

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF A PLANNING APPLICATION

PROPERTY - 25 THE GLADE, WYLLIE, BLACKWOOD

BACKGROUND

The application for an extension has become necessary due to the increasing burden on the applicant to care for his disabled Daughter within the physical limitations of the existing property. She suffers from Cerebral Palsy and as she grows the issues are twofold.

- A. The only link between the living accommodation on the ground floor and the bedroom accommodation on the first floor is a staircase. When younger the person could be carried between floors but as she gets older and grows this is becoming more difficult.
- B. The open plan nature of the ground floor and its' layout doesn't allow for a personal area to achieve a degree of independence.

REQUIREMENTS

A specialist space would need to be on a single level to allow circulation via wheelchair. It would need a bedroom sufficient to allow circulation around a bed for attendance and movement. A ceiling would need strengthening to accept a hoist for movement between bedroom and washing facilities.

A small sitting would provide personal space.

POSSIBLE OPTIONS

1. A Lift between the ground and first floor – The special requirements for this (both physical space for the lift and circulation to access and egress) make its location within the existing property impractical
2. Conversion of ground floor area to a self-contained space. – This would require not just a bedroom but a small living area
3. Location on the first floor would allow the existing bedroom to continue to be used. A specialist shower room here would be easier to provide drainage. (The existing ground floor is a raft foundation which would make the installation of low level drainage extremely difficult) A specialist lift could be located within a new ground floor extension.
A balcony would allow easily accessible external sitting space which could be sheltered from the elements and provide privacy. An external area would be beneficial for health and well-being.

PROPOSAL

Option 3 above was considered the best solution and is the submitted scheme. It meets all the criteria for living with a degree of independence within the main dwelling while providing facilities for appropriate independent and assisted care when needed. The location of the balcony on the first floor provides an open aspect while also protecting the privacy of neighbours.