

CLIENT AND HOMEOWNER STATEMENT (14/11/2024)

I the owner and applicant, Mr Guy Reece have been living at 31 Wiltshire Road for over 7 weeks and in that time have been trying to organise the evidence requested by the Local Authority Planning Department in support of my 'Householder' Planning application in the form of council tax and supporting utility bills.

It has not been possible to arrange for any utility companies to switch from the previous and existing business rate classification to a residential/domestic rate because this change needs to come from the Governments VOA (Valuation Office Agency).

So, although I have in my possession several recent gas and electricity bills, they have all been received on the basis of a business rate setting.

Following numerous enquiries to the local council tax team and site visits over the last 2 months, I have in my possession 2 council tax bills. The first for 31b under a domestic rate which is for the small previous extension to the rear of the property which I have made a small bedsit facility for my accommodation while the main refurbishment works are undertaken and the second bill for 31 Wiltshire Road under an incorrect business rate classification.

Jeanette Scanlon has recently advised me that I should have been told by her team to approach the VOA with evidence so they could make the change to allow the local council and in turn the utility companies to be able to see that the property is listed as residential.

All information has now been sent to the VOA with supporting pictures and documentation.

Because of this unnecessary back and forth, Jeanette has kindly offered to have communications with the planning department and planning case officer to advise of this process and to clarify that I (Mr Reece) have done all within my power to provide the evidence required to support my 'Householder' planning application and move it forward.

Regards

Guy Reece