section 45 (1) of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 requires the Council to have regard to the Development Plan, so far as material to the application and to any other material considerations. Section 6 (4) of the Planning (Northern Ireland) 2011 Act states that in making any determination under the said Act, regard is to be had to the local development plan, and that the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material consideration indicate otherwise.
- 9.2 Following the recent Court of Appeal decision on Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan, the extant development plan is now the Belfast Urban Area Plan. However, given the stage at which the Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (Draft BMAP) had reached pre-adoption through a period of independent examination, the policies within the Draft BMAP still carry weight and are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The weight to be afforded is a matter of judgement for the decision maker. The weight to be attached to policies in emerging plans will depend upon the stage of plan preparation or review, increasing as successive stages are reached.
- 9.3 Given the advanced stage that BMAP 2015 reached (i.e. pre-adoption following a period of independent examination), and that the only areas of contention were policies relating to Sprucefield Shopping Centre, BMAP 2015 is considered to hold significant weight.
- 9.4 The Belfast Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy 2035 will guide future planning application decision making to support the sustainable spatial growth of the city up to 2035. The draft Plan Strategy has been subject to examination by the Planning Appeals Commission and the Council has been provided with a copy of their Report, together with a Direction from the Department for Infrastructure in relation to additional required steps before it can be adopted. Paragraph 1.10 of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement

(SPPS) states that a transitional period will operate until such times as a Council's Plan Strategy has been adopted. Accordingly, whilst the Draft Plan Strategy is now a material consideration it has limited weight until it is adopted and during this transitional period existing policies will be applied including the SPPS and relevant PPSs.

# **Key Considerations**

- 9.5 The key issues in the assessment of the proposed development are:
  - Principle of development of residential and other mixed uses
  - Impact on Built Heritage
  - Impact on the character and appearance of the area
  - Open Space Provision
  - Traffic and Parking
  - Impact on Amenity
  - Land contamination
  - Impact on Air Quality
  - Noise and Odour
  - Drainage and Flooding
  - Waste Water Capacity
  - Impact on Protected Sites
  - Other Environmental Matters
  - Developer Contributions
  - Pre-application Community Consultation

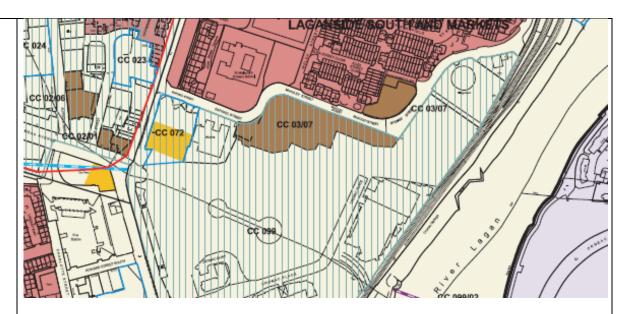
## **Principle of Development**

Belfast Urban Area Plan (BUAP)

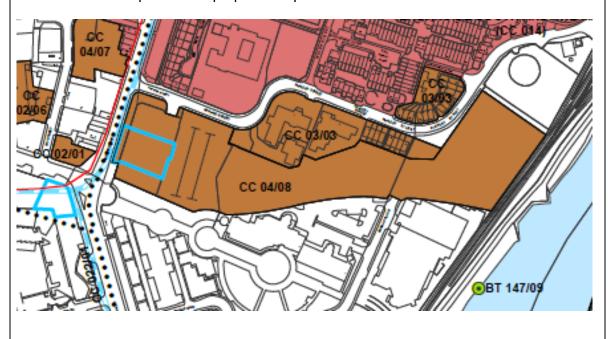
- 9.6 In the BUAP the site is zoned as part of an Area of Business Development Potential.
- 9.7 Policy IND2 of the BUAP identifies former industrial and commercial sites in the inner city as areas where urban renewal should facilitate business development. The former Gasworks site is identified as one such area. The policy goes on to state that the retention of these sites in business use will also help to locate jobs close to housing communities in the inner city. It also states that it may not be possible to retain all the land for industrial and commercial uses with the result that a mix of land uses may be more appropriate on some sites.
- 9.8 The Office Development Strategy within BUAP states that office development will be concentrated in the city centre with large scale office development directed to the Main Office Area.

### Draft BMAP

9.9 In draft BMAP (2004), the application site is in the City Centre (CC 001) and falls within designations CC 009 (Main Office Area), CC 017 (Laganside South and Markets Character Area) and CC 102 (Area of Parking Restraint). Part of the site to the west, along the Cromac Street frontage, is designated as a Development Opportunity Site ("DOS") (Cromac Street / Raphael Street CC 072). Zoning CC 03/07 is a committed housing site. The relevant excerpt from the proposal map is provided overleaf.



- 9.10 The Public Inquiry into the draft published in 2004 ran from April 2007 to May 2008. The Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) report into the draft Plan and adoption Statement are material considerations.
- 9.11 In draft BMAP (2014), the application site is in the City Centre (CC 001) and the DOS has been removed following the PAC report and replaced with a social housing zoning (CC 04/08 Social Housing Cromac Street / Raphael Street) for the entire application site. The site also falls within the Laganside South and Markets Character Area (CC 014) and an Area of Parking Restraint (CC 025).
- 9.12 In draft BMAP (2014), the application site is in the City Centre (CC 001) and the DOS has been removed and extent of the city centre gateway designation reduced. A social housing zoning (CC 04/08 Social Housing Cromac Street / Raphael Street) now covers the entire application site. The site also falls within the Laganside South and Markets Character Area (CC 014) and an Area of Parking Restraint (CC 025).
- 9.13 The relevant excerpt from the proposal map is shown below:



- 9.14 The policies in draft BMAP (v2014) which was purported to be adopted are considered to have significant weight given the advanced stage in the development process that the draft plan had reached. Draft BMAP (v2014) is at the furthest possible stage that the draft development plan could have reached without being formally adopted.
- 9.15 The thrust of the BUAP and draft BMAP (v2004) is that office development is desirable in the Gasworks area. However, this has changed to a social housing zoning in dBMAP (v2014). In this case it is considered that the proposal would strike an appropriate balance between delivering high quality social housing and providing employment and community uses which would support the new housing and wider locality. It is pertinent that the NIHE is supportive of this mixed use scheme in its current form.
- 9.16 Since parts of the site were previously used for industry, the proposed redevelopment of the site has also been assessed against Policy PED 7 of PPS 4 which states that:

'On unzoned land a development proposal that would result in the loss of an existing Class B2, B3 or B4 use, or land last used for these purposes, will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that:

- (a) redevelopment for a Class B1 business use or other suitable employment use would make a significant contribution to the local economy; or
- (b) the proposal is a specific mixed-use regeneration initiative which contains a significant element of economic development use and may also include residential or community use, and which will bring substantial community benefits that outweigh the loss of land for economic development use; or
- (c) the proposal is for the development of a compatible sui generis employment use of a scale, nature and form appropriate to the location; or
- (d) the present use has a significant adverse impact on the character or amenities of the surrounding area; or
- (e) the site is unsuitable for modern industrial, storage or distribution purposes; or (f) an alternative use would secure the long-term future of a building or buildings of architectural or historical interest or importance, whether statutorily listed or not; or (g) there is a firm proposal to replicate existing economic benefits on an alternative site in the vicinity.
- 9.17 It is clear that exception (b) applies here with the proposal being a mixed-use regeneration scheme that contains a significant element of economic development use and also includes social housing, which will bring substantial community benefits that outweigh the loss of land for economic development use.
- 9.18 The provision of much needed social housing in an area of housing stress, with a mixed of uses that will create job opportunities, is considered to be of substantial benefits to the local community. It is therefore considered that the proposed redevelopment of the site meets the requirements of PED7 of PPS4.
- 9.19 The previous industrial site land has over time been developed primarily as surface level car parks, a hotel (the Radisson) and more recently part of the site has been the subject of an approval for office development (Site C). This reflects the recent thrust of redevelopment for the former Gasworks Industrial site, zoned in BUAP as an Area of Business Development Potential. With the introduction of a number of uses, alongside proposed social housing, which acknowledges the most recent zoning in the Draft BMAP v2014, there is a balance to the proposed redevelopment and as such any loss of 'employment land' will be outweighed by wider community benefits, and a generous level of commercial, business and light industrial uses providing a sustainable, job creation package for a site largely vacant of any industrial or employment uses for some time. As

such, approval will not lead to a significant diminution of the industrial/employment land resource in the locality and the plan area generally.

