

CUMBERLAND COUNCIL DELEGATED PLANNING DECISION

1.	Reference No:	4/26/2181/0F1
2.	Proposed Development:	SINGLE STOREY FRONT AND SIDE EXTENSION FOR GARAGE, UTILITY AND EXTENDED LOUNGE AND PORCH
3.	Location:	69 BALMORAL ROAD, WHITEHAVEN
4.	Parish:	Whitehaven
5.	Constraints:	ASC Adverts - ASC;Adverts, Coal - Standing Advice - Data Subject To Change
6.	Publicity Representations &Policy	Neighbour Notification Letter: YES Site Notice: NO Press Notice: NO Consultation Responses: See report Relevant Planning Policies: See report
7.	Report: Site and Location The application site relates to 69 Balmoral Road, a semi-detached property located within an existing residential area of Whitehaven. The property benefits from a driveway to the front, with a garden to the front and rear. Access is taken from Balmoral Road to the north east. Proposal The proposal seeks planning permission for the erection of a single storey wraparound	

extension on the front and rear.

The proposal will extend the existing lounge and hallway and create a garage and utility room. It will project 1.7m from the front elevation and 3.1m on the side.

The roof will be sloped to have an overall height of 3m and an eaves height of 2.5m.

Proposed external finishes include dry dashed walls, a concrete tiled roof and UPVC windows and doors to match the existing.

Relevant Planning History

No previous planning applications at this site.

Consultation Responses

Whitehaven Town Council

No objections.

Highways and Local Lead Flood Authority

No comments.

Public Representations

The application has been advertised by way of neighbour notification letters issued to 3 no. properties. No responses have been received as a result of these advertisements.

Planning Policies

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Development Plan

On 1st April 2023, Copeland Borough Council ceased to exist and was replaced by Cumberland Council as part of the Local Government Reorganisation of Cumbria. Cumberland Council inherited the local development plan documents of each of the sovereign Councils including Copeland Borough Council, which combine to form a Consolidated Planning Policy Framework for Cumberland. The inherited local development plan documents continue to apply to the geographic area of their sovereign Councils only. The Consolidated Planning Policy Framework for Cumberland comprises the Development Plan for Cumberland Council until replaced by a new Cumberland Local Plan.

Copeland Local Plan 2021 - 2039 (LP):

Cumberland Council continued the preparation of the Local Plan as commenced by Copeland Borough Council. The Local Plan was adopted by Cumberland Council on the 5th of



Cumberland Council

November 2024, replacing the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028 and the saved policies of the Copeland Local Plan 2001-2016.

The policies relevant to this application are as follows:-

DS4: Design and Development Standards

Policy H14: Domestic Extensions and Alterations

Strategic Policy N3: Biodiversity Net Gain

Other Material Planning Considerations

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Cumbria Development Design Guide

Assessment

The key issues raised by this proposal are the principle of development, its scale and design and the potential impacts on residential amenity, and biodiversity net gain.

Principle of Development

The proposed application relates to a residential dwelling situated within Whitehaven. The development proposes to construct a single storey front and side extension to provide further living space for the occupants.

Policy H14 of the Copeland Local Plan supports domestic extensions and alterations to residential properties subject to detailed criteria, which are considered below.

The principle of development is therefore accepted within the context of Policy H14 of the Copeland Local Plan.

Scale and Design

Policy H14 of the Copeland Local Plan indicates that developments within the curtilage of existing properties will be permitted, provided that they would not adversely alter the existing building or street scene.

Policy DS4 of the Copeland Local Plan indicates that all new development should meet high quality standards.

The proposed extensions will be appropriately located to the front and side of the property and will be single storey to ensure that it will not be excessively prominent in the street scene. The extension will be viewed in context with the dwelling and will not alter the character of the property. Furthermore, similar and larger scaled extensions can be seen in the local area therefore, the development is unlikely to adversely affect the character or appearance of the locality.

The extension is modest in terms of scale and height and is considered to be acceptable.

The projection to the front of the dwelling is considered to be acceptable and will be

consistent with the existing building line along Balmoral Road.

Proposed external finishes include dry dash, a tiled roof and UPVC windows and doors to match the existing. The proposed materials are suitable for their use and ensures that the proposal compliments the existing property, and the wider residential area.

