DELEGATED REPORT / CASE OFFICER'S ASSESSMENT

Ref No: ST/0326/22/COND
Proposal: Discharge of Condition 5: Travel Plan - relating to previously approved Planning Application ST/0955/20/FUL
Location: St Wilfrids RC College
Temple Park Road
South Shields
NE34 0QA

Relevant policies/SPDs

1 LDF CS ST2 - Sustainable Urban Living

Description of the site and of the proposals

Planning permission ST/0955/20/FUL was granted on 05/03/2021 for the following:

"Two storey extension to the existing school building, to provide 6 new teaching classrooms and additional dining space. Ancillary storage, plant, circulation and W.C.s to be provided internally. Externally the current covered walkway is to be removed and the current catering pod to be relocated to the edge of the Memorial Garden. Hard landscaping is to be provided, to enable external dining and existing paths to be widened and re-alignment of fence lines. Some existing soft landscaping is to be removed but re-provided in planters and borders."

Planning permission was granted subject to conditions.

As part of the planning application submission, a document titled 'Transport Statement and Travel Plan' stated that an updated travel plan would be prepared. Given that the extended school would have more pupils, it was considered that the existing travel plan dated May 2017 (approved under application Ref: ST/0645/17/COND which discharged Condition 7 attached to planning permission Ref: ST/0949/15/FUL – which granted consent for a two storey extension to the science/technology and art teaching block, and a proposed learning resource centre linked building within the courtyard) should be updated to incorporate the approved development (the subject of application ST/0955/20/FUL). This would ensure continued sustainable travel patterns, in a location that is well served by public transport links. As such a condition was attached to the grant of planning permission, condition 5 stated:

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted, the existing school travel plan dated May 2017 (approved under application Ref: ST/0645/17/COND which discharged Condition 7 attached to planning permission Ref: ST/0949/15/FUL) shall be updated to incorporate the development, and submitted for the approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the approved Travel Plan shall continue to be implemented, monitored and updated on an annual basis in accordance with approved details.

In the interests of securing sustainable travel patterns in accordance with adopted South Tyneside LDF Core Strategy Policy ST2.

This application provides details of Condition 5 relating to an updated travel plan.

The applicant has submitted the following seeking to discharge the condition:

- "St. Wilfrid's RC College School Travel Plan 2022 Update" received 26/04/2022

Publicity / Consultations (Expiry date n/a)

1) Neighbour responses

None

2) Other Consultee responses
(e.g. relevant comments from consultees such as archaeologist, EA, Historic buildings officer etc)

Strategic Transport (summary)-

Acceptable to discharge the condition.

Ultimately it is a travel plan and outlines the nature of the site and it's conditions. The document seeks to rectify the issues, albeit that this is not a detailed aspect of the document.
The document recognizes that the modal shift is increasingly car orientated, there's no sustainable travel working group and actions identified are non-specific and non-time bound (referencing "ongoing" or "continuous"). Similarly, whilst it's noted that the applicant is aiming for 7% modal shift by 2027, there would be no recourse if this target is not met.

Transport Development Officer -
Comments issued by the Council's Strategic Transport Planner should be accepted.

Assessment

In assessing this application due regard has been had to the requirement of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

The main issue relevant to the assessment of the details of the condition is whether the submitted Travel Plan would satisfy the requirements of condition 5.

The reason for the condition was to secure sustainable travel patterns to and from the school by pupils and staff.

Condition 5 required a Travel Plan to be submitted. The submitted information was assessed by the Council's Strategic Transport and Transport Development Officer who have confirmed that the Travel Plan is acceptable. Additional commentary was received in respect of the modal shift being increasingly car orientated and actions being non-specific and non-time bound with 'ongoing' and 'continuous' being referenced. Additionally reference was made to the 2027 target and there being no recourse should the target not be met.

Having regard for the above, it is therefore recommended that Condition 5 be discharged.

Recommendation

Approve Details of Condition

Informatives

1 In dealing with this application the Council has implemented the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework to seek to approve applications for sustainable development where possible.

2 NOTE TO APPLICANT

For the avoidance of doubt, this decision is based upon the following document:
- St. Wilfrid's RC College School Travel Plan 2022 Update received 26/04/2022

Case officer: Helen Lynch
Signed: HL
Date: 16/06/2022

Authorised Signatory:
Date:

«END»