## Principle of Residential Use

- 9.20 The site is located within a social housing zoning in draft BMAP (v2014), which officers advise should be given significant weight. As discussed, the proposed mix of uses is considered to sit comfortably with the BUAP zoning and the social housing zoning in the most advanced version of draft BMAP. The principle of social housing as part of the redevelopment of this mixed use masterplan area is considered acceptable and is supported by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) in recognition of the substantial unmet need for social housing in the area.
- 9.21 This site sits within the Markets Common Landlord Area and the Lower Ormeau Housing Need Area (HNA), and the NIHE has confirmed that as of March 2021 there were 353 applicants in housing stress. The NIHE 'Place Shaping Team' has been working with Radius Housing Association, being the joint applicant, and has agreed a housing mix comprising 94 units, including eight wheelchair accessible units.

## Principle of Mixed Use blocks

9.22 Three mixed use blocks located are proposed within masterplan area within Sites A and D. All matters are reserved for subsequent approval.

#### Site A

9.23 The mixed use elements in Site A are located within an indicative eight storey and a five storey block located south of the residential layout. The maximum height parameters for these buildings are 30m and 23m respectively, as set out in the Design Code. The proposed uses include up to 7,710 sqm of floorspace to include tourist hostel, residential, office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise floor space (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2 or C1 or C2 or D1) units.

#### Site D

- 9.24 The mixed use block on Site D is indicatively three storeys high, with a total floor area of 1020 sqm, and is located just south of the residential layout. Its maximum proposed height parameter is 11m. The proposed uses include office, retail, commercial including community enterprise, community infrastructure and social enterprise.
- Policy IND2 of the BUAP identifies former industrial and commercial sites in the inner city as areas where urban renewal should facilitate business development. Given the location of the site within the city centre, its BUAP designation as an Area of Business Development Potential, and the provision as part of a wider mixed use scheme including social housing, with community benefits, and economic and community uses, the proposed mixed use blocks are considered acceptable in principle.

# Principle of Hotel Extension

- 9.26 A 6,980 sqm maximum extension is proposed on Site B immediately to the rear of the existing Radisson Blu Hotel, comprising the following indicative elements:
  - Five storey bedroom block with provision for approximately 101 bedrooms and a gym
  - Three storey hotel amenity block including multi-functional room, back of house and admin.
- 9.27 The maximum height parameter of this proposed extension would be 18m.

9.28 The hotel is an established use on the adjacent site, having been granted initial approval in 2010. The proposed heights and massing are in principle considered in keeping with the existing hotel, with a reduction in height to three storeys to the west ensuring there would be no adverse impact on the prospective residents in the proposed dwellings and namely the 5 storey apartment block located 10m to the west of the Hotel's curtilage. The final design of the hotel extension would be subject to a separate Reserved Matters application. The principle of a hotel use in this town centre location is considered acceptable. Principle of a Commercial Building 9.29 The proposed development on Site C includes an indicative six storey building with two storey set back, comprising a total of 7,130m2 employment or community (A1 or A2 or B1 or B2) floorspace. No maximum height parameters are provided which means that height and scale are matters for subsequent approval. 9.30 The proposed six storey building corresponds with the office building approved under planning permission LA04/2016/2267/F. This previously approved proposal included a surface car park, providing approximately 79 car parking spaces on Site C. This hybrid application includes a new multi storey car park (MSCP) in place of the surface car park, which is discussed in more detail below. 9.31 In terms of impact on residential amenity, a generous separation distance of approximately 23m to the boundary of the nearest dwellings to the north should ensure no significant effect. The previously approved building on this site should also be taken into consideration and the impact is not anticipated to be any greater. The final design of the office building would be subject to a separate Reserved Matters application. The principle of an office building here is already established through the existing permission. Principle of Multi-storey car park (MSCP) 9.32 The proposed development on Site C also includes an indicative five storey car park with additional half storey set back, incorporating up to approximately 231 car parking spaces (4,130m2 floorspace). No maximum height parameters are provided which means that height and scale are matters for subsequent approval. 9.33 The proposed MSCP has been assessed against the SPPS and Policies AMP9 and AMP10 of PPS3. The SPPS sets out the following requirements: 'In determining proposals for public and private car parks, including extensions, the planning authority should be satisfied that there is a need for the development by reference to the councils overall parking strategy following a robust analysis by the applicant. BCC's Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan (Published April 2018) promotes MSCPs, stating that: 'There should therefore be a shift away from surface car parking into multi-storeys' and 'additional MSCPs should only be provided when a number of adjacent surface sites are closed and in consultation with adjacent communities.' 9.34 There is an overall loss of 160 car parking spaces across the application site as a result of the proposed redevelopment. The MSCP seeks to facilitate the parking displaced by other development across the application site. As set out in the applicant's Transport Assessment, the need for car parking is stated to be in the range of 214-242 spaces. therefore, the 231 space MSCP would help to fulfil this requirement. 9.35 The proposed MSCP is supported by Policy CC13 of the BUAP, which encourages the provision of adequate and convenient car parking, including multi-storey car parks. 9.36 The application site is located within the Belfast City Core Area of Parking Restraint. Policy AMP 10 of PPS 3 establishes a need for proposed car parks in areas of parking

restraint to be limited to short-stay parking and to be appropriately managed to deter long stay commuter parking. Whilst some of the parking in the MSCP provides for the new development, the majority is replacement parking for vehicles already travelling to the site. Parking on parts of the Gasworks site is already managed to deter long stay, evidenced by barriers and ticket machines. It is expected that the proposed MSCP will be managed in a similar manner. It is considered that the MSCP would help address some of the loss of parking within the site, adheres to BCC's Parking Strategy and the SPPS, with the MSCP performing the same function of the existing surface car parks.

9.37 In terms of any potential impact on adjacent uses, there is a residential block located immediately north of the proposed MSCP. However, a 'building to building' separation distance of approximately 25m should ensure the amenity is not prejudiced to an unacceptable degree. It is also worth noting that the proposed roadway serving the buildings on Site B is not a through road and will be used only to serve the commercial building, the MSCP and the Hotel. The final design of the MSCP would be subject to a separate Reserved Matters application.

# Impact on Built Heritage

9.38 The application site is in close to listed buildings. HED considers that the following Listed Buildings would be impacted by the proposals:

HB26 30 010 C The Gas Office, 4-14 Cormac Quay, Grade A

HB26 30 010 B Klondyke Building, Cormac Ave, Gasworks, Grade B1

HB26 30 010 C Meter House, The Gasworks, Ormeau Road, Grade B+

HB26 30 041 Ormeau Baths Galley, 18 Ormeau Ave, Grade B+

9.39 HED advises that it is content in principle with the concept of new development on this site. However, it has significant concerns relating to aspects of the development which it advises would have an adverse impact on the setting of the listed buildings.

#### Site A

- 9.40 HED notes that the 2 and 3 storey residential blocks have been developed to a high level (detailed plans, elevations and sections) at this outline stage. Notably, the residential blocks which feed onto/off Raphael Street and the north west of Cromac Street associated with the Housing Association, Radius Housing.
- 9.41 HED is content with the scale and mass of the development of the detailed residential elements within the overall application site. Aspects around their materiality selection and finer detailing can be assessed and developed at (potential) later Reserved Matters stage or conditions.
- 9.42 HED notes that Site A also proposes to incorporate further development, as indicated by blocks 'Mixed Use A' and 'Mixed Use B' (Plot A and Plot B respectively). HED notes that these are less developed in design but the application package does present outline forms to indicate scale within contextual drawings and datum heights. Also presented is a series of 3D images (referred to as 'Scene 1-4 CGI' within the Planning Portal) from a limited number of key public views.
- 9.43 HED advises that the 3D CGI images, notably Scene 2 and Scene 4 highlight how Plots A and B would act as a completing focus from the listed building markedly via the designed views along Cromac Street towards The Gas Office (HB26 30 010 C).

