

Zac Denton

From: Ian Harvey-Samuel [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 October 2018 14:56
To: Zac Denton
Subject: Re: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Perhaps you could advise someone internally or the national authorities that it seems very odd for planning fees to be imposed for minor works on flats when exactly those same works on houses do not require payment of any fees whatsoever.

It is hard to think of a clearer case of discrimination against those likely to be less able to pay such fees.

The problem must now be getting more acute now that planning application fees are so high with no reductions for minor works.

It seems pretty close to legalised robbery to charge over £200 in planning fees to allow someone to fit a £450 door in place of a window, when the same planning fees would apply if works of £100,000 were being undertaken.

Something has gone very badly wrong with our planning system if this where we have ended up!

Thank you for your time and I hope you will encourage those in planning to see the human consequences of planning policies.

Regards

Ian

From: Zac Denton [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 29 October 2018 at 14:50
To: 'Ian Harvey-Samuel' [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Dear Mr Harvey-Samuel,

The fees are set nationally, apologies to hear that you are unhappy with this.

Kind regards,

Z Denton

From: Ian Harvey-Samuel [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 October 2018 14:43

To: Zac Denton

Subject: Re: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Thank you for letting me know – it is of course very disappointing that something this simple in relation to a flat (that is clearly a permitted development on a house) requires a homeowner to go through the full planning process and to pay a full planning application fee (the cost of which is totally disproportionate to the cost of the works being planned).

Does the council have some way of reducing the planning application fee on such minor works so that residents of flats are not unduly discriminated against as compared with the more often wealthier residents of houses who don't need to pay any planning fees to carry out such simple works?

Regards

Ian

From: Zac Denton [REDACTED]

Date: Monday, 29 October 2018 at 14:36

To: 'Ian Harvey-Samuel' [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Dear Mr Harvey-Samuel,

I intend to issue you with a certificate as soon as possible. Conversion of a window to a door on a flat is not considered to be permitted development. As such, it is likely that you will need to make a formal application.

Kind regards,

Z Denton

From: Ian Harvey-Samuel [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 October 2018 14:00

To: Zac Denton

Subject: Re: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Yes, I can formally confirm that the requested certificate relates to a ground floor flat, in a small block of 4 flats (two ground floor and two first side).

Thank you

From: Zac Denton [REDACTED]

Date: Monday, 29 October 2018 at 13:57

To: 'Ian Harvey-Samuel' [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Dear Mr Harvey-Samuel,

Thank you for your email.

Please can you formally confirm that the certificate relates to a flat, as the address does not specify this.

Kind regards,

Z Denton

[REDACTED]

From: Ian Harvey-Samuel [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 October 2018 13:51

To: Zac Denton

Subject: Re: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Zac, sorry to bother you again but I was wondering if you have managed to find a way to check the yes/no answer to the basic question here - ie whether the conversion of a window to a door on the rear elevation of a flat is something that requires planning permission?

I think we both know that this would not require planning permission if exactly the same thing was being done on a house so it should be quite a simple policy question as to whether the same basic rules apply to a flat.

Many thanks for any clarification that you can provide.

Regards

Ian

Ian Harvey-Samuel

On 24 Oct 2018, at 15:39, Ian Harvey-Samuel [REDACTED] wrote:

Thanks Zac,

I get that the council allows a period of time to deal with these questions but, as this is such a simple question that must have come up before, I was really hoping that it can easily be answered without needing to spend any time on it.

Many other councils say on their planning websites that conversions of a window into a door dont require planning permission but I could not find that on the Arun website, hence my asking for confirmation.

Regards

Ian

Ian Harvey-Samuel

On 24 Oct 2018, at 15:34, Zac Denton <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mr Harvey-Samuel,

Thank you for your email.

As mentioned on the phone, the decision date for the application remains as the 10th of December, whilst I would like to have the decision issued before then, it is not common for it to be issued seven weeks early.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further enquires.

Regards,

Z Denton

[REDACTED]

From: Ian Harvey-Samuel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 24 October 2018 15:09
To: Zac Denton
Subject: 12 Tarrant Wharf - your ref AB/107/18/CLP

Zac, I was just wondering if (after our phone call last week) you have had a chance to consider the policy question on this lawful permission application?

As I understand it (based on several discussions with surveyors/builders), for a non-listed building, there is normally no planning permission required to convert a window into a door on a rear elevation.

In this case, there is also no policy issue in terms of having doors with access to the communal garden my flat faces as other flats were built like that at the outset.

I am hoping that we can clear this question up really quickly as I have builders starting this coming Monday (29 October) on the kitchen and bathroom works of which the window conversion forms part.

I need to order the door – which takes about a week – so we are right up against it time wise.

I appreciate your assistance in dealing with what I hope is very simple confirmation.

Regards

Ian

Ian Harvey-Samuel

