

## DECISION DELEGATED TO HEAD OF PLANNING

**Application No:** H16-0716-25      **Applicant:** Mr L Parker

**Proposal:** Proposed renovations to bungalow including two single storey side extensions

**Location:** 36 Park Close Spalding Lincolnshire

**Terminal Date:** 19th September 2025

### Planning Policies

#### South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

01                      Spatial Strategy  
02                      Development Management  
03                      Design of New Development  
04                      Approach to Flood Risk  
36                      Vehicle and Cycle Parking  
APPENDIX 6                      Parking Standards

#### National Guidance

#### National Planning Policy Framework December 2024

Section 12 - Achieving well designed places

### Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments
WARD MEMBER	0	0	0	0
HIGHWAYS & SUDS SUPPORT	0	0	0	1

### CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

#### Proposal

This is a householder application seeking permission for the proposed renovations to the existing bungalow including two single storey side extensions at 36 Park Close Spalding.

The extension would be constructed from materials to match throughout, including facing brickwork,

roof tiles, white uPVC windows and white composite doors. On one side, the extension would protrude by 3785mm and have a length of 5756mm, to be used as a bedroom. The second extension would project by 2270mm and a length of 5930mm to be used as storage. The height would be level to the eaves and slightly lower than the ridge.

## **Site Description**

The site is located within the defined settlement boundary of Spalding as outlined in the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, 2019 (SELLP). Park Close is located centrally within the settlement connected by Wygate Park and Park Road and is in a main residential area. A small play area is set to the rear of the site.

## **History**

No relevant site history.

## **Consultation Responses**

### Lincolnshire County Council Highways

Recommendation: No Objection

The proposal is for renovations to bungalow including two single storey side extensions where there is no change to parking or access arrangements and it does not have an impact on the Public Highway or Surface Water Flood Risk.

As Lead Local Flood Authority, Lincolnshire County Council is required to provide a statutory planning consultation response regarding drainage and surface water flood risk on all Major applications. This application is classified as a Minor Application, and it is therefore the duty of the Local Planning Authority to consider the surface water flood risk and drainage proposals for this planning application.

## **No Objections**

Having given due regard to the appropriate local and national planning policy guidance (in particular the National Planning Policy Framework), Lincolnshire County Council (as Highway Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority) has concluded that the proposed development would not be expected to have an unacceptable impact upon highway safety or a severe residual cumulative impact upon the local highway network or increase surface water flood risk and therefore does not wish to object to this planning application.

### Public Representation

This application has been advertised in accordance with the Development Procedure Order and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. In this instance, no letters of representation have been received.

## **Key Planning Considerations**

The main issues and considerations in this case are (but are not limited to):

- Principle of Development and Sustainability
- Layout, Design, and Impact on the Character of the Area
- Impact on Neighbouring Residents/Land Users/Land Uses
- Highway Safety and Parking.

## **Evaluation**

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires that the Local Planning Authority makes decisions in accordance with the adopted Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

In this case, the adopted South East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2011-2036, adopted March 2019, forms the development plan for the District, and is the basis for decision making in South Holland. The relevant development plan policies are detailed within the report above .

The policies and provisions set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (updated December 2024) are also a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, alongside adopted Supplementary Planning Documents.

## **Planning Considerations**

### Principle of Development and Sustainability

The South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out the settlement hierarchy in respect of delivering sustainable development that meets the social and economic needs of the area whilst protecting and enhancing the environment; in order to provide enough choice of land for housing to satisfy local housing need, whilst making more sustainable use of land and to minimise the loss of high-quality agricultural land by developing in sustainable locations and at appropriate densities.

Policy 1 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out a spatial strategy for delivering sustainable development across South East Lincolnshire to 2036. Policy 1 (Spatial Strategy) expresses this sustainable framework of settlements, ranking the settlements deemed to be most sustainable in descending order.

The application site in this instance is in Spalding as detailed by Policy 1. Regardless of such, the proposal solely relates to an extension to an existing and established residential dwelling and therefore, the principle of such development is considered to be appropriate, comprising an appropriate form of development for the location.

As such, the proposal is considered to be acceptable with the requirements of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) when viewed in principle. This is subject to the assessment against site specific criteria; including (but are not limited to) the impact of the proposal on the character or appearance of the area, impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers, and impact on highway safety, which are discussed in turn as follows.

### Layout, Design and Consideration of the Character and Appearance of the Area

Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) specifically relates to 'Achieving well-designed places' and details that the "creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve" and as such, it is generally accepted that good design plays a key role towards sustainable development.