- Plot A indicative 8 Storeys
- 9.44 HED considers the indicative 8 storeys (including 2 storey setback) would have an adverse impact on the character of the listed buildings and their setting, notably The Gas Office, due to its scale, mass and height.
- 9.45 Officers advise that part of Site A was once designated as a development opportunity site in draft BMAP (v2004). This designation promoted the potential for a 6-9 storey building at this location. Admittedly the proposed 8 storey building is not at the exact location of this designation but is not far removed from it. This recognised the site's important role as a potential gateway into the city centre. In considering the appropriateness of the proposed 8 storey Plot A one must not simply focus on the existing built heritage but also the built context within the immediate vicinity of the site, most notably the 8 storey Lucas building at the junction of Ormeau Avenue and Cromac Street, a short distance west of the site at the edge of the 'Linen Quarter' Conservation Area.
- 9.46 The proposed 8 storey building is located some 60m east of the Lucas Building and would help create a gateway, and establish a degree of balance and symmetry on what is a landmark location at the junction of Ormeau Road and Ormeau Avenue. It is also noteworthy that there are existing newer developments within the Gasworks complex which have substantial height including the Radisson Blu Hotel, which is a substantial building, adjacent to Site A and to the immediate rear of Site B. This establishes an existing context of taller buildings in the area.
- In terms of HED's position, one must consider where the main public viewpoints of the proposed building would be and how it would be read with the Listed structure in terms of their intervisibility. There are arguably three main views: the view travelling north towards the site along Ormeau Road, the view travelling east towards the site along Ormeau Avenue and the view travelling south towards the site along Cromac Street. Two of these views (travelling north and east towards site), including the proposed development, are shown below. Each view will now be discussed in turn.

Travelling north along Ormeau Road

- 9.48 Given the bend in the road at the junction with Ormeau Avenue, when passing the Gas Office Building, one would not be aware of the development beyond it to the north and east. It is arguably the more distant views from this approach which are more critical.
- Again, the bend in the road plays an important role in how the proposed building will be read in relation to the listed Gas Office and indeed the Gasworks area as a whole. There is doubt as to whether or not the proposed building would be visible at all from parts of this approach, certainly in terms of intervisibility with the listed building. But at best these views would be minimal and fleeting. With the proposed building being located approximately 35m to the north of the listed building at its closest point, it is not considered that the setting of the listed structure would be harmed when experienced from this this approach. Once the proposed building comes not view one is beyond the listed Gas Offices, and as such the appreciation of this building is not affected as the proposed building would not act as a competing focus.

Travelling east along Ormeau Avenue

9.50 There is no doubt that this view is critical, and it will be the view from which there is the highest, and most prolonged, degree of intervisibility between the proposed 8 storey, and indeed 5 storey mixed use building, and the Gas Office Building. This is indicated in the visual below.



9.51 The key point here is how the proposed building(s) reads within the existing built form, namely that of the 8 storey building at the junction of Ormeau Avenue and Cromac Street (on the left above). The proposed building, and the proposed 5 storey building in the backdrop, help frame this approach to the Gasworks Business Park. The two storey setback on the eight storey building is critical from this viewpoint and reduces the overall weight and massing of the structure. This undoubtedly reduces the potential impact on the setting of the listed building, whilst addressing the scale at the eastern periphery of the Linen Conservation Area and being sympathetic to this. With the Lucas Building already proving something of stark contrast to the modest two storey scale of the Gas Office Building, it is not considered that the proposed eight storey building will be of any further detriment to the setting of the building or offer any greater visual competition than that which already exists. It should also be noted that the existing context, that of a surface level car park, is not the traditional planned context of the area and thus the existing setting is somewhat alien to the original planned setting of the more established Gasworks Buildings.

Travelling South along Cromac Street.

9.52 Again, the bend in the road at the junction with Ormeau Avenue becomes critical when considering this main view, highlighted in the visual below:



- 9.53 It is clear that the 8 storey building will demand attention, however, this dominance will be reduced by the stepping down to 6 storeys to the east, which is visible beyond the first roadside tree above.
- Although intervisible with the southern end of the Gas Office Building it can be argued that this is very much a secondary façade, with the main, and indeed longest, elevation facing onto the Ormeau Road. This façade is located around the bend of the road in the distance and as such will not be impacted by the higher buildings from this approach. Again, this building must also be considered in tandem with the Lucas Building, which although just out of picture to the right above, steps up significantly from the two storey scale of the Gas Office Building, and thus also acting as something of a competing focus on this southern transition past the western boundary of the site. Aside from the 8 storey building, it is evident that the three storey townhouses along Cromac Street will provide a strong built frontage and with a sympathetic red bricked finish will compliment the traditional finish of the Gas Office Building and are of a scale which will ensure the frontage does not detract from the setting of the listed building.

#### Plot B - indicative 5 storeys

- 9.55 HED states that they are minded that a 5 storey block, including a 2 storey setback, may be achievable on this plot without any significant adverse impact on the character of the listed buildings or their setting.
- 9.56 Again, this building should be considered in terms of the key views discussed above. And with the lower height, and its location further into the site from the main Cromac Street frontage, an even stronger argument can be made as to how this building would not compete visually with the Gas Office Building, and indeed other listed buildings in the area. In terms of the Gas Office Building the main approach in terms of key views is without doubt from Ormeau Avenue. And as stated above, with the building of a lower scale, and set further into the site, approximately 45m north-east of the listed building, it is not considered the building would appear in any way dominant or act as a competing focus to the listed building. Thus, it is considered that it would not impact negatively upon its setting.

Impact on Historic Monuments

- 9.57 The application site is located in an area of high historic industrial activity, including the location of the Raphael Street Pipe Works (IHR 10141), the Cromac Steam Saw Mill (IHR 10010), and the Soap Works (IHR 10006). While the above-ground structures associated with these buildings no longer exist, there is the potential for below-ground remains to survive *in situ* within the development area.
- 9.58 HED is content that the proposal satisfies PPS 6 policy requirements, subject to conditions for the agreement and implementation of a developer-funded programme of archaeological works, including an Industrial Archaeology survey and a mitigation strategy focusing on the industrial archaeological remains of the site. This is to identify and record any industrial archaeological remains in advance of new construction, or to provide for their preservation *in situ*, as per Policy BH 4 of PPS 6. Relevant conditions are detailed below.

Impact on the setting of the Linen Conservation Area

- 9.59 The application site is located a short distance east of the Linen Conservation Area and as such has been assessed against Policy BH12 of PPS 6.
- As with the listed buildings within the Gasworks site, the key views from within the Conservation Area are from Ormeau Avenue travelling west towards the site. Again, as with the discussions above, the key buildings will be the mixed use 8 storey and 5 storey buildings. As shown in the visual, it is clear that the 8 storey building takes a strong design cue from the Lucas Building located on the eastern edge of the Conservation Area. The indicative two storey setback certainly helps reduce any potential dominance from the eastwards journey from the middle of the Conservation Area towards the site and the scheme would read comfortably with those buildings on the junction of Ormeau Avenue and Cromac Street. With the further reduction in scale to the five storey mixed use building beyond, there would be a relatively smooth transition in terms of built form from the edge of the Conservation Area to the western edge of the site and beyond to the heart of the proposed scheme.
- 9.61 Similar to the argument about the impact on the setting of the Listed Gasworks Buildings, the bend in the road takes the built form away from the south-eastern corner of the conservation area, at the junction of Ormeau Avenue and Cromac Street. On the northwards approach along Ormeau Road, one would only start to read the proposal with the Conservation Area at this main junction with Ormeau Avenue. The scale and design of the housing, with three storey red-bricked townhouses onto Cromac Street, is very much reflective of the built form along the eastern edge of the Conservation Area to the other side of the road. It is considered that the character and appearance of the adjacent Linen Conservation Area would be preserved. The proposal, by reason of its nature and the location of the site, is not considered to provide opportunities for enhance of the Conservation Area.

### Impact on the character and appearance of the area

- 9.62 The proposal has been assessed against design policies in the SPPS and Policy QD1 of PPS 7.
- 9.63 The housing elements of the proposal are located on two separate sites at either end of the masterplan area, Sites A and D. These aspects of the proposal have been assessed against the detailed criteria in Policy QD1 of PPS 7, and each site will be assessed in turn below, having regard to the design analysis already undertaken in the report in the "in principle" section which considers the acceptability of the various proposed uses.

