## Department of the Environment and Department of Transport

2 MAR 1987

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

OFFICER .

Common Services

File Ref. ...

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C.P.O. D.P. D.C. B.C. Admin. File Our reference T/APP/A19

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Comments

T/APP/A1910/A/86/58260/P4

Date 26 FEB 87

February 1987

Sir

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1971, SECTION 36 AND SCHEDUAL 9 APPEAL BY KENNETH P DORER APPLICATION NO: 4/0542/86

- 1. I have been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment to determine the above mentioned appeal. This appeal is against the decision of Dacorum Borough Council to refuse planning permission for a 2-storey front extension to 427 Long Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. I have considered the representations made by you and the Council. I inspected the site on 5 January 1987.
- 2. The appeal property is situated to the north west of the centre of Hemel Hempstead, and located between Pulley's Lane, a path, and Hollybush Lane. The appeal property is a 2-storey brick built 3-bedroomed terraced dwelling under a pitched and tiled roof, and is the penultimate house at the eastern end of a terrace of 9 properties. The dwellings at either end of the terrace are built on larger frontages than the remainder and have porches which have been enlarged in their width but are still the same depth as those on the remaining houses. There are a number of similar terraces in the vicinity including one set behind an open green area to the east of the appeal property.
- 3. It is proposed that the appeal property be extended at the front on the first and second floors to provide additional space in the lounge and bedrooms 1 and 3. To the left side of the front elevation an enclosed porch would be created giving access to the rear store and walk-through, and to the right hand side of the porch would be the main entrance door. This proposed extension would result in the front eaves line being lowered and the first floor front bedrooms being lit from dormer windows.
- 4. It is suggested by the Borough Council that the proposal would be out of keeping and affect the uniform appearance of the terrace. On the other hand you submit that the proposal would not be unduly prominent and would improve the appearance of the terrace by effectively counter-acting its uniformity.
- 5. From my inspection and the representations I conclude that the issue is whether the proposal would be unacceptably out of keeping with the terrace. The intention is that the flat fronted elevation will be disturbed by extending the appeal property forward. This will produce incongruity emphasised by the necessary lowering of the roof line and the provision of dormer windows at first floor level. The result would be, in my opinion, entirely out of keeping with the remainder of the terrace.
- 6. This is a plain and symmetrical terrace of properties, a design repeated elsewhere in the immidiate neighbourhood. In my view piecemeal alterations so extensive as proposed would detract from the street scene. I do not regard uniformity in