

Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
C/O The Manager, Development Applications Unit
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
Newtown Road,
Co. Wexford

11th December 2020

Dear Minister,

**RE: PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT FORMER ST. KEVIN'S HOSPITAL AND GROUNDS,
SHANAKIEL, CORK**

(PRE- APPLICATION CONSULTATION REFERENCE: ABP- 307259-20)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the applicant The Land Development Agency, Ashford House, Tara Street, Dublin 2, please find the enclosed Strategic Housing Development (SHD) planning application for the above referenced proposal, submitted to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 5 *Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act, 2016 ('the 2016 Act')*.

The application is made following Pre-Application Consultation and the receipt of a *Notice of Pre-Application Consultation Opinion* issued by An Bord Pleanála, dated 24th September 2020.

Under Article 285(5) (a) of the *Planning and Development (Strategic Housing Development) Regulations 2017*, we have been instructed by An Bord Pleanála to inform you of the aforementioned planning application in accordance with Section 8(1) (b) of the *Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016*.

The Land Development Agency (LDA), established in September 2018, is a key Government initiative to make the development of homes happen where and when it should be happening, with a key focus on state-owned land. The LDA opens up state owned land to improve housing options for individuals and families. They also drive the medium to long term compact development of our cities by providing a vision and delivery strategy for larger scale strategic land areas. Put simply, the LDA's strategy is to help make the development of housing happen where and when it should be happening, in line with Ireland's compact growth objectives. That includes both in the short term and the medium to long term.

TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Directors: Tom Phillips BA MRUP MA (Urb Des) MRTPI FIPI (Managing); Gavin Lawlor BSoc Sc MRUP MIPI; and John Gannon BSc (Surv) MRUP MIPI.

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2.0 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT

The development description is noted as follows in the statutory notices;

“The Land Development Agency intend to apply to An Bord Pleanála (the Board) for permission for a Strategic Housing Development with a total application site area of c. 5.7 ha, on lands located at the Former St. Kevin’s Hospital and Grounds, Shanakiel, Cork (A Protected Structure, ‘Our Lady’s Hospital’ RPS Ref. PS620). The development, with a total gross floor area of c 24,344 sq m, will provide 266 no. residential units, a crèche and office enterprise centre. The development will consist of 46 no. town houses (32 no. 3 bedroom units and 14 no. 4 bedroom units) arranged in 11 no. two storey blocks; 54 no. ground floor 2 bedroom duplex apartments and 36 no. 3 bedroom and 18 no. 4 bedroom duplex townhouses above arranged in 7 no. three storey blocks and 52 no. walk-up apartments (11 no. 1 bedroom apartments and 41 no. 2 bedroom apartments) arranged in 3 no. four storey blocks. The development will also include the stabilisation, conversion, renovation and internal reordering (including new structural frame and floors) of the former St. Kevin’s Hospital building to provide 60 no. apartments (26 no. 1 bedroom and 34 no. 2 bedroom apartments) a 440 sq m crèche at ground floor level, with ancillary outdoor play area and the conversion of the 630 sq m former chapel building to provide a new Office Enterprise Centre. The proposed development will include 241 no. surface car parking spaces and 563 no. bicycle parking spaces.

The development will also consist of the demolition of 2,901 sq m of former hospital buildings and associated outbuildings (including the demolition of the 1,129 sq m former two storey St. Dymphna’s Hospital block; 672 sqm of the rear toilet blocks and contemporary stair cores to the side and rear of the St. Kevin’s Hospital building; the 220 sq m two storey former Doctors House; the 50 sq m one storey hospital mortuary building; 480 sq m of shed buildings to the rear of the Chapel; the 151 m retaining wall to the immediate south of the St. Kevin’s Hospital building and the partial demolition of the existing 350 sq m link corridor structure, to be replaced with an integrated landscaped amenity area in the footprint of the original structure.) 2 no. new 228 sq m extensions with bridge access are to be provided to the rear of the St. Kevin’s Hospital Building and 2 no. 31 sq m new glazed porch extensions to the south.

The development will also include the provision of a play area to the immediate east of St. Kevin’s Hospital; private, communal and public open space (including all balconies and terraces at all levels); internal roads and pathways; pedestrian access points; hard and soft landscaping; boundary treatments including the repair of some existing boundary walls; the provision of new surface water and foul drainage pipes and any associated pipe diversion works; new retaining walls; a new internal access road; changes in level; services provision and related pipework; electric vehicle charging points; attenuation tanks; SUDS; signage; the upgrading of the existing access from Beechtree Avenue; public lighting and all site development and excavation works above and below ground. The application contains a statement setting out how the proposal will be consistent with the objectives of the Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021. The application contains a statement indicating why permission should be granted for the proposed development, having regard to a consideration specified in section 37(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, notwithstanding that the proposed development materially contravenes a relevant development plan or local area plan other than in relation to the zoning of the land.”

3.0 SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during public opening hours at the offices of An Bord Pleanála and Cork City Council. The application may also be inspected online at the following website set up by the applicant: www.stkevinsshd.com

Any person may, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by An Bord Pleanála of the application and on payment of the prescribed fee of €20 (except for certain prescribed bodies), make a submission or observations in writing to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 or online at www.pleanala.ie relating to the implications of the proposed development, if carried out, for proper planning and sustainable development in the area or areas concerned, and the likely effects on the environment or the likely effects on a European site, as the case may be, of the proposed development, if carried out. Submissions or observations duly made will be considered by An Bord Pleanála in making a decision on the application. Such submissions or observations must also include the following information:

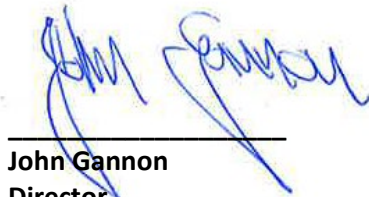
- (a) the name of the person, authority or body making the submission or observations, the name of the person, if any, acting on behalf of that person, authority or body, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- (b) the subject matter of the submission or observations, and
- (c) the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observations is or are based.

An Bord Pleanála may grant permission for the strategic housing development as proposed, or may grant permission subject to such modifications as it specifies in its decision, or may grant permission in part only, with or without any other modifications it may specify in its decision, or may refuse to grant permission for the proposed development. An Bord Pleanála may attach to a grant of permission such conditions as it considers appropriate.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Housing Development Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

A person may question the validity of a decision of An Bord Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986), in accordance with sections 50 and 50A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (No. 30 of 2000), as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be found in the Judicial Review Notice on the An Bord Pleanála website: www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website: www.citizensinformation.ie. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Yours faithfully,



John Gannon
Director
Tom Phillips + Associates