9.64	Site A This site is located off Raphael Street to its north and shares a frontage with Cromac Street to the west. In terms of built context there are two storey terraced properties a short distance north of the site fronting onto the site and to Cromac Street to the west. A four storey apartment complex is located north-east of the site.
9.65	The proposed layout of Site A consists of four rows of townhouses running north to south on a loop from Raphael Street. There are two apartment blocks. One three storey fronting onto Raphael Street and one five storey located in the south-eastern corner of the site.
9.66	The town houses, two storey and three storey, would provide a strong traditional character reflective of the existing built context and indeed that of the industrial heritage of the site with their traditional design and red/ brown bricked finish. The three storey apartment block provides a strong frontage onto Raphael Street, whilst acting as a book end for the two central rows of north- south two storey back to back terraced dwellings.
9.67	One element of the layout which has given officers concerns during the design process is the fact that the proposed three storey townhouses onto Cromac Street back onto this primary route. This is a point also raised by BCC's City Regeneration and Development team. To address these concerns the design of these dwellings has been specifically tweaked to ensure a 'dual frontage' appearance. This has been accompanied by careful landscaping and boundary treatment to the rear of the dwellings, with a low wall and hedge providing a high quality frontage onto Cromac Street whilst also ensuring the private amenity areas to the rear of these dwellings is suitably protected.
9.68	The anomaly in terms of residential scale is the five storey block located in the south-eastern corner of the site. However, this scale and form again reflects that of some of the older industrial buildings that would have been found on the site and are still found in other areas of Belfast, many of which have been converted into apartments. This block also acts as something of a step to the higher 5 and 8 storey mixed use buildings to the south of the dwellings, thus enabling a smoother transition in built form from residential to non-residential, avoiding a stark contrast in height and also creating a unique character in this part of the site.
9.69	There would be two mixed use buildings, 5 storey and 8 storey, proposed to the immediate south of the residential development on Site A.
9.70	These buildings on Site A would create a strong sense of place providing landmark structures on a key nodal point close to the intersection of Ormeau Road, Cromac Street, Cromac Place and Ormeau Avenue. It is worth noting that the opportunity for a taller building along the eastern boundary of Site A was identified in the gateway designations in both versions of the draft BMAP.
9.71	The 8 storey building, with the upper two floors set back in the indicative design, would complement the Lucas Building to the other side of Cromac Street and create a strong gateway feature from what is an important arterial route to the city centre.
9.72	The proposed 5 storey building would then act as a transitional structure towards the 5 storey residential apartment block and hotel to the north and east and would be in keeping with the scale of other non-residential buildings within the Gasworks to the south
9.73	Site D As with Site A the housing is located off a loop road with five rows of terraced townhouses fronting onto the street. Again, as with Site A, three storey apartment blocks provide a strong frontage onto Stewart Street, and act as something of a book end to the

two rows of two storey back to back housing located NW-SE in the middle of the site. The proposed row of dwellings along the southern boundary respects the established building line of the existing dwellings facing onto McAuley Street to the immediate west.

- 9.74 The rows of townhouses provide a strong traditional character reflective of the existing built context in the area immediately north of Site D and again that of the industrial heritage of the site with their traditional design, strong vertical emphasis and red/brown bricked finish.
- 9.75 An indicative 3 storey mixed use block is proposed just south-west of the residential development on Site D. Its location, form and scale would be in keeping with the site and its surroundings.

Landscaping, public realm and entrances

- 9.76 The proposal includes areas of proposed public realm works, namely to Cromac Place to the south of the residential and mixed use blocks on Site A. It should be noted that the public realm proposals are outline and indicative by nature. Details of the public space would be considered in detail at reserved matters stage. The public realm works would help contribute to the overall regeneration of the area and would compliment the new landscaping within the residential Sites A and D.
- 9.77 HED sought clarity on the boundary treatments to the development, notably at the existing access to The Gasworks site at the junction of Cormac Street, Ormeau Road and Ormeau Ave (within Site A). The drawings show the existing access being altered, i.e. the existing curved wall, decorative pillars and gates are to be removed with the access to The Gasworks site being increased in width and being made more open.
- 9.78 HED highlights this design approach as a concern and a significant step away from the historic experience or understanding of this access point to The Gasworks. HED also accepts the character has altered significantly in the recent past the current access to The Gasworks at the junction of Ormeau Road, Cromac Street and Ormeau Avenue seek to retain the design ethos of 'entering' the industrial site. Therefore, HED are of the opinion the historic design character must be enhanced as part of this development opportunity. To remove the boundary edge of The Gasworks would have an adverse impact and significantly alter its character of the historic setting. It is worth noting that the entrance to Cromac Place is defined by fencing and gates. As this forms part of the outline application with matters reserved this is something which can be considered further at detailed design stage.

#### **Open Space Provision**

9.79 The proposal has been assessed against Policies QD1 of PPS7 and OS2 of PPS8 and 'Creating Places' guidance.

#### Site A

9.80 The private garden areas of the proposed residential units range from approximately 30 sqm to approximately 80 sqm per dwelling. The overall average is approximately 50 sqm per dwelling. Although this falls below the recommended 70 sqm as set out in 'Creating Places' it should be noted that this is an inner urban brownfield site on the edge of the city centre. Given the surrounding residential context it is considered that the garden spaces are generous and well above the norm in the area. As such the level of private amenity for dwellings within Site A is considered acceptable.

# Site D

9.81

The private garden areas range from approximately 45sqm to approximately 55 sqm per dwelling. The average provision is around 48 sqm per dwelling. As above this falls short

of the 70 sqm recommendation in 'Creating Places' but again, given the context of the site and the general level of private amenity provision in the area, almost 50 sqm per units is found to be acceptable.

# Private communal open space

9.82 Each of the two residential plots include apartments, which also require a level of private communal open space. These are provided in the form of enclosed communal gardens to the rear of the three main apartment blocks, two on Site A and one on Site D.

## Site A

- 9.83 Two three storey apartment blocks are located along the northern boundary of the site onto Raphael Street. These are served by an enclosed courtyard area measuring approximately 160 sqm to the rear. There are 9 apartments in these block, thus the level of private communal open space provision is approximately 18 sqm sqm per unit. This is above the minimum recommended 10sqm per units as set out in Creating Places and thus found to be acceptable.
- 9.84 The five storey block located in the SE corner of Site a has a total of 185 sqm of private communal space located to the rear of the building line. There are 10 apartments in this block, thus providing a total of 18.5 sqm of communal space per unit. As above this is in excess of the recommended 10 sqm per unit and as such is found to be acceptable.

#### Site D

- There are four apartment blocks located on this plot. Three at the front of the site onto McAuley Street and Stewart Street and another in the southern corner of the site. The apartments fronting onto Stewart Street have the same level of communal amenity provision as the same block on Site A, 160 sqm. With 9 apartments in these two blocks, that equates to approximately 18 sqm of amenity provision per unit, and as is the case with Site A is found to be acceptable. The other block along the site frontage has a more limited area of 'private' communal space with most of the amenity associated with this block located to the front. However, there is still approximately 50 sqm of private space to its rear, and with there only being 3 apartments in this block, ensures the level of provision is still greater than the recommended 10 sqm per unit.
- 9.86 The remaining apartment block is located in the rear corner of the site and has a generous level of open space provision adjacent to it, with approximately 225 sqm of communal space to its rear, equating to approximately 75 sqm per units for each of the three apartments in this block. This level of amenity provision well exceeds the Creating Places standards and as such is found acceptable.

## Communal Open Space

9.87 Policy OS2 of PPS8 requires that any residential developments in excess of 25 units, has at least 10% of the overall site area given over to communal open space. Each of the residential Plots A and D will be considered in turn.

# Site A

9.88 There is no central area of open space as such but a strand of landscaped space is proposed along the street frontage onto Raphael Street. The total area of this strip is approximately 270 sqm, plus two small pockets of landscaped space at the end of the terraces gable onto Raphael Street, totalling approximately 60 sqm and a landscaped strip along Cromac Street of approximately 580 sqm. The total area of the residential element of Site A is approx. 7,500 sqm, and subsequently a total of 750 sqm of communal space is required. The provision of approximately 910 sqm communal open space is therefore considered acceptable.

