

DELEGATED OFFICER REPORT



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Application Number:	251130
Site Address:	The Herl, Gorse Ride South, Finchampstead, Wokingham, RG40 4EH
Expiry Date:	8 July 2025
Site Visit Date:	4 June 2025
Proposal: Householder application for the proposed single storey rear extension and partial conversion of existing garage into habitable space along with changes to fenestration.	

PLANNING CONSTRAINTS/STATUS

Bat Roost Habitat Suitability
Scale and Location of Development Proposals

PLANNING POLICY

National Policy	National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG)
Core Strategy (CS)	CP1 – Sustainable Development CP3 – General Principles for Development CP6 – Managing Travel Demand CP7 – Biodiversity CP9 – Scale and Location of Development Proposals
MDD Local Plan (MDD)	CC01 – Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development CC02 – Development Limits CC07 – Parking TB23 – Biodiversity and Development
Other	Borough Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

NO RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Internal

WBC Highways – No objection subject to a condition

External

None

REPRESENTATIONS

Finchampstead Parish Council	No objection
Ward Member(s)	No comments received
Neighbours	No comments received

APPRAISAL

Context: The application site is located within a residential setting of Finchampstead. This application seeks planning permission for the erection of a single storey extension to the rear of the dwelling, plus the conversion of the existing garage.

Principle of Development: The National Planning Policy Framework has an underlying presumption in favour of sustainable development which is carried through to the local Development Plan. The Managing Development Delivery Local Plan Policy CC01 states that planning applications that accord with the policies in the Development Plan for Wokingham Borough will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The site is located within settlement limits and as such the development should be acceptable providing that it complies with the principles stated in the Core Strategy. Policy CP3 of the Core Strategy states that development must be appropriate in terms of its scale of activity, mass, layout, built form, height, materials and character to the area in which it is located and must be of high quality design without detriment to the amenities of adjoining land uses and occupiers.

Character of the Area: The proposed single storey rear extension would be both modest in scale and unimposing in design, ensuring a seamless integration into the existing built form, without any notable impact on wider character.

The garage conversion would comprise the replacement of the existing single doors with a double garage door, plus changes to fenestration. These alterations would not result in significant impact to the character of the area and is therefore acceptable.

Overall, the proposal would have an acceptable visual impact, complying with policies CP1 & CP3 of the Core Strategy.

Neighbouring Amenity: The proposed development would not impact upon the amenities of neighbouring residents.

Highway Access and Parking Provision: WBC Highways have reviewed the application and raised no concerns on the impact of the development to the existing parking arrangement. They have, however, requested a condition that the converted garage remains ancillary to the main dwelling and shall not be sold, leased or disposed of separately. Given the intended use and scale of the converted building, the condition is considered unnecessary and therefore has not been imposed.

Conclusion: For all the above, the proposal is acceptable, and the application is recommended for approval.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): When planning permission is granted for a development that is CIL liable, the Council will issue a liability notice as soon as practicable after the day on which the planning permission first permits development. Completing the assumption of liability notice is a statutory requirement to be completed for all CIL liable applications.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010): In determining this application the Council is required to have due regard to its obligations under the Equality Act 2010. The key equalities protected characteristics include age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief. There is no indication or evidence (including from consultation on the application) that persons with protected characteristics as identified by the Act have or will have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to this particular planning application and there would be no significant adverse impacts as a result of the development.

RECOMMENDATION	
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Conditions agreed:	Not required
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Recommendation:	Approve
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Date:	11 June 2025
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Earliest date for decision:	4 June 2025
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Recommendation agreed by: (Authorised Officer)	<i>BJC</i>
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Date:	12.06.25
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