



Section 5 Declaration - Application Form

Declaration as to whether development constitutes Exempted Development

Please read "Guidance Notes" before completing this form

Guidance Notes

1. The purpose of Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, is to establish if a particular development is or is not development and if it is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning Act.
 - (a) A person seeking a determination must ensure under Question 7 (of the application form below) that a question is posed and that the question is clear, for example, is the construction of a shed development and is it or is it not exempted development. Details are then required of the shed so the planning authority can determine if the shed is exempt.
 - (b) The question to be determined should be clear as to whether it relates to an existing development or a proposed development. Details of the nature, size and location of the proposed development should be submitted and appropriate plans and elevations.
 - (c) If the question is not clear to the Planning Authority, the Section 5 application will be returned as invalid.
2. Any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, currently €80.00 request in writing from the Planning Authority a declaration on a question as whether a particular type of development is exempt.
3. The Planning Authority is required to make a decision within 4 weeks of receipt of a valid Declaration Request however the Planning Authority can also request Additional Information if it is considered that insufficient information has been submitted.
4. Any person issued with a declaration may, on payment to the Board of such fee as may be prescribed, currently €220.00 refer a declaration for review by the Board within 4 weeks of the date of the issuing of the declaration.
5. A planning authority is required to consider whether the development or proposed development identified in the request would be likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, at the least, of the nature, size or location of such development.

Section 5 Declaration - Application Form

1. Name and address of person seeking the declaration:

Lana Kane, Medforce Ltd, 15 Pembroke Street, Dublin 2 D02 DD35

Phone Number: [REDACTED] E-Mail: [REDACTED]

2. Name and address of agent (if any):

Not applicable

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

3. Name and address for all correspondence (if not completed, correspondence will be sent to person seeking declaration)

Lana Kane, Medforce Ltd, 15 Pembroke Street, Dublin 2 D02 DD35

4. Interest in site of the person seeking declaration:

Long-term Lease Holder – Medforce Ltd

Freehold Owner – Oliver Byrne

(If applicant is not freehold owner of the property in question, please provide name and address of owner if known)

5. Location and full address of development referred to in Question 7

Plaster, Mountpleasant, Co. Louth

6. Eircode OR Grid Co-ordinates must be submitted. Grid references may be found on Google Maps or at <https://irish.gridreferencefinder.com>

A91 E424

7. Question for determination under Section 5 (See Note 1 above).

The question must be framed in the following format, i.e. Is the construction of a shed development and is it or is it not exempted development:

Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the
Addition of fire extinguishers, pursuant to Section 3 of Childcare regulations 1996 a
Development and is it or is it not exempted development?

Additional Information

In this case, this property will be used to provide enhanced Residential service that provides a high quality, holistic, therapeutic, and stable home to children with very complex needs. Before commencing the service, the property will be subject to approval by Tusla and Throughout the provisions of the service, the property will be audited and inspected by both Personnel from Medforce Head Office and Tusla officers to ensure compliance.

Medforce will provide the support through the following team;

- A nominated PIC – Person in Charge from Medforce
- A Level 8 Health care Professional from Medforce
- A rotational team of six social workers from Medforce

The number of resident carers will **be less than two** at any one time.

8. Does the development consist of works to be carried out to an existing or proposed protected structure? Yes No

If yes, has a Declaration under Section 57 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 been requested or issued for the property by the Planning Authority?

Additional Information:

1. Payment Reference number 42810
2. Site Location Map attached
3. Site Layout map – not attached as works are internal only
4. Floor plans and layout of existing structure provided
5. Floor plans and Layout of proposed structure not applicable as there are no changes to the existing floor plans and layouts

I certify that the aforementioned is correct.

Signature of Applicant: Lana Kane

Date 19/3/2026



Please include one copy of the following documents with this application form:

- **Site Location Map:** (Scale 1:1000)
- **Site Layout Map:** (Scale 1:200 or 1:500)
- **Floor Plans & Elevations:** (Scale 1:50, 1:100 or 1:200)
Existing & proposed, where applicable
- **Application fee:** (€80)

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The number of resident carers will **be less than two** at any one time.

Completed Application Form & Fee of €80.00 may be sent to:

**Planning Office, Louth County Council, Town Hall, Crowe Street,
Dundalk, County Louth, A91W20C**

OR

**by email to planninggroup@louthcoco.ie with contact details to arrange
payment of fee.**

1. All dimensions of materials and work shall be in accordance with the specifications of the Engineer, and shall be subject to his inspection and approval. It is the contractor's responsibility to provide all materials and workmanship in accordance with the specifications and to be approved by the Engineer in writing.

2. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.

3. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.

4. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.