Site D

9.89 There are three main pockets of communal open space within Plot D. Two are located along the frontage onto McAuley Street and Stewart Street, totalling approximately 580 sqm, and one located beside one of the apartment blocks in the southern corner of the Plot, approx. 170 sqm. The overall provision is approximately 750 sqm. The total area of the site is approximately 9,000 sqm, therefore a total of 900 sqm is required as per Policy OS2. Although the provision falls slightly short of the policy requirement, this must be weighed up against the level of communal space provided for the apartment blocks and the inner urban context of the site. On balance, it is considered the level of communal open space is considered to be acceptable.

# **Traffic and Parking**

- 9.90 The Transport Assessment submitted with the application is still under consideration by DFI Roads, however no fundamental issues have been raised to date with regard to the overall impact of the proposal on the road network. After some discussion and various amendments to the proposed residential layouts an agreement has been reached, with a more informal street layout proposed, to enhance the overall quality of the scheme and ensuring a less engineered appearance. In terms of these detailed residential aspects of the proposal the parking ratio is approximately 0.5 spaces per unit. This parking ratio is similar to other recently approved residential schemes, and indeed social housing schemes, within close proximity to the city centre and beyond.
- 9.91 In such cases it is now standard practice that a Travel Plan accompanies the applications, setting out various green travel measures that promote alternatives to the private car, and reduce reliance upon it. A Travel Plan has been proposed as part of the Transport Assessment. This proposes initiatives such as car club membership and the option of travel cards for residents, however no specific details are offered as to how the provision would be subsidised by the applicant. This is something which has been raised by DFI Roads, and it has been acknowledged in their most recent consultation response that the green travel measures as proposed are insufficient. Amongst other measures DFI Roads are seeking a three year subsidised Travel Card for every resident, three years subsidised car club membership and a three year subsidised membership of the Belfast Bikes Scheme (the site is within 400m of a docking station).
- 9.92 Discussions are ongoing with the applicant to firm up an appropriate level of green travel measures, which will ultimately be secured through relevant clauses in the legal agreement. Given the proximity of the site to the city centre, it is considered appropriate to moderate the travel cards requirement from three years to one year. Fully subsidised car club membership and Belfast Bikes membership for the first three years of occupation is considered appropriate to off-set the lower provision of parking and encourage a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport.

# Impact on amenity

- 9.93 The proposal has been assessed against the SPPS and Policy QD1 of PPS7. Mixed use schemes with residential units proposed alongside substantial buildings, in this case three, five and eight storey buildings, will inevitably have an impact on proposed properties both within the development itself and existing properties beyond.
- 9.94 In assessing the potential impact of these larger blocks on the amenity of prospective residents on Site A shadow studies were requested and considered. It has been demonstrated that the private gardens of all proposed dwellings benefit from sunlight at some point of the day. The most significant impact on residential amenity would be on the front of some of the units within the lower floors of the five storey apartment block on Site A. These would spend most of the day in shadow. Having said this, they will still benefit from natural light and their outlook is not compromised in any way, benefiting from the

unimposing two storey terrace in front of the block across the street. On balance, the overshadowing of these three or four apartments within this block, in a scheme of 44 units, is not considered to be a fundamental issue.

- 9.95 On Site D the mixed use block is three storeys and given the separation distance there should be no significant loss of light or dominance experienced to the rear of the proposed dwellings backing onto this block.
- 9.96 It is evident that the housing layouts and positions of main windows and gables within the residential elements have been considered on the basis of the adjacent tall building, with separation distances, step downs and setbacks designed into the mixed use buildings to mitigate any overshadowing or amenity issues. No dwelling fronts directly onto any of the taller mixed use buildings with each receiving an acceptable level of natural light and sunlight both internally and externally.
- 9.97 In terms of the existing residential uses within the surrounding area separation distances are such that amenity should not be prejudiced to an unacceptable level as a result of any of the proposed uses or the scale or mass of any of the built form. The site is very much a standalone scheme and would relate sympathetically to neighbouring land uses.

#### **Contaminated Land**

9.98 Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment (DQRA)

Environmental Health has noted that the Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment has been updated to include a section which considers the risk to adjacent residential properties. This assessment is based on the concentrations of a number of contaminants in deeper groundwater on the site and has determined an insignificant risk to off-site properties.

## Remediation Strategy

- 9.99 A Remediation Strategy has now been submitted for those aspects of the site which are subject to the outline with no matters reserved part of this hybrid application specifically the 94 residential dwellings proposed across Site A and Site D. The report notes that prior to the commencement of site works, a detailed Remediation Implementation Plan will need to be prepared and submitted by the Contractor (or their representative) to address, in detail, the design and working methods by which the requirements of this Remediation Strategy will be implemented.
- 9.100 A number of potential contaminant linkages have been identified on Sites A and D. A remedial options appraisal has been completed to identify the best remedial options to break the direct contact and inhalation pathway (associated with shallow soils), and the pathway associated with the migration of ground gases and volatile organic compounds into buildings.
- 9.101 The report notes that the sites will be subject to a regrading exercise. A clean cover capping layer is proposed for emplacement across all soft landscaped areas in sub-sites A and D/NIE. The cover layer is to comprise 600mm of clean topsoil and a permeable geo-membrane to act as a warning and prevent mixing.
- 9.102 The report notes that groundwater may pose a risk to site users where present at depths less than the proposed capping thickness (0.6m bgl). Environmental Health has suggested that consideration is given to the incorporation of a capillary break layer in order to help control upward movement of dissolved and/or mobile contaminants. Detail on this further assessment and on the final detailed design of the clean cover capping layer must be provided in the Remediation Implementation Plan.

9.103 The report does not provide a final design for gas and vapour protection but notes that a vapour barrier will be installed. Detail on the final detailed design of the gas and vapour protection measures and their validation must be provided in the Remediation Implementation Plan. A Remediation Implementation Plan will need to be presented prior to commencement of construction for all aspects of the site which are contained within the outline with no matters reserved part of the application. This will be the subject of a condition as detailed below.

## Impact on Air Quality

9.104 The Air Quality Screening Report- Addendum, Gasworks Northern Fringe Masterplan Site, AECOM, (November 2021) has been provided to address air quality queries raised by Environmental Health. This Addendum document has been prepared primarily with regards to the 'no matters reserved' part of the planning application for 94 residential dwellings (Phase 1).

#### Road sources

- 9.105 The applicant has assessed the predicted impact of the proposed development on human health in terms of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) and particulate matter (PM10 and PM2,5) air quality objectives.
- 9.106 The predicted impacts of the proposed development on annual mean NO2, PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations at all assessed receptor locations are described as negligible with no exceedances of the respective air quality objectives anticipated in the opening year of the development. Subsequently, the applicant's consultants have concluded that the impact of road vehicle exhaust emissions associated with the operation of the proposed development on local air quality is predicted to be not significant, in accordance with appropriate guidance and standards.
- 9.107 Environmental Health reiterate that in accordance with the Air Quality Screening Report (AECOM, June 2021) and the Transport Assessment (TA) (AECOM, June 2021) the Proposed Development would result in a minor change to traffic flows throughout the locale and also that the site is well served by walking, cycling and public transport facilities. Consequently, Environmental Health conclude that estimated road transport emissions, as a result of the proposed development, are likely to have a 'negligible' impact on nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter concentrations in the local area.

# Railway sources

9.108 The applicant's consultants have stated within the *Air Quality Screening Report-Addendum*, *Gasworks Northern Fringe Masterplan Site*, *AECOM*, (*November 2021*) that the potential impact of railway emissions (stationary/moving diesel locomotives) on the proposed development has been screened following the government's *Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance LAQM.TG(16)*. The consultants have stated that although the closest part of the development to the railway is 13.5m, it is unlikely that trains will be idling directly adjacent to the development for periods of 15 minutes or more. Consequently, and in accordance with the government guidance, there is no predicted risk of exceedances of air quality objectives as a result of railway emissions.

### Combustion Processes

9.109 It has been stated within the submitted document (*Air Quality Screening Report-Addendum, Gasworks Northern Fringe Masterplan Site, AECOM, November 2021*) that heating and hotwater provisions for the development (Phase 1) are to be provided by individual domestic boilers; it has been confirmed there is no central energy centre proposed for the site.

