

Universal Design Statement

In respect of

Strategic Housing Development

at former De La Salle national school and associated lands, located north of Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.



Prepared by:

**Delphi Design
Architecture + Planning**

On behalf of the applicant:

Dwyer Nolan Developments Ltd.

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1.0 Scope of Report

This Report is submitted in support of a planning application for a proposed strategic housing development on the former De La Salle national school and associated lands, located north of Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

The Access & Use Strategy is being submitted with the Planning Application to demonstrate that the proposed design is in substantial compliance with Part M (Access & Use) of the Building Regulations and that it will be possible in due course to obtain Disability Access Certificates, as necessary, for the development without giving rise to changes that would require planning permission. The design has sought to comply with the principles of Universal Design to ensure access and use of the development and its facilities for everyone.

2.0 Development Description

Dwyer Nolan Developments Ltd. intends to apply to An Bord Pleanála for permission for a strategic housing development on a site of c. 8.3 hectares located at the grounds of the former De La Salle National School, Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

The application site is bounded to the south by Ballyfermot Road (R833), to the east by The Steeples residential estate, to the north by the wooded margin of the Chapelizod Bypass (R148), and to the west by Lynch's Lane and other adjoining institutional lands.

The application site contains a Protected Structure i.e., the De La Salle National School Central Classroom Block, including 2 no. staircase towers, 2 no. flanking single storey loggia and principal paired entrance gate piers only (RPS Ref No. 8784).

The development will consist of the following:

- (1) Demolition of: (i) the east and west wings of the former national school (c. 1,250m² & c. 1,244m² respectively); (ii) existing buildings / shelters on site (c. 1,818m²); (iii) the rear return of the Protected Structure (c. 121m²) & 2 no. flanking single storey loggia (c. 100m²); and (iv) the Mount La Salle "Monastery" building (c. 1,700m²).**
- (2) Renovation and change of use of the 2 storey Protected Structure, forming part of proposed Block A, from previous educational use to (a) proposed childcare use on the ground & first floor (c. 1,005m²), with associated outdoor play space to the rear (c. 256m²), and (b) community use (c. 92m²) on the ground floor. The development also seeks permission for the relocation of the principal paired entrance gate piers on Ballyfermot Road inwards (northwards) to the site.**
- (3) Construction of 927 no. apartments & duplex / triplex units comprised of 325 no. one bed, 538 no. two bed, & 64 no. three bed dwellings, 1 no. commercial unit and 1 no. retail / café unit in 8 no. blocks (Blocks A-H) ranging in height from 2 to 13 storeys. The breakdown of individual blocks is as follows:**
 - Block A consists of: (i) the 2 storey Protected Structure, and (ii) a 2 to 5 storey building located to the rear of the Protected Structure consisting of 69 no. apartments, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 26 no. one bed, 41 no. two bed, & 2 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 2 no. communal amenity rooms (c. 65m² & c. 65m² respectively) are**



provided, along with bin stores, and bicycle storage areas (Total: 128 no. internal bicycle spaces). Communal open space (c. 857m²) is provided in the centre of Block A. Block A also includes internal stair core access to shared basement level with Block H.