The proposal therefore complies with Policies DS4 and H14 of the Copeland Local Plan in this regard.

Residential Amenity

Policy DS4 of the Copeland Local Plan states that all new development should maintain high levels of amenity.

Policy H14 of the Copeland Local Plan indicates that house extensions will be permitted provided that the development would not harm the amenity of the occupiers of the parent property or adjacent dwellings.

Whilst amenity issues between the proposed extension and the neighbouring properties were considered, the proposed extension would be suitably located within the site to the front and side and would infill a gap between the parent property and the existing boundary. The closest residential property is 67 Balmoral Road to the south east of the dwelling. There are no windows to habitable rooms in the side of this neighbouring dwelling and it is therefore considered that the separation distances are acceptable and there is unlikely to be any significant adverse effect on the neighbouring property in terms of overlooking or loss of privacy.

Furthermore, no objections were received as a result of the consultation period. Current and future occupiers have been considered during the planning process.

On balance, taking into account the siting of the extension and the orientation of the existing property, the proposed extension design is acceptable, and it will not adversely harm the neighbouring amenity.

The proposal therefore complies with Policies DS4 and H14 of the Copeland Local Plan in this regard.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Policy N3 requires that all development, with the exception of that listed in the Environment Act must provide a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain over and above existing site levels, following the application of the mitigation hierarchy set out in Policy N1. This is in addition to any compensatory habitat provided under Policy N1. It is stated net gain should be delivered on site where possible and where on-site provision is not appropriate, provision must be made elsewhere in accordance with a defined order of preference.

In England, BNG is now mandatory under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021). Applications must now deliver a Biodiversity Net Gain of 10%, resulting in more or better-quality natural habitat than there was before the development. Some developments are however exempt from these



Cumberland Council

	BNG requirements. Based on the information available this proposal is considered to be one which will not require the approval of a Biodiversity Gain plan before development is begun because the application is for householder development and therefore the proposal falls within the list of developments except from providing Biodiversity Net Gain. <u>Planning Balance and Conclusion</u> The proposed development is of an appropriate scale and design for the site and locality, which would preserve the amenities of the parent property and wider residential area. The proposal is not subject to Biodiversity Net Gain. The proposal is therefore considered an acceptable form of development which complies with the policies of the adopted Local Plan and provisions of the NPPF.
8.	Recommendation: Approve (commence within 3 years)
9.	Conditions: The development hereby permitted shall be commenced before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission. Reason To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Permission shall relate to the following plans and documents as received on the respective dates and development shall be carried out in accordance with them: - Application form, received 9th June 2026; Location Plan, scale 1:1250, received 9th June 2026; Proposed Ground Floor Plan, scale 1:50, drawing number NH/3, received 9th June 2026; Proposed Front and Side Elevations, scale 1:50, drawing number NH/4, received 9th June 2026; Existing and Proposed Part Side Elevation, scale 1:50, drawing number NH/5, received 9th June 2026. Reason To conform with the requirement of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act

1990, as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Informative Notes

Development Low Risk Area – Standing Advice – Mining Remediation Authority

The proposed development lies within a coal mining area which may contain unrecorded coal mining related hazards. If any coal mining feature is encountered during development, this should be reported immediately to the Mining Remediation Authority on 0345 762 6846 or if a hazard is encountered on site call the emergency line 0800 288 4242 Further information is also available on the Mining Remediation Authority website at: Mining Remediation Authority - GOV.UK

Biodiversity Net Gain – Exemption Applies

The effect of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission granted for the development of land in England is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition “(the biodiversity gain condition)” that development may not begin unless:

- (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the local planning authority, and
- (b) the local planning authority has approved the plan.

The planning authority, for the purposes of the Biodiversity Gain Plan is Cumberland Council.

Based on the information available this permission is considered to be one which will not require the approval of a biodiversity gain plan before development is begun because one or more of the statutory exemptions or transitional arrangements is/are considered to apply.

Applicable exemptions: Householder Planning Application.

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 that may have been received, and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Case Officer: Sarah Papaleo

Date : 27/07/2026

Authorising Officer: N.J. Hayhurst

Date : 03/08/2026

Dedicated responses to:- N/A