9.110 Consequently, Environmental Health has no concerns in relation to air quality impacts from domestic combustion sources. 9.111 The consultants undertook a construction impact assessment in accordance with Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction IAQM (2014). 9.112 They have defined the dust emission magnitude during earthworks, construction and trackout activities as Low-Medium and also within the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, it is predicted that dust impacts will be Low. 9.113 Environmental Health has recommended a condition in relation to the submission of a Construction Environmental Management Plan which will also require the dust management measures recommended by AECOM in Chapter 6 are incorporated into this Plan. This condition is detailed below. **Noise and Odour** Site A and D (Housing) 9.114 Site A – further information has been submitted by the acoustic consultant with additional supporting rationale to provide greater confidence that the shorter term monitoring and a robust assessment of the noise climate impacting the proposed houses. 9.115 With regard to Site D, it has been confirmed that the proposed pumping station is for storm drainage only, no foul waste to be pumped, therefore, an assessment of odour impact is no longer required. The Noise consultants have also concluded there will be no negative impact on amenity due to the operation of the pumping station. 9.116 Additional clarity has been provided around exactly what noise sources were accounted for from the railway line, confirming that during the baseline measurement noises such as signalling horns, idling engines, PA announcements, rail wheel noise etc were included in the measurements. The Noise Consultants also advise that no freight movements were noted during the several days of baseline measurements. 9.117 With regard to the noise level in external amenity areas of houses within Site D, it is advised by the Noise Consultants that a close boarded fence to a height of 1.8m and a self-weight of 25kg/m2 is to be constructed at the boundary of all rear gardens of those houses that are proposed along the railway line. This proposed boundary acoustic fence between the rear gardens of Site D and the railway line will be secured via planning condition, as detailed below. 9.118 The specification for alternative means of ventilation should be clarified for these affected facades of the houses in Site D overlooking the railway. The windows to the rear facades of the houses overlooking the railway line need to be kept closed to insulate against noise ingress; therefore, an alternative means of suitable ventilation needs to be provided. Further technical information has been submitted to provide clarity on means of suitable ventilation in these windows. Final comments from Environmental Health remain outstanding, however a condition is likely to be recommended requiring the specification of windows and alternative means of ventilation to the habitable rooms of these houses on Site D be confirmed for review and approval prior to installation. Delegated authority is sought to resolve this issue. **Drainage and Flooding** The proposal has been assessed against Policies FLD1, FLD2 and FLD3 of PPS 15. 9.119 9.120 The Flood Hazard Map (NI) indicates that portions of the northern boundary of the site lies within the 1 in 200 year coastal flood plain. As such, development within these areas

is contrary to Policy FLD 1 of PPS 15, Planning but for it being deemed an exception or overriding regional importance by the Council. The proposal is considered an exception given that this is a zoned brownfield site within the city centre limits with material benefits to the economy in terms of proposed uses and provision of much needed social housing. DFI Rivers advises that 'If the Planning Authority deems this application to be an exception under Policy FLD 1', while not being responsible for the preparation of the Flood Risk Assessment accepts its logic and has no reason to disagree with its conclusions.

- 9.121 A culverted watercourse which is designated under the terms of the Drainage (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 and known to DfI Rivers as the 'Lower Blackstaff River' is located within the south-western boundary of the site. The site may be affected by undesignated watercourses of which we have no record.
- 9.122 Under paragraph 6.32 of Policy PPS 15, an adjacent working strip along a watercourse must be retained to facilitate future maintenance by Dfl Rivers, other statutory undertaker or the riparian landowners. The working strip should have a minimum width of 5m, but up to 10m where considered necessary, and be provided with clear access and egress at all times. Under 6.33 of the Policy there is a general presumption against the erection of buildings or other structures over the line of a culverted watercourse in order to facilitate replacement, maintenance or other necessary operations. A suitable maintenance strip of minimum 5m must also be in place. DFl Rivers PAMU acknowledge the provision for a working strip has been illustrated on the most recent drainage layout. The proposed development has been specifically designed to avoid the culvert and ensure a suitable maintenance strip.
- 9.123 Dfl Rivers has also reviewed the applicant's Drainage Assessment, dated 25th May 2021, and acknowledges the submission of additional drainage information uploaded to the planning portal on 26th Nov 2021, including Schedule 6 consent to discharge from the local Dfl Rivers Area Office.
- 9.124 Dfl Rivers has stated, that while not being responsible for the preparation of this Drainage Assessment accepts its logic and has no reason to disagree with its conclusions. The Drainage Assessment has demonstrated that the design and construction of a suitable drainage network is feasible. It indicates that the 1 in 100 year event could be contained through the addition of an underground online attenuation system, when discharging at existing green field runoff rate, and therefore there will be no exceedance flows during this event. Further assessment of the drainage network will be made by NI Water prior to adoption.
- 9.125 However, in order to ensure compliance with PPS 15, Dfl Rivers requests that the potential flood risk from exceedance of the network, in the 1 in 100 year event, is managed by way of a condition. A recommended condition is detailed below.

#### **Waste Water Capacity**

- 9.126 The application proposes to dispose of foul sewage to a Northern Ireland Water Limited (NIW) sewer. The drainage assessment outlines issues with NIW accepting the foul sewage from the site due to capacity issues within the network.
- 9.127 NI Water has advised that no further connections should be made to the foul network. Sufficient waste water treatment capacity is not available at present for the proposed development. The public system cannot presently serve this development proposal without significant risk of environmental harm. NI Water plans to upgrade the Waste Water Treatment Works in this drainage area. While this remains subject to prioritisation

and the availability of funding NI Water is recommending connections to the system are curtailed.

- 9.128 The applicant has since advised that as a result of the remodelling work there is now agreement to the storm water offsetting solution. This may change NI Water's position but for the moment they are recommending refusal for reasons stated above.
- 9.129 In any event, regard has to be had to the significant number of un-implemented and extant planning permissions across the city for substantial numbers of new housing, industrial and commercial floor space, which NIW has a duty to connect to. All those developments will not come forward as once and it would be unreasonable to refuse planning permission for the proposed development on the basis of this strategic fall-back.

#### **Other Environmental Matters**

9.130 Due to the proximity to watercourses Water Management Unit also require a full Final Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) from the appointed contractor and that it should be submitted to NIEA Water Management Unit, at least 8 weeks prior to the commencement of construction to ensure effective avoidance and mitigation methodologies have been planned for the protection of the water environment. This Final CEMP should include the mitigation and best practice outlined in the OCEMP document uploaded to the planning portal on 21st July 2021. An appropriate condition is detailed below.

### **Impact on Protected Sites**

- 9.131 Following an appropriate assessment in accordance with the Regulations and having considered the nature, scale, timing, duration and location of the project, Shared Environmental Services (SES) has advised the project would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. In reaching this conclusion, SES has assessed the manner in which the project is to be carried out including any mitigation. This conclusion is subject to mitigation measures being conditioned with the submission of a final Construction Environmental Management Plan required and details of the method of sewage disposal has been agreed with Northern Ireland Water (NIW) or a consent to discharge for private treatment plants. These conditions are detailed below.
- 9.132 Belfast City Council in its role as the competent Authority under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended), and in accordance with its duty under Regulation 43, has adopted the HRA report, and conclusions therein, prepared by Shared Environmental Service, dated 25/05/2022. This found that the project would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.

# **Developer Contributions**

9.133

9.134

In this instance it is considered appropriate that the following Developer Contributions are secured to fulfil planning policy requirements and mitigate the impacts of the proposal.

- Securing the residential units as affordable housing in view of the dBMAP zoning;
- Securing the implementation of the travel plan and green travel measures including travel cards for each residential unit for one year; full membership of a car club for each residential unit for three years; and full membership of Belfast Bikes for each residential unit for three years;
- Management of the open space and common parts of the site

- 9.135 The Council's Economic Development Unit has advised that an Employability and Skills Developer Contribution is not required on the basis that the contract for redevelopment is subject to Buy-Social considerations. It is understood that the Council would insist on social clauses as part of its transaction to lease or dispose of the site.
- 9.136 The Council controls the application site and it is not possible for the Council to enter into a Section 76 planning agreement with itself. Therefore, the above planning obligations will need to form part of a legal agreement in respect of the Council's leasing or disposal of the land which will require those obligations to be delivered. This same approach was used in respect of the planning permission for the office building on Site C (LA04/2016/2267/F).

