



Application: 20250517

**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 Ben Harvey
C/O Mr Philip Taylor
3 Harrow Cottage
22 Horseshoes Lane
Langley
Maidstone
Kent
ME17 1TD**

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:

**Waterworks Cottage
Crutches Lane
Higham
Rochester
Kent
ME3 7DJ**

and being **Erection of a two storey side and rear extension with rear balcony. Erection of a single storey side extension and canopy porch.**

Your application dated 28th May 2025 is refused on the following grounds:-

1. The site is within the approved Metropolitan Green Belt. National Planning Policy Framework Section 13 (2024) (Protecting Green Belt Land) indicates that the most important attribute of Green Belts is their openness. The proposed development is inappropriate development as it would result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original dwelling and harm the openness of the Green Belt. As such the proposal is considered to be contrary to the advice in National Planning Policy Framework Section 13 (2024) (Protecting Green Belt Land), and Policy CS02 (Scale and Distribution of Development) of the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (2014).
2. The proposal fails to constitute good design and lacks subservience and would result in an incongruous harmful addition to the property which will result in the appearance of excessive bulk and massing to the property, contrary to CS19 of The Local Plan Core Strategy 2014, SPD4 - Householder Extensions/Alterations Design Guide (2021) and Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024.

INFORMATIVES:-

- 1 DECISION PLANS

For the avoidance of doubt, the forms, plans and documents upon which this decision is made comprise:

- o Application Form
- o Site Location Map
- o Existing Block Plan
- o Proposed Block Plan
- o Drawing No: BH/05/25/4 (Proposed Elevations)
- o Drawing No: BH/05/25/3 (Existing Elevations)
- o Drawing No: BH/05/25/2 (Existing Plans)
- o Drawing No: BH/05/25/1 (Proposed Plans)

2 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 39 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024, the Local Planning Authority has approached the assessment and determination of this application in a positive and creative way and, where appropriate, has worked pro-actively with the applicant to secure a development that is sustainable and that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area, and that is in accordance with the Development Plan for the area.

In this instance the proposal was contrary to local and national planning policy and could not be supported.

Dated: 3 December 2025

Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 1AU

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

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### 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.