- Block B is a 2 to 8 storey building consisting of 128 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 55 no. one bed, 67 no. two bed, & 6 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 1 no. communal amenity room (c. 71m²) is provided, along with bin stores, bicycle storage areas (Total: 235 no. internal bicycle spaces), 1 no. commercial unit (c.107m²), and undercroft parking for 58 no. car parking spaces. Podium level communal open space (c. 827m²) is provided at first floor level with additional communal open space (c.137m²) in the form of a roof garden provided on the fifth floor.
- Block C is a 2 to 7 storey building, over part basement level, consisting of 101 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 28 no. one bed, 61 no. two bed, & 12 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 1 no. communal amenity room (c.147m²) is provided, with an associated outdoor terrace. Block C caters for a part basement level (c. 3,049m²) comprised of 93 no. car parking spaces, bin stores, bicycle storage areas (Total: 220 no. bicycle spaces) and plant room. Communal open space (c. 583m²) is provided in the centre of Block C.
- Block D is a 4 to 7 storey building consisting of 189 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 68 no. one bed, 106 no. two bed, & 15 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 1 no. communal amenity room (c. 156m²) is provided, along with bin stores, bicycle storage areas (Total: 469 no. internal bicycle spaces), ESB / plant rooms, and undercroft parking for 103 no. car parking spaces. Podium level communal open space (c. 1,867m²) is provided at first floor level.
- Block E consists of 2 no. 2-3 storey buildings catering for 22 no. apartments & duplex / triplex units comprised of: (i) 1 no. 2-3 storey building comprised of 8 no. two bed & 2 no. three bed dwellings, and (ii) 1 no. 2-3 storey building comprised of 10 no. two bed & 2 no. three bed dwellings. Private open space for Block E is provided in the form of rear gardens for lower ground floor / ground floor units and balconies on the first floor.
- Block F is a 2 to 10 storey building, over basement level, consisting of 121 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 57 no. one bed, 61 no. two bed, & 3 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 1 no. communal amenity room (c. 76m²) is provided. Block F caters for a basement level (c. 1,838m²) comprised of 68 no. car parking spaces, bin stores, and bicycle storage areas (Total: 190 no. bicycle spaces). Communal open space (c. 530m²) is provided to the rear (north) of Block F with additional communal open space in the form of roof gardens provided on the sixth and eighth floors (c. 250m² & c. 265m² respectively).
- Block G is a 2 to 10 storey building consisting of 154 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 39 no. one bed, 99 no. two bed, & 16 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 1 no. communal amenity room (c. 82m²) is provided, along with bin stores, bicycle storage areas (Total: 320 no. internal bicycle spaces), plant rooms, and undercroft parking for 69 no. car parking spaces. Podium level communal open space (c.



1,597m²) is provided at first floor level with additional communal open space in the form of roof gardens provided on the fifth floor (c. 210m² & c. 90m² respectively) and eighth floor (c. 170m²).

- Block H is a 3 to 13 storey building, over basement / part undercroft level, consisting of 143 no. apartments & duplex units, including terraces at the ground floor and terraces/balconies at all upper levels, comprised of 52 no. one bed, 85 no. two bed, & 6 no. three bed dwellings. At ground floor level 2 no. communal amenity rooms (c. 170m² & c. 89m² respectively) are provided, with associated outdoor terrace spaces, along with bin stores, bicycle storage areas (Total: 400 no. bicycle spaces), plant room, ESB substation, and 1 no. retail / café unit (c.71m²). Block H caters for a basement level (c. 4,696m²) comprised of 134 no. car parking spaces which provides for internal stair core access to Block A. Podium level communal open space (c. 457m²) is provided at first floor level with additional communal open space in the form of roof gardens provided on the second floor (c. 262m² & c. 237m² respectively).
- (4) The development provides for open spaces in the form of: (i) multi-use playing pitches (1.16 hectares) located in the north-west of the development with access off Lynch's Lane, and (ii) public open space (0.91 hectares) located between Blocks B, C, D, G & H, which combined caters for 2.07 hectares of open spaces representing 25% of the site area. In addition, 2 no. public plaza areas are also catered for: (a) to the south of Block A, fronting onto Ballyfermot Road (c. 0.14 hectares), & (b) between Blocks A & H (c. 0.06 hectares), along with a running / fitness trail along the northern / western boundary of the development (c. 0.14 hectares).
- (5) The development includes an area of 0.5 hectares reserved for a future school site in the south-west of the development, at the junction of Ballyfermot Road and Lynch's Lane.
- (6) Vehicular access to the proposed development is from 2 no. access points as follows: (i) from Lynch's Lane to the west, and (ii) from Ballyfermot Road to the south. The development also includes for a pedestrianised street, accessed from Ballyfermot Road, located between Blocks A & B.
- (7) The proposed development also provides for (i) all associated site development works, above and below ground, (ii) hard & soft landscaping, boundary treatments & green roofs, (iii) public lighting, (iv) signage, (v) plant (M&E) & utility services, (vii) undercroft, basement & surface car parking, including EV, disabled & car share spaces (Total: 687 no. car parking spaces), (viii) motorcycle parking (Total: 26 no. motorcycle parking spaces), (xi) undercroft, basement & surface bicycle parking, including for external bicycle stores, cargo bike spaces & visitor spaces (Total: 2,249 no. bicycle parking spaces), and (x) bin storage areas.

The application contains a statement setting out how the proposal is consistent with the objectives of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022, and also contains a statement indicating why permission should be granted for the proposed development, having regard to a consideration specified in section 37(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, notwithstanding that the proposed development materially contravenes a relevant development plan or local area plan other than in relation to the zoning of the land.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the development proposal and accompany the application. The application, together with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement, may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during public



opening hours at the offices of An Bord Pleanála and Dublin City Council. The application may also be inspected online at the following website set up by the applicant: www.delasalleshd.ie.