### **Pre-application Community Consultation**

- 9.137 For applications that fall within the major category as prescribed in the Development Management Regulations, Section 27 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 places a statutory duty on applicant for planning permission to consult the community in advance of submitting an application.
- 9.138 Section 27 also requires that a prospective applicant, prior to submitting a major applications must give notice, known as a 'Proposal of Application Notice' (PAN) that an application for planning permission for the development is to be submitted. A PAN (LA04/2017/1900/PAN) was submitted to the Council on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017.
- 9.139 Where pre-application community consultation has been required and a PAN has been submitted at least 12 weeks in advance of the application being submitted, the applicant must prepare a pre-application community consultation report to accompany the planning application.
- 9.140 A Pre Application Community Consultation Report has been submitted in support of this application. The Report has confirmed the following:
  - Two 'open house' public drop-in events were carried out as part of the consultation process. The first open house event took place on Friday 10th November 2017 at Cromac Regeneration Initiative, Donegall Pass, Belfast. The second took place on Friday 24th November 2017 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Cromac Place.
  - The material shown at the open house events was also placed on public exhibition at the Ground Floor of the Cecil Ward Building at 4-10 Linenhall Street, Belfast from Monday 13th November 2017 to Friday 9th February 2018.
  - The project team held four individual workshops with the following identified stakeholders:
    - Market Development Association Markets Community Centre (11th January 2018)
    - Donegall Pass Community Forum Donegall Pass Community Centre (25th January 2018)
    - Gasworks Estate tenants Radisson Blu Hotel (13th February 2018)
    - ➤ Lower Ormeau Resident's Action Group Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre (21st February 2018).
  - In addition, the applicants held three meetings with representatives from the Market Development Association on 30th July 2020, 26th January 2021 and 26th February 2021.
  - Notification of the webinar was advertised in the Belfast Telegraph and The Irish News on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017.
  - The PAN was circulated to a number of Councillors and MLAs.

Leaflets inviting people to the drop in webinars were distributed to approximately 7,000 properties in the vicinity of the site. 9.141 In total, 61 feedback forms were returned. 48% did not agree with the overall regeneration proposals. Concerns were raised about the proximity of the 'gateway' building on Site A to proposed housing. Concerns were also expressed about the onstreet parking layout and green spaces. General concerns were raised around the private commercial proposals at the expense of social housing (on social housing zoning). 9.142 In response to these concerns the level of social housing provision was increased and the proposed 94 units have met with the full support of the NIHE. The amount of commercial/ mixed use floor space was reduced to make way for the additional housing. In terms of the heights of the mixed use buildings and potential proximity issues, there has been a two storey stepping in on the upper floors of both the 5 storey and 8 storey buildings on Site A. 9.143 It is considered that the Pre-Community Consultation Report submitted has demonstrated that the applicant has carried out their duty under Section 27 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 to consult the community in advance of submitting an application. 10.0 **Summary of Recommendation:** 10.1 The proposal would provide a comprehensive mixed use redevelopment and regeneration of zoned lands within the Gasworks Estate. The mix of industrial/commercial units is complimented by much needed social housing provision of 94 units, and follows the thrust of BUAP, and draft BMAP zonings for the area. Having regard to the Development and relevant material considerations, the proposal is considered acceptable. 10.2 It is recommended that planning permission is granted subject to conditions and a completion of a planning agreement. 10.3 In view of the objection from DFC HED and current position of DFI Roads, the application will need to be notified to the Department for Infrastructure in accordance with the Planning (Notification of Applications) Direction 2017. Assuming that the Department does not "call in" the application, the application will then need to be subject to a Pre-Determination Hearing before final consideration by the Planning Committee. 11.0 **DRAFT CONDITIONS** 31. The development hereby permitted must be begun by the following, whichever is the later. Five years from the date of this permission; or The expiration of two years from the date of approval of the last of the reserved matters Reason: As required by Section 62 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. 32. Application/s for approval of the reserved matters in respect of all parts of the development, other than the 94 residential units across Sites A and D for which full details have been provided, shall be made to the Council within three years from the date of this permission. Reason: As required by Section 62 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

33. No development shall commence on site, other than the 94 residential units across Sites A and D, unless details of the siting, design, external appearance, means of access and landscaping (herein called "the reserved matters") have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: This permission is in outline only and further details of the development are required under section 4(1) of The Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

34. The reserved matters referred to in condition 3 above shall include the following: Siting: the two dimensional location of buildings within the site.

Design: the two dimensional internal arrangement of buildings and uses and the floor space devoted to such uses, the three dimensional form of the buildings and the relationship with their surroundings including height, massing, number of storeys, general external appearance and suitability for the display of advertisements.

External appearance of the Buildings: the colour, texture and type of facing materials to be used for external walls and roofs.

Means of Access: the location and two dimensional design of vehicular and pedestrian access to the site from the surroundings and also the circulation, car parking, facilities for the loading and unloading of vehicles and access to individual buildings within the site.

Landscaping: the use of the site not covered by buildings and the treatment thereof including the planting of trees, hedges, shrubs, grass, the laying of hard surface areas, the formation of banks, terraces or other earthworks and associated retaining walls, screening by fencing, walls or other means, the laying out of gardens and the provisions of other amenity features.

Reason: To enable the Council to consider in detail the proposed development of the site.

35. No external facing or roofing materials shall be applied to the 94 residential units across Sites A and D unless in accordance with a written specification of the materials, which shall have first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council.

Reason: In the interests of the character and appearance of the area.

36. Prior to the commencement of construction of the approved residential units on Sites A and D/NIE, a Remediation Implementation Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. This Remediation Implementation Plan should be based on the remediation proposals outlined in the AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Ltd report entitled 'Remediation Strategy, Belfast Gasworks, Radius Housing, Project number: 60635685, 9 November 2021' (Revision 0). The Remediation Implementation plan should be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance and must provide the final detail of the remediation works to be completed on the site and how they are to be verified. The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved Remediation Implementation Plan.

Reason: Protection of human health.

37. Prior to the occupation of any of the 94 residential units on Sites A and D/NIE, a Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Verification Report shall be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance. It must demonstrate that the mitigation measures outlined in the agreed Remediation Implementation Plan have been implemented and have broken the relevant contaminant linkages and that the site no longer poses a potential risk to human health.

Reason: Protection of human health.

38. If during the development works, new contamination or risks are encountered which have not previously been identified, works shall cease and the Council shall be notified immediately in writing. This new contamination shall be fully investigated in accordance with best practice. In the event of unacceptable risks being identified, a Remediation Strategy and subsequent Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council, prior to the development being occupied. If required, the Verification Report shall be completed by competent persons in accordance with best practice and must demonstrate that the remediation measures have been implemented and that the site is now fit for end-use.

Reason: Protection of human health.

39. At reserve matters stage the applicant shall provide to and have agreed in writing by the Council, a Detailed Remediation Strategy for the hotel, car park, commercial building or any of the mixed use buildings. This Detailed Remediation Strategy should consider the risk assessment presented within the AECOM Ltd report entitled 'Tier 2: Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment, Belfast Gasworks, Belfast City Council, Project reference: PR- 60554325\_ENV\_ACM\_RP\_003\_05, Project number: 60554325, 03 November 2021' (Revision 05). The Detailed Remediation Strategy should be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance and must provide the final detail of the remediation works to be completed on the site and how they are to be verified. All construction thereafter must be in accordance with the approved Detailed Remediation Strategy.

Reason: Protection of human health.

40. Prior to occupation of the hotel, car park, commercial building or any of the mixed use buildings, a Verification Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Verification Report shall be in accordance with Environment Agency guidance, British Standards and CIRIA industry guidance. It must demonstrate that the mitigation measures outlined in the agreed Detailed Remediation Strategy have been implemented and have broken the relevant contaminant linkages and that the site no longer poses a potential risk to human health.

Reason: Protection of Human Health.

41. At full or reserve matters stage the applicant shall include an air quality impact assessment. The assessment should have regard to recent up-to-date guidance and best practice for air quality, such as Local Air Quality Management Technical

Guidance document LAQM.TG(16) and Environmental Protection UK and the Institute of Air Quality Management, Land-use Planning & Development Control: *Planning For Air Quality (January 2017).* The assessment must demonstrate that there will be no significant adverse air quality impacts or exceedances of Air Quality Strategy objectives at relevant human receptor locations, associated with the development.

Where exceedances of air quality objectives are identified at relevant human receptor locations, the AQIA shall include appropriate mitigation measures to demonstrably achieve compliance with the objectives in the development year of opening.

