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# DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR FRONT PORCH AND ASSOCIATED CHANGES

82 COWPER GARDENS, WALLINGTON, SM6 9RL



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## **INTRODUCTION**

This statement has been prepared on behalf of our clients to support their application for planning permission to make alterations to their family house. The proposal is for a retrospective application for a front porch and associated changes.

The relevant policies have been carefully consulted and taken into consideration to ensure that the proposal will have minimal impact to the local architectural appearance and character of the area.

## **SITE LOCATION AND BACKGROUND**

Cowper Gardens is predominantly a residential area, located in the Borough of Sutton.

On each side of Cowper Gardens, there are similar buildings for residential use. The site is close to good transport links, shops, and amenities, and located within an established

residential area. Sutton is a thriving neighbourhood which is becoming an increasingly attractive area and destination for families, commuters and businesses. The area offers good schools, great recreational facilities and a vibrant High Street.

## **PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

A retrospective application is being put in for an additional front porch and internal changes which has been built following an approved single-storey side extension and first floor rear extension under reference DM2020/01177.

The massing and positioning of the works were carefully designed to ensure no overlooking occurs to existing windows of neighbouring properties. All works done are subservient to the overall mass and volume of the house.

The design ensures that facing materials in colour and form support local character and distinctiveness, using brickwork, with new roof covering and new glazing to match the existing property. The design will employ similar design motives for door and window frames. All architectural elements are to be restored and repainted to original form to council's recommendations.

In designing the building, we have been mindful of the need to respect the living conditions of neighbours. The proposal is considered to be an acceptable addition when viewed from the street. The design and layout is considered to complement the character of the area.

We do not believe that the proposal would result in any material loss of sunlight or daylight to neighbouring properties and we believe that its modelling would avoid any sense of enclosure for those neighbours.

## **ACCESS**

The proposed property is situated near the main roads, so easy access to bus stops, local shops and other facilities.

The proposal shall not affect the off-road parking facility. No trees will be affected and the extension will be constructed to modern standards. Throughout the floor, power sockets, light switches and other controls, such as for central heating, will be placed at a convenient height (between 450 and 1200mm from floor level). Door handles too will be set at a convenient height. Walls and ceilings will be reinforced, as appropriate and necessary, so that grab rails and hoists could be installed if required.

The proposal has been designed to conform to part M of the building regulations such as ensuring that all the people who will be living in the property will have equal access to local buildings and spaces and the public transport system through the doors from the ground floor.

The proposal has been designed to conform to part B of the building regulations in relationship to access for emergency services. Access for emergency services has been allowed via access to the front of the property.

## **FIRE SAFETY STRATEGY**

### **Means of escape/entry**

The windows and doors have openings wide enough for Means of Escape being minimum 0.33sqm. Clear opening areas and no dimensions less than 450mm wide x 450mm high [typ.450x750 clear opening]. Bottom of openable area not to be more than 1100mm above FFL.

Occupants should evacuate using the stair leading to the front door of the house, excepting occupants of the extended kitchen/dining room, for whom exit via the garden door whilst maintaining a greater distance from kitchen hob and white goods.

The proposed works do not compromise the existing Means of Escape from the building. Fire appliances can gain access to the building from the road.

### **Fire Alarms and Detection Systems**

There will be a self-contained mains operated smoke detectors and fire alarm system in use. Due to the increased level of smoke detection, the fire will be detected at a very early stage resulting in early warning to the occupants.

### **Construction/Elements of Structure**

The property is an existing 2 storey family dwelling built of 225mm thick solid brickwork with render finish in places, tiled roof, suspended timber floors, timber, UPVC and aluminium doors and windows.

The habitable rooms are all situated from the staircase and separated by (non- fire) doors which are to be replace by FD30 doors.

Any new external materials will be to requirement B4 of the current building regulations with Class B-S3, D2 or better, spread of flame.

Fire resistant cavity barriers to be inserted at eaves level to proposed works.

## **CONCLUSION**

The proposed works would preserve the character and appearance of the local area, and would not result in a significant impact upon levels of amenity enjoyed within neighbouring residential properties. The scale and design of the proposed extensions are subservient to the original dwelling.