3.0 Universal Design Statement

Based upon the drawings submitted as part of this application for permission, we confirm that all of the proposed dwellings / buildings have been designed to be compliant with Part M of the Building Regulations with regard to accessibility.

Basis of Compliance

Purpose Group	Design Guidance (Fire Safety / Access & Use)
PG 1 (c) Residential	TGD-M 2010, BS 8300:2018 & UK ADM
PG 7(b) Car Park	Centre for Excellence in Universal Design / NDA publication " <i>Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland</i> " NDA " <i>Building for Everyone</i> "

The aforementioned guidance proffers prescriptive design solutions which are considered prima facie compliance with Parts M of the Building Regulations.

The design seeks to go beyond minimum mandatory compliance and accordingly where practicable best practice and the principles of Universal design form the basis of the design approach herein.

4.0 Access & Use Strategy

4.1 External Access Routes

The external site landscape will be designed to achieve best practice in accordance with BS 8300 2018 Part 1, including accessible access routes to serve each of the residential Cores. In order to ensure universal access will be provided for all; access routes will include level approach routes. Each of the residential Cores will be provided with an accessible entrance to facilitate wheelchair/disabled access.

Car parking will be provided with a minimum of 5% designated accessible car parking spaces as per TGD-M 2010. The internal height of the circulation in the car park ensures adequate circulation for all persons as per TGD-M. In total 39 no. accessible parking spaces shall be provided (30 no. at basement level and 9 no. at surface level). This will ensure level access routes are provided from the designated parking spaces to each core. Transfer from the basement car parking is provided to all apartments by way of passenger lifts and ambulant stairs.

4.2 Residential and Commercial Amenities / Facilities

The proposed commercial unit, retail / café unit, childcare facility and community use rooms will be designed to achieve universal access for residents and staff.



4.3 Circulation within Buildings

Corridors and passageways shall be designed to be wheelchair accessible in accordance with TGD M 2010 and have passing places achieving 1800mm by 1800mm at the end of corridors where applicable.

The upper floors to each of the residential Cores and basement level will be served via accessible passenger lifts and an ambulant disabled stair designed in accordance with TGD-M / BS 8300 / UK ADM, including the following:

- The stairs shall achieve a minimum clear width of 1200mm, with a maximum height of each flight of 1800mm.
- The accessible passenger lift shall achieve the required 1100mm wide by 1400mm deep.

4.4 Sanitary Facilities

All residential units will be provided with visitable wc's in line with TGD M 2010.

The residential and commercial amenities / facilities shall be provided with an appropriate accessible WC in accordance with Diagram 15(a) of TGD M 2010.

4.5 Residential Units

The internal layout of the residential units will be designed in accordance with TGD-M 2010 such to include accessible entrance doors, accessible WCs and habitable rooms.

5.0 Summary

Cognizance has also been paid to the guidance set out in the 2013 Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland. The site layout plan and landscaping proposals have also taken into consideration the need for ease of movement through the development. The main features of the proposed development are therefore as follows:

- All built blocks and units have level access delivering ease of access for all. The public realm is designed to ensure accessibility on equal terms for people of a range of ages and physical mobility.
- A range of unit types have been proposed in terms of both size and design meeting the aspirations of a range of people and households. These range in gross floor area from 45.2m² (1 bedroom apartment) to 142.9m² (3 bedroom duplex) with a variety of 1, 2, and 3 bedroom dwelling types proposed in a mix of apartments and duplex / triplex units.
- The proposed development presents a welcoming and positive aspect to passers-by, creating a new accessible urban, public realm and allowing for direct connectivity to open spaces and adjoining lands, thus avoiding unnecessary physical and visual barriers.
- Connectivity to adjoining lands has been incorporated into the design of the layout. The network of paths and cycle routes ensure full permeability throughout the scheme and ensures connectivity from the subject site to the surrounding area and local facilities beyond.
- Falls and gradients have been minimized wherever possible on site and level access will be provided at all parking locations. All units within the development will meet the requirements of Part M of the Technical Guidance Documents where accessibility is concerned.



- Public spaces, streets and parks, are all designed so that every member of society can use them. Dwellings address these spaces so that they are passively supervised, creating safe spaces for everyone to use. The activity generated here enhances the open space realm.