

SITE SPECIFIC FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

4 Keats Grove, London, NW3 2RT

Marcus Piggott

November 2016

Project no: 51659



## Document Review Sheet: -

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## 1. Development Description and Location

- Richard Jackson Ltd has been commissioned by Marcus Piggott to undertake a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) in accordance with the technical guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to accompany a Basement Impact Assessment (BIA) for the proposed basement alterations to an existing annex building at 4 Keats Grove, London, NW3 2RT.
- The property is located at Ordnance Survey grid reference 526998E, 185662N. A site location plan is shown in Appendix A.
- The alterations to the existing annex building, includes the construction of a new swimming pool within the basement. The existing and proposed architectural drawings are contained within Appendix B.
- The property's ground floor threshold level is approximately 18.84m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). Ground levels across the property's external areas range from 20.89m AOD at the rear of the back garden, to 18.63m AOD along the property's rear elevation. A topographical survey is contained within Appendix C.
- Table 2 of the NPPF classifies residential properties as "more vulnerable" development.
- As the alterations include the deepening of an existing basement, it has been deemed by the local planning authority that a BIA and FRA are required, to ensure that flood risk to the property is adequately managed, and that it does not increase flood risk elsewhere.

#### 2. Definition of the Flood Hazard

- There are three main sources of flooding which need to be considered:
  - i. Tidal or fluvial flooding from rivers or the sea
  - ii. Ground water
  - iii. Surface water and water from sewers or other infrastructure.
- There are no recorded instances of fluvial or tidal flooding at this location. The development site lies wholly within Flood Zone 1 (low probability zone), which is the area of "very low" flood risk. See Appendix D.
- Groundwater flooding occurs when the water table rises. As such, groundwater flooding can happen some time after a rainfall event and can last a considerable length of time.

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- Extracts from the Ground Investigation report for the site are provided within Appendix E. Following review of this information, the risk of flooding from groundwater is taken to be low.
- The existing above basement ground floor level is set above external levels, which assists in the safeguarding against any overland flood events, of which there have been no reported incidents either on or near to the site within the recent past, see Appendix D.
- Surface water flooding occurs when the drainage capacity of the network is exceeded or fails. This can be due to the design capacity of the network being less than the return period of the rainfall event.
- The Environment Agency surface water mapping shows this area to be at "very low" risk of surface water flooding, see Appendix D.
- As well as the three main sources of flooding outlined above, there is also potential for reservoir failure. The Environment Agency flood mapping service also confirms the site to be at "very low" risk of flooding from reservoir failure, see Appendix D.
- The North London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) also considers the London Borough of Camden to be at generally low risk of fluvial and ground water flooding, whilst recognising that further research is required to define the level of flood risk posed by surface water, see Appendix F.

### 3. Probability of Flooding

- The Environment Agency Indicative Flood Map (Appendix D) shows that the property is in flood zone 1. This indicates that there is less than a 0.1 per cent (1 in 1000) chance of flooding occurring each year.
- The probability of surface water flooding at this site is recorded by the Environment Agency mapping as very low (Appendix D).
- As the basement works are not increasing the footprint of the existing building or impermeable area, surface water flood risk to the surrounding areas and watercourses will not be increased.
- Reservoir flooding is highly unlikely due to the Reservoirs Act 1975 and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which provide a legal framework to ensure that the failure of large raised reservoirs does not occur.

#### 4. Climate Change

Climate change is predicted to increase the frequency and intensity of rainfall events. This in turn will make surface water flooding more likely unless the public sewer system is upgraded in the future.

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#### 5. Detailed Development Proposals

- Plans for the existing layout and the proposed extension can be seen in appendix B. The design of the basement includes the following flood mitigation measures:
  - Provision of an internal staircase to provide access from the basement to ground floor level.

### 6. Flood Risk Management Measures

- It is suggested that the deepened swimming pool construction works should be tanked to reduce the risk of groundwater ingress.
- The existing annex building access and window positions are sufficiently protected from any potential minor overland surface water flooding by steps and low level walling respectively. Furthermore, the topography of the front garden is such that any flows would be directed away from the annex building.

#### 7. Off Site Impact

- The footprint of the annex building, and therefore the impermeable area, will not be increased. As such, the annex building basement works will not increase the risk of surface water flooding offsite or onsite.
- The increase of the probability of groundwater flooding to other properties is minimal as the property is not within a groundwater protection zone and the basement is less than 50m<sup>2</sup>.

#### 8. Residual Risks

Should the existing receiving Thames Water network be overwhelmed during an exceedence event, the existing site levels are such that water shall be directed away from annex building threshold and windows.

#### 9. Conclusions

The development is wholly within the low probability flood zone 1 and as defined by the Technical Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework this development is classified as appropriate.

