

## **Design Statement: Installation of external pump and water storage tank enclosure for a fire system.**

This statement is provided in support of our client's application for full planning permission for the installation of an external water storage tank and associated pump set to serve the proposed installation of sprinklers to each existing apartment at Seabrook Court, Bierton Road, Aylesbury, HP20 1AH.

### **The existing site**

The existing site comprises two, two-storey blocks of apartments, both of which will be served by the new sprinkler installation. Block A fronts Verwood Road and is adjacent to the main entrance north of the site. The larger block B occupies south of the site.

Both buildings benefit from generous amount of soft landscaping. The apartment entrances front onto shrubs, hedges and grassed areas with access footpaths. Amenities for the residents on this site includes car parking and bicycle storage and additionally separate the two blocks.

Between the two blocks, there is also a grassed area which is framed by the bicycle storage and a retaining wall that straddles the boundary line and fencing. The area slopes down from block A to block B roughly 1200mm in level. Block A overlooks the grassed area from the north side whilst the southern side of this area is met with the gable of block B.

### **Proposal**

The client has confirmed the fire sprinklers will require an external water storage tank and pump set to be located within the curtilage of site. The proposed location of the enclosure is to be within the grassed area between the two apartment blocks alluded to earlier and as indicated on the attached plans.

The proposed location is sensitive to the natural contour of the site as it is situated on the most flat part of the grassed area to the eastern corner bearing the least amount excavation required to level for the enclosure. Additionally, this location provides the least impact on the existing trees.

This location is deemed more suitable with respect to accessibility for installation and future maintenance as it has direct access from the car park and furthermore reducing disruption to the residents.

The nature of the sloped area will help reduce the visual impact of the new installation with aspect from the adjacent habitable rooms within block A. The enclosure is also framed by a high level fence to the east and a 2m fence to the south which offers further screening

The proposal shows an open enclosure to be treated with a timber fence surround that provides a soft and natural façade which is in keeping with the landscaping which will blend with the green space. This enclosure will also be secured and only be accessible normally by maintenance personnel or specialist installers.

The installation will be secured and maintained by specialists. It is highly unlikely that access to the provision will be required by persons with disabilities or those in wheelchairs. Safe access for the maintenance personally will be provided.