Paragraph 135, contained within Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024), states that new development should function well and add to the overall quality of the area (beyond the short term and over the lifetime of the development) and should be visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate landscaping. This goes on to establish that it is important that new development should be of the highest quality to enhance and reinforce good design characteristics, and that decisions must have regard towards the impact that the proposed development would have on local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting such as topography, street patterns, building lines, boundary treatment and through scale and massing.

Development proposals should also ensure that developments create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users, among other considerations.

Likewise, Policy 2 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) outlines sustainable development considerations for development proposals, providing a framework for an operational policy to be used in assessing the sustainable development attributes of all development proposals. Furthermore, Policy 3 accords with the provisions of Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024), in that it requires development to comprise good design; identifying issues that should be considered when preparing schemes so that development sits comfortably with, and adds positively to, its historically-designated or undesignated townscape or landscape surroundings.

These policies accord with the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) and require that design which is inappropriate to the local area, or which fails to maximise

opportunities for improving the character and quality of an area, will not be acceptable.

Proposals for new development would therefore require the aforementioned considerations to be adequately assessed and designed, including the siting, design and scale to be respectful of surrounding development and ensure that the character of the area is not compromised.

As previously discussed, the materials for the extension would match the existing dwelling throughout which ensures it would remain in keeping and in character with the area. There are a variety of designs in the immediate area with the majority of the bungalows featuring a similar brick and render design.

The smaller of the two side extensions is on the northern elevation, this is a relatively small addition with a floor space of roughly 15.9sqm. It would be accessed externally through the addition of larger doors on the front and a smaller door to the rear. The size of the extension in this instance is considered to be acceptable and proportionate in comparison to the main house.

On the south side this extension would be slightly larger encompassing a total floor space of 21sqm. This would be used as an additional bedroom and replace the lean-to conservatory. Whilst this extension is slightly larger it is still considered to be appropriate and proportionate and fits well within the plot itself.

Alongside this, there would be some slight internal alterations including the living/dining area now operating solely as a kitchen diner whilst the existing kitchen would be a third bedroom/study. The shared bathroom would be opened up into the extension whilst the extension itself would have a bedroom and en-suite. Finally, Bedroom 1 to the rear would be changed into a living area. The internal alterations are considered to be acceptable and are not considered to cause any harm.

Taking account of the design, scale and nature of the development, as detailed above, the proposal is considered to be acceptable. The proposal would not cause an adverse impact to the character or appearance of the area and would therefore be in accordance with Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) and Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024).

#### Impact on Residential Amenity/Land Users

Paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) states that development should create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users; and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.

Policies 2 and 3 of South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) sets out that residential amenity and the relationship to existing development and land uses is a main consideration when making planning decisions.

Due to the orientation of the dwelling within the plot, the extensions are not considered to cause any material harm through overshadowing in this instance. Firstly, the extension to the north has a total of 17m to the rear boundary which it could cast a shadow to, this is considered to be a more than adequate separation distance. Furthermore, whilst there is a distance of only 150mm on this northern boundary, the positioning would ensure no material shadow is cast. Secondly, the extension to the south of the plot has distance of 5617mm and 5855mm, these are also suitable distance between boundaries and the layout of the extension to ensure no material overshadowing arises.

Moving on from this, as the northern extension is for a storage area only this is not a habitable room, nor does it have windows which could overlook. On the opposite elevation the windows to the front would face the highway/footpath whilst the rear windows are for bathrooms/en-suites, meaning neither should result in a loss of privacy for neighbours.

As detailed above, the scale and design of the proposal is considered to be such that there would be no significant or unacceptable impact on the residential amenities of the occupiers of adjacent properties or land users, when also taking account of the conditions recommended. As such, the proposal is considered to accord with the provisions of the Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024), and Policies 2 and 3 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan

(2019).

### Highway Safety and Parking

Section 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) specifically relates to 'Promoting sustainable transport'. Paragraph 116 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) advises that "development should only be prevented or refused on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network, following mitigation, would be severe, taking into account all reasonable future scenarios".

In respect of highway matters, Policy 2 details that proposals requiring planning permission for development will be permitted provided that sustainable development considerations are met, specifically in relation to access and vehicle generation. Policy 3 details that development proposals will demonstrate how accessibility by a choice of travel modes including the provision of public transport, public rights of way and cycle ways will be secured, where they are relevant to the proposal.

Further, Policy 36, to be read in conjunction with Appendix 6, of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019), sets out minimum vehicle parking standards and requires at least two spaces for dwellings of up to three bedrooms and three spaces for dwellings with four or more bedrooms.

The existing property features two bedrooms with the proposal featuring space for a third bedroom which could also be used as a study. As such, at most there would be three bedrooms. Appendix 6 requires there to be at least two vehicle parking spaces, the driveway at the front should be able to accommodate this and not cause impact to the highway.

