

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 The Elms, Verwood Road, Aylesbury, HP20 2AY.

The existing site

The existing site is occupied by a two/three storey building that comprises twenty-eight apartments, and will be served by the new sprinkler installation. The building provides extra care housing with 24/7 on-site staff who take care of residents who are frail through illness, disability or old age. The whole site is accessible by wheelchair.

The site is accessed from Verwood Road, north-west of the site, which is fronted with car parking that includes nine standard sized bays and two disabled spaces with direct access to the main entrance of the building.

The boundary of the site comprises street trees and hedges that softens the fencing adjacent Verwood Road. The neighbouring site north-east is predominantly a garaged car park is separated with an existing brick wall about 1.8m high.

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 replace the existing bin store and storage shed which has been confirmed as redundant as indicated on the attached plans.

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 proposal shows an open enclosure to be treated with a timber fence that provides a soft and natural façade which isn't too dissimilar to what the original bin enclosure and storage shed were. This enclosure will also be secured and only accessible by the correct personnel.