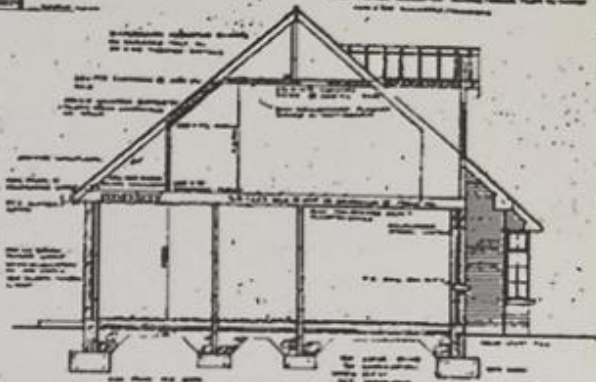
FRONT ELEVATION



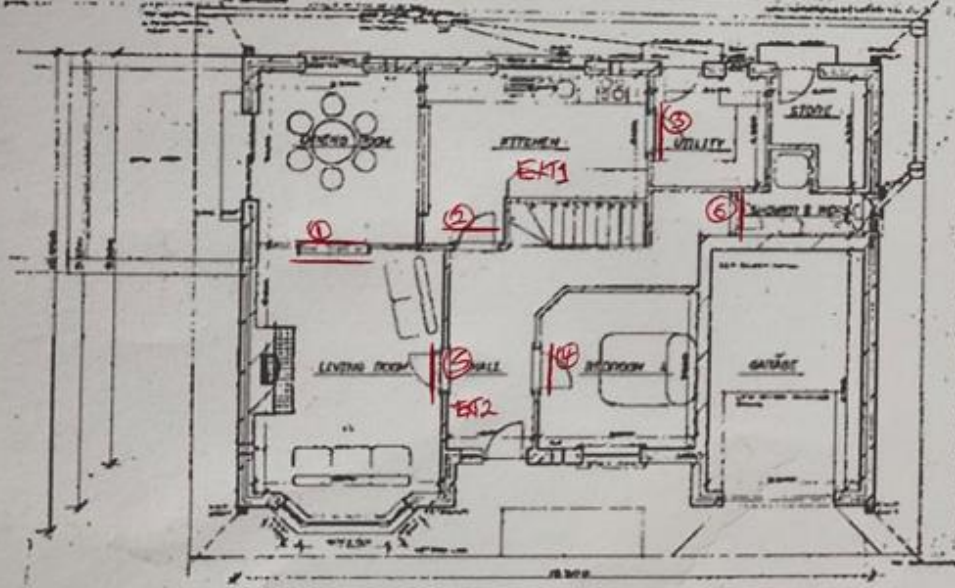
REAR ELEVATION



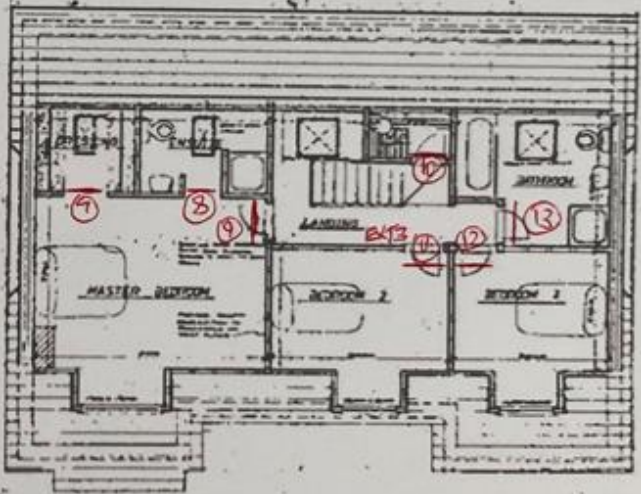
SIDE ELEVATION



SECTION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

629/95

1. All dimensions of materials and work shall be in accordance with the specifications of the Engineer, and shall be subject to his inspection and approval. It is the contractor's responsibility to provide all materials and workmanship in accordance with the specifications and to be approved by the Engineer in writing.

2. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.

3. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.

4. The Contractor shall be responsible for the accuracy of all dimensions and work.

K.D Lonergan & Associate's
 Engineers, Designers, Surveyors
 17th Street, Suite 100
 St. Louis, Missouri 63103
 Phone: 314-437-1111
 Fax: 314-437-1112

PROJECT	
DWELLING HOUSE	
DATE	
PLANS, SECTION & ELEVATIONS	
NO. OF SHEETS	1 OF 1
DATE	NOV 1995
NO. OF SHEETS	1 OF 1



Statutory Declaration

Community Dwellings - Pursuant to Part II. Section (3) Child Care (Standards in Childrens Residential Centres) Regulations 1996.

