

APPLICATION NO: 26/00210/FUL

CASE OFFICER: Kate Pickles

WARD: Whitefield

PARISH:

LOCATION: 211 Whitefield Drive, Westvale, Kirkby, Knowsley, L32 0RB

PROPOSAL: CONSTRUCTION OF DROPPED KERB AND ASSOCIATED WORKS FOR
VEHICULAR ACCESS

Site description

The application site is an area of adopted highway located to the front of 211 Whitefield Drive, Kirkby and is situated within a Primarily Residential Area. The application property is a two storey, mid-terraced dwellinghouse and the existing driveway is comprised of concrete slabs and there is a footway and grass verge between the existing driveway and the highway. Neighbouring property, No. 215 has a dropped kerb similar to the one proposed.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the construction of a dropped kerb and associated works to provide vehicular access to 211 Whitefield Drive. The proposal comprises a 2.7m-wide vehicle crossing from the adjacent highway, including the installation of a dropped kerb, reconstruction of sections of the footway, and the reinstatement of the affected grass verges to the side.

Consultations

Highway Authority:- No objections and informative added.

Representations

This application was publicised by way of site notice and through letters sent to 6 neighbours. No representations have been received as a result of this publicity.

Planning history

No relevant planning history.

Relevant policy

Paragraph 11 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that planning decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This means approving development proposals that accord with an up-to-date development plan without delay; or where the development plan is absent, silent or out of date planning permission should be granted unless the application of policies in the NPPF that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed; or any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole.

Paragraph 12 of the NPPF clarifies that the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not change the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision making. Where a planning application conflicts with an up-to-date development plan, permission should not normally be granted. Local Planning Authorities may take decisions that depart from an up-to-date development plan, but only if material considerations in a particular case indicate that the plan should not be followed.

The development plan in Knowsley comprises the Saved Policies of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan, the Core Strategy Local Plan and the Joint Waste Local Plan. The following policies are relevant to the determination of this application.

KNOWSLEY LOCAL PLAN: CORE STRATEGY

CS2 – Development Principles

CS19 – Design Quality and Accessibility in New development

SAVED POLICIES – KNOWSLEY REPLACEMENT UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

H5 – Development within Primarily Residential Areas

H8 – Extensions and Alterations to Residential Properties

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD

Article 35 statement

The local planning authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations received and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development, as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.

Assessment

Access, Parking and Highway Safety

The current driveway comprises concrete flags and is enclosed by brick posts widened to the front to allow for vehicular access. A site visit to the property revealed the grass verge to the front of the driveway has been partially degraded suggesting unlawful vehicular access. The proposal would therefore facilitate lawful access from Whitefield Drive onto the driveway of the dwelling.

The local Highway Authority have assessed the application and determined that the proposal is considered acceptable from a highway safety perspective. The proposed dropped kerb is not anticipated to have a detrimental impact on the operation of the local highway network. Therefore, the Highway Authority raise no objection to the proposal but notes that the applicant is reminded it is an offence to carry out any works within the public highway without the permission of the Highway Authority. An informative is also suggested in relation to the dropped kerb. As such, the proposal is considered acceptable in terms of access, highway safety and parking in accordance with Policy CS2 and CS19 of the Local Plan and the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD.

Design and Residential Amenity

There is no additional build form associated with the proposed development therefore the proposal would not have an adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties. The proposed dropped kerb would not have an unacceptable impact on the street scene given that neighbouring properties, such as a No.215 Whitefield Drive also have dropped kerbs. The proposal would therefore be in keeping with the existing character of the area and would be acceptable in terms of design and visual amenity.

Conclusion

The proposal is considered acceptable in terms of highway safety, neighbouring amenity and design and visual amenity and is therefore recommended for approval.

Recommendation

That planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

- 1) The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

- 2) The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and documents listed in Schedule 1.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt

Schedule 1

Date received	Drawing. No	Revision	Drawing/Document Title
13/07/2026	D264-KGB-00-XX-DR-D-0100	P03	Proposed Dropped Kerb General Arrangement Plan and Location Plan

Signed Case Officer: Kate Pickles

Signed Authorising Officer: Jo Sheridan

Date: 14/07/2026

Informative – Vehicle Crossing Works within the Highway

It is an offence to carry out any works within the public highway without the permission of the Highway Authority. The granting of planning permission does not authorise works within the adopted highway.

The applicant is advised that vehicle crossing works are normally undertaken by the Council's approved contractor, Tarmac. Prior to the commencement of any works, the applicant should contact Tarmac on 0800 023 2334 or email knowsley.highways@tarmac.gov.uk to discuss the proposed vehicle crossing works.

Should the applicant choose to appoint their own contractor to undertake works within the adopted highway, the contractor will be required to obtain a Section 171 Licence from the Highway Authority prior to commencing works. The contractor will also be required to provide:

- Public Liability Insurance with a minimum indemnity of £10 million.
- A Traffic Management Plan where traffic management is required.
- Details of the proposed works for approval by the Council's Street Works Team.

The applicant and/or contractor should contact the Council's Street Works Team prior to undertaking any works within the adopted highway, email: NRSWA.TeamDRES@knowsley.gov.uk.

All vehicle crossing works shall be carried out in accordance with Knowsley Council's Highway Asset Management Vehicle Crossing Policy, including all requirements relating to crossing widths, construction materials, visibility requirements, drainage provisions, construction specifications and highway reinstatement requirements.

Knowsley Council
Regeneration and Economic Development Directorate.
Delegated Planning Report

Further guidance relating to dropped kerbs and vehicle crossings can be found on the Council's website:

<https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/streets-roads-and-transport/dropped-kerbs>

All costs associated with the construction of the vehicle crossing and any associated highway works shall be borne by the applicant.

¹ I confirm that I do not have a personal relationship with the applicant, agent or other interested parties; I also confirm that I do not have a financial interest in the site or the development proposed

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