Reason: Protection of human health against adverse air quality impact.

42. No development shall commence on site (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) unless an Environmental Construction Management Plan (CEMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. The Environmental Construction Management Plan shall include measures to control noise, dust, vibration and other nuisance during the demolition/construction phase. No development (including demolition, site clearance and site preparation) shall be carried out unless in accordance with the approved Environmental Construction Management Plan. The CEMP must also have due regard to Parts 1 and 2 of BS 5228:2009+A1:2014 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites, Noise and Vibration.

The dust management measures shall be based on the dust risk assessment and recommendations detailed by AECOM Consultants within Chapter 6 of the Air Quality Screening Report (June 2021) and have cognisance to good practice contained within the IAQM, 'Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction version 1.1', and dated February 2014.

No variations to the CEMP shall be implemented without prior written agreement of the Council and the development shall be carried out in accordance with the revised arrangements at all times.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the area and to ensure effective avoidance and mitigation measures have been planned for the protection of the water environment.

43. At reserve matters stage, development-specific noise assessments, for all aspects of the proposal with all matters reserved, shall be submitted detailing the baseline noise conditions and identifying any potential noise generating sources associated with the proposals. Suitable mitigation measures shall be recommended for each subsequent block within each phase of development.

Reason: Protection against adverse noise impact and protection of residential amenity.

44. No works shall be carried out (other than those required to fulfil this condition) until a programme of archaeological work (POW) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council.

The POW shall provide for:

• The identification and evaluation of archaeological remains within the site;

- Mitigation of the impacts of development through licensed excavation recording or by preservation of remains in-situ;
- Post-excavation analysis sufficient to prepare an archaeological report, to publication standard if necessary; and
- Preparation of the digital, documentary and material archive for deposition.

The development shall not be carried out unless in accordance with the approved POW.

Reason: to ensure that archaeological remains within the application site are properly identified, and protected or appropriately recorded.

45. A programme of post-excavation analysis, preparation of an archaeological report, dissemination of results and preparation of the excavation archive shall be undertaken in accordance with the programme of archaeological work approved under condition No. 14. These measures shall be implemented and a final archaeological report shall be submitted to Belfast City Council within 12 months of the completion of archaeological site works, or as otherwise agreed in writing with Belfast City Council.

Reason: To ensure that the results of archaeological works are appropriately analysed and disseminated and the excavation archive is prepared to a suitable standard for deposition.

46. Prior to the commencement of any of the approved development, the applicant must demonstrate how any out of sewer flooding, emanating from the surface water drainage network agreed under Article 161, in a 1 in 100 year event, will be safely managed so as not to create a flood risk to the development or from the development to elsewhere.

Reason: In order to safeguard against surface water flood risk to the development and manage and mitigate any increase in surface water flood risk from the development to elsewhere.

47. Prior to occupation of any residential units within Site D a close boarded fence to a height of 1.8m (as shown on drawing No. GSW-ACM-SW-XX-DR-LA-600002 Rev.4 dated My 2022), and a self-weight of 25kg/m2, shall be constructed at the boundary of all rear gardens of those houses that are proposed along the railway line and thereafter retained at all times.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

48. No residential unit hereby approved on Sites A and D shall be occupied or operated unless details of covered bicycle storage has been submitted to the Council, and approved in writing. The covered bicycle storage shall be retained in accordance with the approved details at all times

Reason: To ensure adequate provision and availability of cycle parking and to encourage sustainable travel.

12.0	Notification to Department (if relevant)	
12.0	·	
	Yes – Objections from statutory consultees (HED and NI Water)	
13.0	Representations from elected members: None received	
Neighbour Notification Checked Yes		

Signature(s)
Date:

ANNEX			
Date Valid	18th June 2021		
Date First Advertised	30th July 2021		
Date Last Advertised	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2021		

## **Details of Neighbour Notification** (all addresses)

106 Joy Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8AP

- 11 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU
- 12 Eliza Street Terrace, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2AX
- 12 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim,
- 124a Joy Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8LG
- T A Devlin
- 128a, Eglantine Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT9 6EU
- 13 Eliza Street Terrace, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2AX
- 13 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU
- 14 Eliza Street Terrace, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2AX
- 15 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU
- 153 Cromac Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8JE
- 155 Cromac Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8JE
- 157 Cromac Street.Belfast.Antrim.BT2 8JE
- 161-165 , Cromac Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8JE
- 167 Cromac Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8JE
- 169 Cromac Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8JE
- 17 Mcaulev Street.Belfast.Antrim.BT7 2BU
- 18 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BW
- 19 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU
- 2-6 Unit 6, Raphael Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2DD
- 20 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BW
- 22 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BW
- 24 Cromac Place, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2JB
- 3 Cromac Place, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2JB
- 42-54 ,Raphael Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2DD
- 5 Cromac Quay, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2JD
- 5 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU
- 57 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 59 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 61 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 63 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 65 Stewart Street.Belfast.Antrim.BT7 2BT
- 67 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 69 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT
- 7 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU

71 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT 73 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BT 9 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BU Apartment 1,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 1,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 1.1a .Mcaulev Street.Belfast.Antrim.BT7 2BN Apartment 10,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 10,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 10,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 11,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 11,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 11,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 12,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 12,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 12,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 13,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 13,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 14,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 14,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 15,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 15,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 16.1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 16,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 17,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 18,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 19,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 2,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 2,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 2,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 20,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 21,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 22,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 23,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 24,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 25,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 26,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 27,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 28,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 29,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 3,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 3,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL Apartment 3,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN Apartment 30,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 31,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 32,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 33,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 34,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 35,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 36,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP Apartment 37,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP

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Apartment 38,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 39,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 4,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL
Apartment 4,1a, Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BN
Apartment 40,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 41,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 42,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
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Apartment 5,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
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Apartment 6,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 6,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL
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Apartment 7,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 7,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL
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Apartment 8,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 8,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL
Apartment 8.1a , Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BN
Apartment 9,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Apartment 9,10 Stewart Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BL
Apartment 9,1a ,Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BN
Central Fire Station, 6 Bankmore Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 1AQ
Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BW
First Floor Flat, 106 Joy Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8AP
Flat 1, 19 Raphael Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2DD
Flat 1,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 1, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 10,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 10, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 101,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 102,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 103,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
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Flat 17,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP

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Flat 35, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 36,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 36, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 37.1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 37, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 38,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 38, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 39,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 39, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 4, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 40,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 40, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 401,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 402,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 403,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 404,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 405,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 406,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 407,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 41,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 41, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 42,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 42, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 43,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 44,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 45,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 5.1 Mcaulev Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 5.Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 501,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 502,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 503,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 504,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 505,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 506,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 507.1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 6,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
Flat 6, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BQ
Flat 601,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 602,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 604,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 605,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 606,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 607,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB
Flat 7,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT7 2BP
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Flat 7,Cromac Wood Court,3 Mcauley Str Flat 701,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau				
Flat 702,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Flat 703,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau				
Flat 704,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau Avenue,Belfast,Antrim,BT2 8HB				
Flat 705,1-3 The Lucas Building, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, Antrim, BT2 8HB				
Flat 706,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau				
Flat 707,1-3 The Lucas Building,Ormeau	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Flat 8,1 Mcauley Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT				
Flat 8, Cromac Wood Court, 3 Mcauley Str				
Flat 9,1 Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT				
Flat 9,Cromac Wood Court,3 Mcauley Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BQ				
Office (Gd Floor),135 Cromac Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT2 8JE				
St Malachys Primary School,1 Eliza Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2BJ Suite 1 (1st Floor - Front),135 Cromac Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT2 8JE				
Suite 2 (1st Floor - Side),135 Cromac Str	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Suite 3 (1st Floor - Rear),135 Cromac Str				
Suite 4 (2nd Floor - Front),135 Cromac St	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Suite 5 (2nd Floor - Rear),135 Cromac Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT2 8JE				
Suite 6 (3rd Floor),135 Cromac Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT2 8JE				
The Lighthouse,1 Cromac Place,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2JB				
Unit 1 ,Raphael Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2DD				
Unit 2-6,Raphael Street,Belfast,Antrim,BT7 2DD				
Date of Last Neighbour Notification	28th July 2021			
Date of EIA Determination	N/A			
ES Requested	No			
Notification to Department (if relevant)				
Date of Notification to Department:				
Response of Department:				