

DELEGATED REPORT

Report by Jennie Townsend	Date of report: 06/01/2026	Ref: 72556/P3JPA
Registration: 18/11/2025	LDFC: 12/12/2025	Expiry Date: 13/01/2026
Site Visit:	Site Notice: N/A	Press Date: N/A
Objections: 0	Con Area: N/A	Adv Type: NONE
Reason for Delay:		EIA: NA
N/A		Dec Level: DEL
		Stat Class: NREQ

Proposal: Prior approval for proposed change of use from office (Class E) to 1 no. dwellinghouse (Class C3)

Location: 44 Rectory Lane, Prestwich, Manchester, M25 1BL

Description

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of use from Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3) Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA.
The application is to change the use from offices to 1 no dwellinghouse.

Relevant Planning History

46932 - Change of use from doctor's surgery (class d1) to funeral parlour (class a1). single storey rear extension - Refused 23/11/2006
47310 - Certificate of lawfulness for class use d1 as a non - residential educational facility. - Lawful Development 14/12/2006
62261 - Change of use from non-residential institution (Class D1) to dwelling (Class C3) with ground floor rear extension and first floor rear/side extension; Erection of new dwelling at rear - Approve with Conditions 28/03/2018

Publicity

Letters sent to 19 properties in 20/11/25.

One support received with the following comment -

- This is a residential street and the office causes a high volume of traffic and parking difficulties in the area.

Statutory/Non-Statutory Consultations

Traffic Section - No objection

Waste Management - No response received

Environmental Health - Pollution Control - No comments

Prestwich Village Neighbourhood Forum - No objection

Pre-start Conditions - Not relevant

Development Plan and Policies

Issues and Analysis

The following report includes analysis of the merits of the application against the relevant policies of both the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the adopted Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document (PfE) and the saved policies within the

adopted Bury Unitary Development Plan (UDP), together with other relevant material planning considerations.

The policies of the UDP that have been used to assess this application are considered to be in accordance with the NPPF and as such are material planning considerations. For simplicity, just the UDP and PpE Policies will be referred to in the report, unless there is a particular matter to highlight arising from the NPPF where it would otherwise be specifically mentioned.

Equality Act 2010: All planning applications are considered in light of the Equality Act 2010 and associated Public Sector Equality Duty, where the Council is required to have due regard for:

The elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation;

The advancement of equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it;

The fostering of good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it; which applies to people from the protected equality groups.

Human Rights: All planning applications are considered against the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

Under Article 6 the applicants (and those third parties who have made representations) have the right to a fair hearing and to this end full consideration will be given to their comments.

Article 8 and Protocol 1 of the First Article confer a right to respect private and family life and a right to the protection of property, ie peaceful enjoyment of one's possessions which could include a person's home, and other land and business assets.

In taking account of the Council policy as set out in the Bury Unitary Development Plan 1997 and all material planning considerations, it is concluded on balance that the rights conferred upon the applicant/ objectors/ residents/ other interested party by Article 8 and Article 1 of the First Protocol may be interfered with, since such interference is in accordance with the law and is justified in the public interest. Any restriction of these rights posed by refusal/ approval of the application is legitimate since it is proportionate to the wider benefits of such a decision, is based upon the merits of the proposal, and falls within the margin of discretion afforded to the Council under the Town & Country Planning Acts.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes (without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it) a duty upon the Council to exercise its functions and have due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of its functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. In so doing and on making planning decisions under the Town and Country Planning Acts, the material Planning considerations shall have due regard to the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and its implications in the exercise of its functions.

Development is not permitted by Class MA -

(a) unless the use of the building fell within one or more of the classes specified in subparagraph (2) for a continuous period of at least 2 years prior to the date of the application for prior approval;

(b) if land covered by, or within the curtilage of, the building—

(i) is or forms part of a site of special scientific interest;

(ii) is or forms part of a listed building or land within its curtilage;

(iii) is or forms part of a scheduled monument or land within its curtilage;

- (iv) is or forms part of a safety hazard area; or
- (v) is or forms part of a military explosives storage area;
- (c) if the building is within—
 - (i) an area of outstanding natural beauty;
 - (ii) an area specified by the Secretary of State for the purposes of section 41(3) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
 - (iii) the Broads;
 - (iv) a National Park; or
 - (v) a World Heritage Site;
- (d) if the site is occupied under an agricultural tenancy, unless the express consent of both the landlord and the tenant has been obtained; or
- (e) before 1 August 2022, if—
 - (i) the proposed development is of a description falling within Class O of this Part as that Class had effect immediately before 1st August 2021; and
 - (ii) the development would not have been permitted under Class O immediately before 1st August 2021 by virtue of the operation of a direction under article 4(1) of this Order which has not since been cancelled in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3.

(2) The classes mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(b) are the following classes of the Use Classes Order—

(a) the following classes of the Schedule as it had effect before 1st September 2020—

- (i) Class A1 (shops);
- (ii) Class A2 (financial and professional services);
- (iii) Class A3 (food and drink);
- (iv) Class B1 (business);
- (v) Class D1(a) (non-residential institutions – medical or health services);
- (vi) Class D1(b) (non-residential institutions – crèche, day nursery or day centre);
- (vii) Class D2(e) (assembly and leisure – indoor and outdoor sports), other than use as an indoor swimming pool or skating rink;

(b) on or after 1st September 2020, Class E (commercial, business and service) of Schedule 2.

The proposal would comply with all the limitations and conditions set out above.

Development under Class MA is permitted subject to the following conditions.

Before beginning development under Class MA, the developer must apply to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority will be required as to—

- (a) transport impacts of the development, particularly to ensure safe site access;

The Highway Section have no objections to the proposal.

- (b) contamination risks in relation to the building;

No industrial processes have taken place to cause contamination risks.

- (c) flooding risks in relation to the building;

The site is not in a Flood Zone.

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(d) impacts of noise from commercial premises on the intended occupiers of the development;

Pollution control have confirmed they have no comment to make. The surrounding area is residential in character.

(e) where—

(i) the building is located in a conservation area, and

(ii) the development involves a change of use of the whole or part of the ground floor, the impact of that change of use on the character or sustainability of the conservation area;

The site is not in a conservation area

(f) the provision of adequate natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwellinghouses;

There is adequate natural light to all habitable rooms.

(g) the impact on intended occupiers of the development of the introduction of residential use in an area the authority considers to be important for general or heavy industry, waste management, storage and distribution, or a mix of such uses;

The site is not in an area important for general or heavy industry, waste management, storage and distribution, or a mix of such uses.

(h) where the development involves the loss of services provided by—

(i) a registered nursery, or

(ii) a health centre maintained under section 2 or 3 of the National Health Service Act 2006, the impact on the local provision of the type of services lost;

There would be no loss of such provisions.

(i) where the development meets the fire risk condition, the fire safety impacts on the intended occupants of the building.

The development does not consist of two or more dwellings whilst also exceeding seven storeys in height.

As such the Prior Approval of the Local Planning Authority is required and granted

Recommendation: Prior Approval Required and Granted

Conditions and Reasons:

<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sign off Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
JT 6/1/26		DM 06/01/26	