



Application: 20250648

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2015 (AS AMENDED)**

NOTIFICATION OF REFUSAL OF PERMISSION TO DEVELOP LAND

To: **MR Rajinder Singh Rai**
C/O Mr Alan Penfold, Penfold Project Services
Epmarket
Wrotham Road
Meopham
Kent
DA13 0JH

TAKE NOTICE that the **GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**, the Local Planning Authority under the Town and Country Planning Acts, has **REFUSED TO PERMIT** development of land situate at:

15 Hopewell Drive
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 4PX

and being **conversion of roof space into habitable rooms with rear dormer and roof lights to front roof slope.**

Your application dated 26th June 2025 is refused on the following grounds:-

1. By virtue of its excessive size and bulk, the proposal would overwhelm the existing roof slope. The proposed windows would not reflect the position or character of those existing and as such, would look incongruous. When the existing extensions and alterations to the property are considered, the proposal would result in an overdevelopment of the application property. Overall, the proposed development would be out of character with the existing building and those in the surrounding area and be detrimental to visual amenity. Therefore, the proposal would not be in line with Policy CS19 of the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (2014), paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024 and the Householder Extensions/Alterations Design Guide SPD (2021).
2. The proposed development fails to demonstrate that there would be no significant overshadowing impacts to the solar panels at no. 13 Hopewell Drive. As such, the proposal would be likely to negatively impact upon the generation of renewable energy and be detrimental to climate change and contrary to Policy CS18 of the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (2014) and to paragraphs 163 and 167 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2024).

INFORMATIVES:-

1 STATEMENT OF POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING

In accordance with Article 35 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended), and paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2023, the Local Planning Authority has approached the assessment and

determination of this application in a positive and creative manner. In this instance, the application is not in accordance with the Development Plan for the area and cannot be supported.

2 DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS

For the avoidance of doubt the decision to refuse this application was taken in relation to the following plans and documents:

Householder Application for Planning Permission form;
Drawing no. 01 Existing layouts and elevations;
Drawing no. 02 Proposed layouts and elevations;
Drawing no. 03 Site location plan; and
Drawing no. 04 Existing and proposed block plans.

Dated: 21 August 2025

Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 1AU

Shazad Ghani
MPhil, MA, BA (Hons)
Head of Planning
Planning Service

NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANT

APPEALS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

- If you are aggrieved by the decision of your Local Planning Authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or to grant it subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- If this is a **householder application*** which has been refused and you want to appeal against your Local Planning Authority's decision then you must do so within **12 weeks of the date of this notice**.
- For all other applications, refused or permitted, if you want to appeal against your Local Planning Authority's decision then you must do so within 6 months of the date of this notice.
- **For further information regarding Appeals and to make an application please click the relevant link:**
<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-householder-planning-decision>
<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision>
- The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal, but he will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in giving notice of appeal.
- The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to him that the Local Planning Authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under a development order.
- In practice, the Secretary of State does not refuse to consider appeals solely because the Local Planning Authority based their decision on a direction given by him.

***Householder applications**

These are:

- (a) applications for planning permission for development of an existing dwellinghouse, or development within the curtilage of such a dwellinghouse for any purpose incidental to the enjoyment of the dwellinghouse, or
- (b) an application for any consent, agreement or approval required by or under a planning permission, development order or local development order in relation to such development

but does **not** include –

- (i) an application for change of use;
- (ii) an application to change the number of dwellings in a building.

PURCHASE NOTICES

If either the Local Planning Authority or the Secretary of State for the Environment refuses permission to develop land or grants it subject to conditions, the owner may claim that he/she can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor can he/she render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances, the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council (District Council, London Borough Council or Common Council of the City of London) in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.