From: Environmental Health

Sent: 04 September 2024 13:05

To: Development Control

Cc: Christopher Harrison

Subject: PLANNING APP 4/24/2274/0A1 - CENTRAL MOTOR COMPANY, DISTINGTON

Application for consent to display 1 no. internally illuminated SMD LED digital displays

Thank you for the above consultation.

Environmental Health have concerns with this application over possible night time light spill to the rear of the nearby residential dwellings of Tollbar Houses in particular.

The ex-Central Motors Company building and private car park frontage are not directly lit at present.

All artificial ambient light during darkness is cast from the street lighting of the A595 road / roundabout and side road to Furness Row, so that the car park gradually gets darker away from this point.

The building itself is set back about 30 metres from the road, though at a slightly lower elevation, and receives minimal artificial ambient light at ground level, though slightly more at the first floor front elevation from light spill of the street lights and passing beams of lights from road traffic on the roundabout.

In general, however, there is no artificial light pointing in the opposite direction towards the road and to the rear of Tollbar Houses.

As a consequence there is a marked contrast in the artificial lighting levels at the front and rear of Tollbar Houses – the front elevations are brightly lit, whilst the rear elevations are in almost total shadow and darkness (apart from a security light at the rear of one dwelling).

Whilst the application submission advises that the proposed digital display will automatically adjust its brightness, Environmental Health are mindful that a large LED display may spill artificial light on to the rear of Tollbar Houses and potentially affect bedrooms and residential amenity.

The proposed LED display may also be in the eye line of motorists on the A595 roundabout and could be a potential distraction, especially if the display was moving / changing, though it is noted that National Highways have not objected to the application.

Environmental Health would therefore object to this application at present.

If the developer can assure that light spill will not have an adverse effect, the following condition may be considered –

Artificial Lighting (external)

No use hereby permitted shall be commenced until a report detailing the lighting scheme and predicted light levels at neighbouring residential properties has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Artificial lighting to the development must conform to requirements to meet the Obtrusive Light Limitations for Exterior Lighting Installations for Environmental Zone E2 contained within the Institute of Light Engineers Guidance Notes for The Reduction of Obtrusive Light, GN01/21, dated 2021.

Reason: In order to safeguard the amenities of adjoining residential occupiers.

Regards

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