

Delegated Decision

Sign off Sheet

Ref. No:	DM/26/0014	Case Officer:	Peter Davies
Application Type:	Householder Application		
Proposal:	Proposed pergola attached to the rear of the house		
Site:	6 Oakwood Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0HY, , , ,		
Validation Date	5 Jan 2026	Overall Expiry Date:	28 Jan 2026
Pre-Commencement Conditions Required:		Pre-Com Conditions Date Agreed:	
Recommendation:	Permission	Recommendation Date:	24 Feb 2026
Target Date:	2 Mar 2026	Recommending Officer Signature:	Peter Davies

Date Legal Agreement Completed: (if applicable)		No of Representations:	0
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Signed and Agreed By:	Steven King	Date:	24 Feb 2026
Comments:			

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

DM/26/0014

**6 Oakwood Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0HY, , ,
Proposed pergola attached to the rear of the house
Miss Sara Hadfield**

REPRESENTATION RECEIVED

None received.

TOWN COUNCIL OBSERVATIONS

The Committee of the 27th January would Recommend Approval.

INTRODUCTION

The application seeks planning permission for a proposed pergola attached to the rear of the dwelling.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

DM/23/0688 - Proposed one storey rear extension and two storey side extension. Permission

DM/23/1954 - Proposed single storey rear extension and two storey side extension. Permission

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The application property is a detached two storey dwelling located on the northern end of Oakwood Close, a cul-de-sac within the built up area of Burgess Hill.

The locality is characterised by detached dwellings of similar forms and scales but with varying detailed designs. The dwellings are set back from the highway with wide open frontages which consist of soft landscaping and off street parking which contributes to the character of the area. Many of the properties along the road have previously benefited from extensions and alterations which are visible from the streetscene.

The application dwelling has a pitched roof with two front gable ends. The dwelling is constructed from white painted render and white horizontal cladding with black fenestration and plain roof tiles.

APPLICATION DETAILS

The application seeks planning permission for a pergola attached to the rear of an existing extension. The pergola will have a width and depth of 6.40 metres and 3.0 metres. The pergola will have a lean to roof with an eaves height of 2.40 metres and an overall height of 2.50 metres. The pergola will be timber framed with a polycarbonate sheet roof.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND LIST OF POLICIES

Planning legislation holds that the determination of a planning application shall be made in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Using this as the starting point the development plan for this part of Mid Sussex consists of the District Plan, Site Allocation Development Plan Document (DPD) and Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan

National policy (which is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy Guidance) does not form part of the development plan, but is an important material consideration.

Mid Sussex District Plan

The District Plan was adopted at Full Council on 28th March 2018.

Relevant policies:

DP26 - Character and Design

Site Allocations DPD

The SADPD was adopted on 29th June 2022. It allocates sufficient housing and employment land to meet identified needs to 2031.

There are no relevant policies.

Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (made January 2016)

Relevant policies:

No relevant policies

Other Material Considerations

Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 Consultation Draft

The District Council is reviewing and updating the District Plan. Upon adoption, the new District Plan 2021 - 2039 will replace the current District Plan 2014-2031 and its policies will have full weight. In accordance with the NPPF, Local Planning Authorities may give weight to relevant policies of the emerging plan according to the stage of preparation; the extent to which there are unresolved objections to the relevant policies; and the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the NPPF. The draft District Plan 2021-2039 (Regulation 19) is currently at Examination and the stage 1 hearings were concluded on the 31st October 2024. There are unresolved objections to some of the Policies in the draft District Plan and as such, only minimal weight can be given to the Plan and this planning application has been assessed against the policies of the adopted District Plan.

Relevant Policies:

DPS2 - Sustainable Design and Construction

DPB1 - Character and Design

Mid Sussex Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Council has adopted a 'Mid Sussex Design Guide' SPD that aims to help deliver high quality development across the district that responds appropriately to its context and is inclusive and sustainable. The Design Guide was adopted by Council on 4th November 2020 as an SPD for use in the consideration and determination of planning applications. The SPD is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024)

Paragraphs 8, 11, 131 and 135 are considered to be relevant.

National Planning Policy Guidance

ASSESSMENT

It is considered that the main issues that need to be considered in the determination of this application are as follows;

- Design and Character
- Impact on neighbouring properties
- Biodiversity Net Gain

Design and Character

Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan states:

'All development and surrounding spaces, including alterations and extensions to existing buildings and replacement dwellings, will be well designed and reflect the distinctive character of the towns and villages while being sensitive to the countryside. All applicants will be required to demonstrate that development:

- *is of high quality design and layout and includes appropriate landscaping and greenspace;*
 - *contributes positively to, and clearly defines, public and private realms and should normally be designed with active building frontages facing streets and public open spaces to animate and provide natural surveillance;*
 - *creates a sense of place while addressing the character and scale of the surrounding buildings and landscape;*
 - *protects open spaces, trees and gardens that contribute to the character of the area;*
 - *protects valued townscapes and the separate identity and character of towns and villages;*
 - *does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings, including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP27);*
 - *creates a pedestrian-friendly layout that is safe, well connected, legible and accessible;*
 - *incorporates well integrated parking that does not dominate the street environment, particularly where high density housing is proposed;*
 - *positively addresses sustainability considerations in the layout and the building design;*
 - *take the opportunity to encourage community interaction by creating layouts with a strong neighbourhood focus/centre; larger (300+ unit) schemes will also normally be expected to incorporate a mixed use element;*
- optimises the potential of the site to accommodate development.'*

Principle DG49 of the Mid Sussex Design Guide states: *'Extensions should typically use simple, uncomplicated building forms to compliment and coordinate with the scale, form and massing of the original dwelling. The design approach may benefit from coordinating with the existing pattern of window and door openings as well as employing facing materials to match those of the existing dwelling. Otherwise it should demonstrate the appropriateness of the alternative approach.'*

Principle DG51 relates to rear extensions and states:

'Rear extensions which are not visible from the street and do not negatively impact on neighbouring properties can be expressed in many forms, including by adopting a contemporary architectural approach. With reference to DG49, they should nevertheless have consideration for the character of the existing building and the relationship of the extension with the side boundaries and adjacent buildings and gardens.'

The proposed pergola is considered to be of a design, form and scale which would be proportionate and acceptable to the existing dwelling and the character of the area. The pergola would not be visible from the highway and would be constructed from suitable materials. The proposal is therefore considered to comply with policy DP26 of the District Plan and the relevant principles of the Mid Sussex Design Guide SPD.

Impact on neighbouring properties

Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan seeks to ensure that development *'does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings,*

including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP29);'

The proposed pergola is of modest size set in from the boundary approximately 1.7 metres from the shared side boundary with no. 4 Oakwood Close to the west and 3.50 metres to the shared rear boundary with nos. 30, 32 and 34 Inholmes Park Road. The proposed is single storey and open sided and will not create additional overlooking into neighbour amenity areas.

The proposal is therefore, considered to comply with the above-mentioned part of Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Biodiversity net gain is required under a statutory framework introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This is a householder application within the meaning of article 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. As a householder application this development is exempt from the requirement to provide biodiversity net gain.

PLANNING BALANCE AND CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of design, scale and form to the dwellinghouse and locality, would not cause significant harm to the amenities of neighbouring properties. Therefore, the proposal complies with Mid Sussex District Plan policy DP26 and with the relevant provisions of the NPPF. The application therefore accords with the Development Plan and is considered acceptable.

Decision: Permission

Case Officer: Peter Davies