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# Appendix A

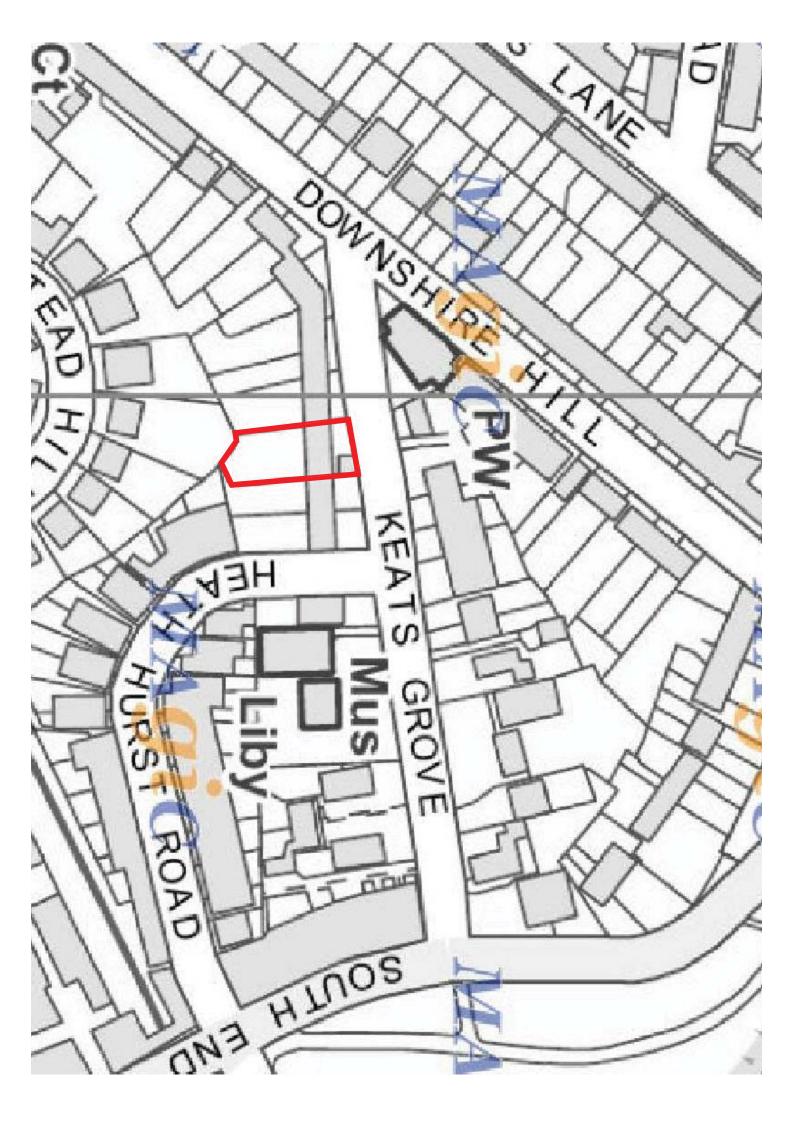
Site Location Plan

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# **Appendix B**

Development Site Plans

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FOR INFORMATION

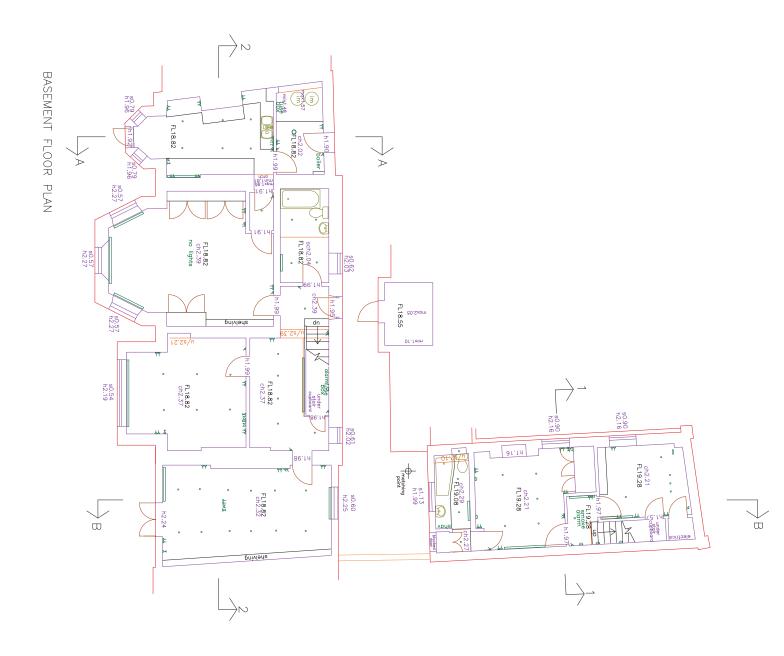
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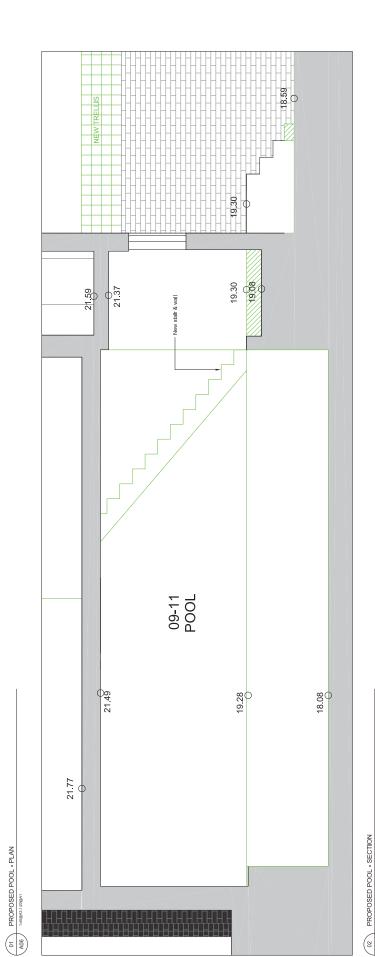
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