

Supporting Statement

Conversion of Shed/Summerhouse to a Dog Grooming Salon

I believe there is a shortage of professional dog groomers in this area so have taken the opportunity to become City & Guilds Qualified in order to both change my career and hopefully help fill the shortage. I know from talking to friends and family that there is sometimes a long wait to find availability with a local dog groomer, with some people having to travel or book a mobile dog groomer from elsewhere in the district.

As I work part time I would like to open my dog grooming salon on a part time basis to enable me to retain my current job (wage) whilst becoming established.

As the aim is to work part time it seemed that working from home as a dog groomer would be the best option rather than renting a premises for 2-3 days a week. This didn't seem viable when working out costs.

My shed/summerhouse is located at the bottom of my garden, away from all surrounding houses. It has been in place for approximately 9 years and has been used as a workshop, gym and a drum studio. There has been electric saws, sanders, a treadmill, television and electric drum kit used on a regular basis and we have had no noise complaints from any of our neighbours.

As I will only be having one dog at any one time, with approximately 3 per day the only noise would be from the dryer for approximately 30/45 mins each time. In order to keep noise to a minimum I would have a recommended no barking policy for the business. This would mean that if any dogs are found to bark excessively, whilst being groomed, I would speak to the owners and request they approach a different grooming salon.

There would be some decorating inside the shed but apart from repainting the exterior and replacing the doors there would be no external alterations.

I would like to operate my business initially 2 days a week increasing to 5 as the business grows and in busier periods eg. Christmas.

I would work alone and would have only one dog at any one time in the salon. I would expect to have 2-3 customers per day. Each customer would be at the property for approximately 5-10 minutes to drop off then returning 2-3 hours later with an estimated pick-up time of 5-10 minutes.

Our house is a corner plot with ample roadside parking together with two carparks in front of the house and a drive with parking for one car.

Flood Risk Assessment

The shed has been in place for approximately 9 years and is positioned on a raised concrete base. There has never been any concerns regarding flooding. We have never had any flooding of our garden and the change of use of the shed/summerhouse should not increase the risk of flooding in the area.