

Heritage Statement

Dolphin Yard, Queen Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 2EE

Retention of the conversion of the pre-existing restaurant into 5 office units.

This application is for the retrospective change of use of an existing property from a restaurant to 5 office units at 6 Queens Street, Gravesend.

6 Queens Street is located within The Dolphin Yard area of the Queens Street Conservation Area. Queens Street forms part of the commercial heart of Gravesend and extends from the junction with King Street in the south towards the river in the north.

Queen Street is within of the central shopping area of Gravesend and is close the main line railway station which has a regular service to London, Rochester and Canterbury.

Queen Street also has good access to all main vehicle routes with the A2 to Gravesend and Rochester, and the M2 motorway with direct links to London, Canterbury and Folkestone a short distant away.

Although Queen Street contains some period buildings of architectural interest, Dolphin Yard is generally enclosed by buildings probably built since the late 1940's. 6 Queen Street is such a building, is single storey with a flat roof and a shopfront styled frontage to the Yard which is to remain.

6 Queens Street was previously used as a shop for the sale of second-hand goods, including furniture and household goods and after that as a restaurant. Since 2008 the premises has provided a valuable meeting place and community centre for members of the local Muslim community where they can visit to meet friends and obtain general advice and information. Refreshments, including hot and cold drinks, traditional pastries, etc are also available for purchase.

A retrospective application is therefore submitted for the conversion into 5 office units.

All access to the premises is from Queen Street via Dolphins Yard and is not affected by the proposed change of use.