The parking arrangements are not altered, nor is the means of access to the site. As such, and further to no objections being outlined by Lincolnshire County Council as Local Highway Authority, the proposal is not considered to result in a severe impact upon highway safety.

The proposal would therefore be acceptable and would not have an unacceptable adverse impact on highway safety in accordance with Policies 2, 3 and 36 the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019), and Section 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024).

### Flood Risk

Section 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) explains that "Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk (whether existing or future). Where development is necessary in such areas, the development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere".

This goes on to state, within Paragraph 172, that all plans "should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development - taking into account all sources of flood risk and the current and future impacts of climate change - so as to avoid, where possible, flood risk to people and property. They should do this, and manage any residual risk, by: a) applying the sequential test and then, if necessary, the exception test as set out below".

It is important to note that whilst minor developments such as householders must meet the requirements for site-specific flood risk assessments, they should not be subject to the sequential test, nor the exception test, as outlined in Paragraph 176 and to be read in conjunction with footnote 62.

The site lies within Flood Zones 3 of the Environment Agency's Flood Maps. These have been created as a tool to raise awareness of flood risk with the public and partner organisations, such as Local Authorities, Emergency Services and Drainage Authorities. The Maps do not take into account any flood defences.

The South East Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides an overview of how flood risk has been considered in shaping the proposals of the Local Plan; including the spatial strategy and the assessment of housing and employment sites. Policy 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) is clear in that "Development proposed within an area at risk of flooding (Flood Zones 2 and 3 of the Environment Agency's flood map or at risk during a breach or

overtopping scenario as shown on the flood hazard and depths maps in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) will be permitted" in instances where specific criteria is met.

It is worth noting that large parts of the district of South Holland lie within Flood Zone 3. It is therefore necessary to use the refined flood risk information (Hazard and Depth maps) within the South East Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2017) as a basis to apply the sequential test.

Despite the property being within Flood Zone 3, the site lies within a no hazard zone within the SFRA. The Flood Risk Assessment provided within the application states that the existing ground floor level is approximately 150mm above ground level around the house. It is recommended for the proposed extension on the south side to be constructed with the finished ground floor level at the same level as the existing dwelling. It also recommended that the new extension should be designed and constructed using flood resilient measures including all electrical services to be placed at first floor level and cables dropped down to sockets which are also to be at a minimum of 600mm above floor level. Furthermore, the skirting boards and plaster finishes should be able to withstand flood damage, finally, suitable tiles should be used as flooring in the new extension.

From this, it is considered that the extension is considered to be acceptable in line with the Flood Risk Assessment and should not significantly harm the area nor materially increase the flood risk for the site and surrounding area.

Overall, when considering the development on balance, it is considered that given the mitigation measures detailed and recommended by condition, the proposal accords with Policies 2, 3 and 4 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) and the intentions of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) in this regard.

## **Planning Balance**

As detailed above, Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, requires that the Local Planning Authority makes decisions in accordance with the adopted Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The proposal represents appropriate development within the defined settlement boundary. The development hereby proposed does not materially harm the character or appearance of the locality, or amenity of nearby residents, and provides adequate parking, whilst conforming with the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) when viewed as a whole.

In this instance, there are no material considerations that weigh against the proposal and as such, the planning balance is in favour of the development.

## **Additional Considerations**

### Public Sector Equality Duty

In making this decision the Authority must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act. This means that the Council must have due regard to the need (in discharging its functions) to:

A. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act

B. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This may include removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the special needs of those with a protected characteristic; encouraging participation in public life (or other areas where they are underrepresented) of people with a protected characteristic(s).

C. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The PSED must be considered as a relevant factor in making this decision but does not impose a duty to achieve the outcomes in s.149. It is only one factor that needs to be considered, and may be

balanced against other relevant factors.

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case will have a disproportionately adverse impact on a protected characteristic.

### Human Rights

In making a decision, the Authority should be aware of and take into account any implications that may arise from the Human Rights Act 1998. Under the Act, it is unlawful for a public authority such as South Holland District Council to act in a manner that is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. The Authority is referred specifically to Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (protection of property).

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case interferes with local residents' right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence, except insofar as it is necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others (in this case, the rights of the applicant). The Council is also permitted to control the use of property in accordance with the general public interest and the recommendation is considered to be a proportionate response to the submitted application based on the considerations set out in this report.

### **Conclusion**

Taking the above considerations into account, the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Policies 1, 2, 3, 4 and 36 (including Appendix 6) of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019), along with the identified sections contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024). There are no significant factors in this case that indicate against the proposal and outweigh the consideration in favour of the proposal and the policies referred to above.

### **Recommendation**

Based on the assessment detailed above, it is recommended that the proposal should be approved under Delegated Authority.