

Fire Safety Statement

Planning Application: 50 Whitehill Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5PG

Introduction

This Fire Safety Statement has been prepared in support of the planning application for 50 Whitehill Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5PG. The purpose of this statement is to demonstrate that fire safety considerations have been incorporated into the proposed development in accordance with relevant planning policy and Building Regulations Approved Document B.

Site Overview

50 Whitehill Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5PG is a residential property. The proposed application seeks an increase in the number of occupants only.

The development will adhere to all relevant fire safety standards to ensure the safety of future occupants and visitors.

Fire Safety Objectives

- To provide safe means of escape in the event of fire for all occupants.
- To ensure adequate access for fire and rescue services.
- To limit the spread of fire and smoke within the building and to adjoining properties.
- To provide appropriate fire alarm and detection systems.
- To use fire-resistant materials and construction methods where required.

Means of Escape

The proposed development will incorporate clearly defined escape routes, with direct access to a place of safety. All habitable rooms will have compliant means of escape, as outlined in Approved Document B. Escape routes will be kept free from obstructions and clearly signposted.

Access for Fire and Rescue Services

The property will be accessible from Whitehill Road, allowing fire and rescue vehicles to reach the site swiftly. The main entrance will be suitable for fire service access, and any gates or barriers, if present, will comply with access requirements. Hydrants are expected to be available within reasonable distance to provide water supply for firefighting, subject to detailed confirmation where required.

Fire Detection and Alarm Systems

Smoke detectors and alarm systems will be installed in accordance with BS 5839-6:2019 for residential buildings. These will be interconnected and positioned in key locations to provide early warning and facilitate evacuation.

Fire Resistance and Compartmentation

All new structural elements will meet the required fire resistance standards to prevent rapid fire spread. Compartmentation will be incorporated to limit the movement of fire and smoke between different areas of the property, enhancing overall safety.

Emergency Lighting

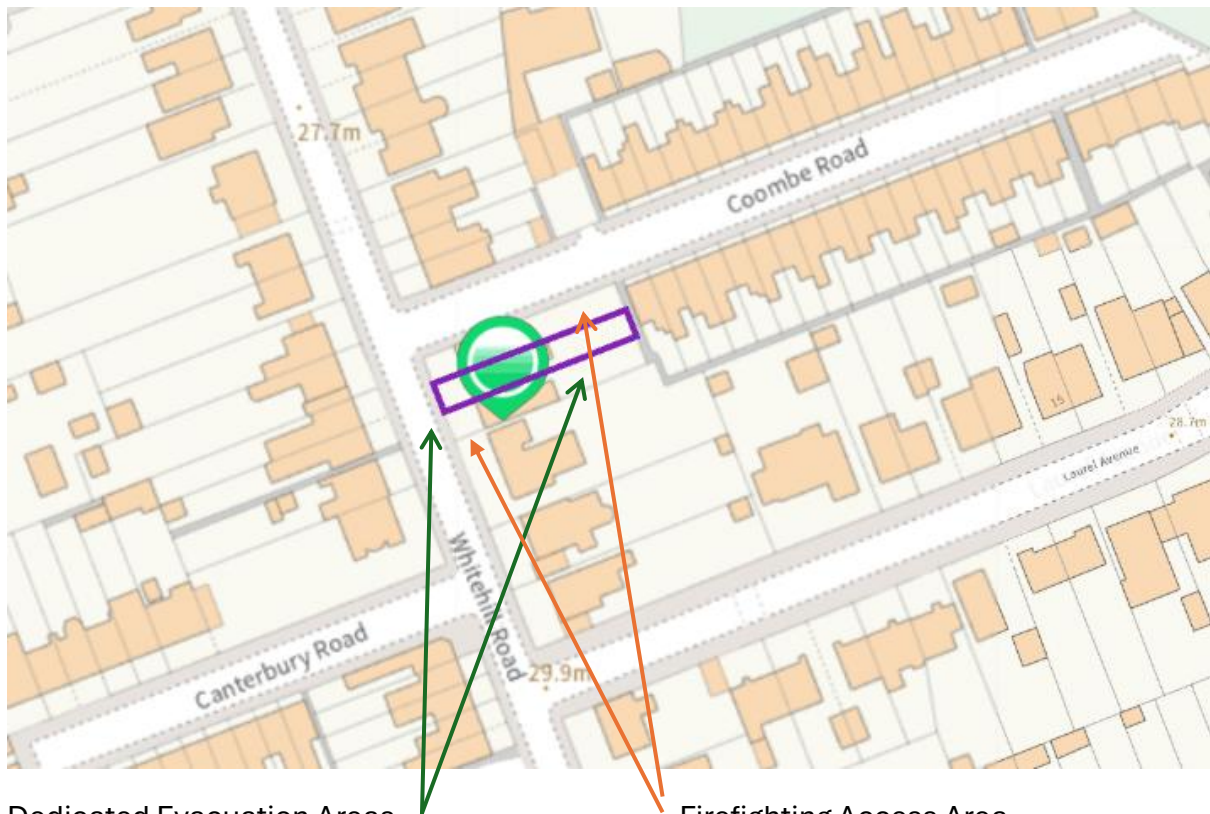
Emergency lighting will be provided along escape routes and in communal areas, where applicable, to ensure visibility during evacuation in the event of power failure.

Evacuation Strategy

The property will adopt a simultaneous evacuation strategy, suitable for standard residential dwellings. Occupants will be alerted by the fire alarm system and directed to the nearest exit.

Management and Maintenance

A fire risk assessment will be undertaken, and all fire safety measures will be regularly inspected and maintained. Occupants will be provided with information on fire safety procedures, including escape routes and alarm systems.



Dedicated Evacuation Areas

Firefighting Access Area

Conclusion

The proposed development at 50 Whitehill Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5PG has been designed to meet all relevant fire safety requirements. The measures outlined above will help ensure the safety and well-being of occupants and visitors and facilitate an effective response by emergency services. Further details can be provided upon request or as part of the Building Regulations application.