As part of the registration of a children's residential setting pursuant to Part VIII, Section 60 & 61 of the Child Care Act 1991, an applicant or registered proprietor must provide the Child & Family Agency with written confirmation from a competent registered professional person (as defined by the *Code of Practice for Fire Safety Assessment of Premises and Buildings 2022* – published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) that the relevant statutory requirements relating to fire safety have been complied with and that –

- a) adequate precautions have been taken by the centre against the risk of fire, including the provision of adequate means of escape in the event of fire,
- b) that adequate arrangements are in place for detecting, containing and extinguishing fires, for the maintenance of firefighting equipment,
- c) all reasonable measures have been taken by the centre to ensure that materials contained in bedding and the internal furnishings of the centre have adequate fire retardancy properties and have low levels of toxicity in the event of a fire and
- d) adequate fire safety management procedures are in place, including fire prevention measures, maintenance of fire safety equipment, staff training, emergency procedures etc.

Competent persons who may provide this statutory declaration are hereby defined as;

- a) Architects that are on the register maintained by the RIAI under Part 3 of the Building Control Act 2007; or
- b) Building Surveyors that are on the register maintained by the SCSi under Part 5 of the Building Control Act 2007; or

- c) Chartered Engineers on the register maintained by Engineers Ireland under section 7 of the Institution of Civil Engineers of Ireland (Charter Amendment) Act 1969.
- d) Members of the Institution of Fire Engineers who hold the title Chartered Engineer

The Code of Practice for Fire Safety in New and Existing Community Dwelling Houses September 2017 is designed to provide guidance on fire safety in community dwelling houses with up to six residents, with or without resident carers. These community dwelling houses are generally small in scale. The number of carers required will depend on the needs of the residents.

Professional Opinion on Compliance with statutory requirements relating to fire safety in Community Dwellings

I hereby confirm that I am a competent person as defined by the *Code of Practice for Fire Safety Assessment of Premises and Buildings 2022* and have been retained by

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to furnish an opinion that all statutory requirements relating to fire safety have been complied with at the following location

	(insert address).
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I inspected the premises on

	(insert date).
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and I can confirm having exercised reasonable skill, care and diligence that the building is in compliance with *The Code of Practice for Fire Safety in New and Existing Community Dwelling Houses 2017*.

Additionally, I can confirm that:

- 1)** adequate precautions have been taken by the centre against the risk of fire, including the provision of adequate means of escape in the event of fire.
- 2)** that adequate arrangements are in place for detecting, containing and extinguishing fires, and for the maintenance of firefighting equipment.
- 3)** all reasonable measures have been taken by the centre to ensure that materials contained in bedding and the internal furnishings of the centre have adequate fire retardancy properties and have low levels of toxicity in the event of a fire.
- 4)** adequate fire safety management procedures are in place, including fire prevention measures, maintenance of fire safety equipment, staff training, emergency procedures etc.

Note : Pursuant to Part VIII, Section 61 (8) (b) of the Childcare Act 1991 a person who knowingly provides the Child & Family Agency with false or misleading information relating to the content of this declaration shall be guilty of an offence. The agency reserves the right to validate all information and documentation

presented for the purposes of assessment of registration applications pursuant to this part.

Signed:	
Date:	
Professional Registration Body:	
Membership Number:	
Contact Telephone No:	

Louth County Council
Section 5 Declaration

Planning Ref: 2026/14

Applicant's Name: Medforce Ltd

Type of Application: Section 5 Declaration

Development: Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers development and is it or is it not exempted development.

Site Location: Plaster, Mountpleasant, Co. Louth

Report Date 31st March 2026

Due Date: 16th April 2026

1.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The site is located within the rural area and townland of Mountpleasant, c2.1km northeast of the edge of Dundalk Regional Growth Centre. It contains a detached dormer property of red brick construction and a tiled roof. It has a roadside location, and detached dwelling lies adjacent to/south of the site.

2.0 PLANNING HISTORY

File ref. 95/629: - 1no. dwelling houses – Plaster, Dundalk – Granted (applicant Siobhan Rice).

3.0 DECLARATION SOUGHT

The applicant's submitted question for determination (as per question 7 of the application form) states:

“Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development and is it or is it not exempted development.”

Given that the Childcare Regulations is not planning legislation, the Planning Authority is therefore considering the question for determination as: -

“Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers development and is it or is it not exempted development.”

The applicant has submitted the following supporting details with their application form:

- Completed Section 5 application form
- Floor plans
- Site Location Plan
- Tulsa Fire Safety Requirement Document

4.0 EIA SCREENING AND DETERMINATION

Council Directive 85/337/EEC (as amended) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment ('the EIA Directive') is designed to ensure that projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are subject to a comprehensive assessment of their environmental effects prior to development consent being granted. The latest amendments to the EIA Directive are provided under Directive 2014/52/EU and Circular letter PL 1/2017.

On the basis of the information provided and having considered the nature, size and location of the development, it is considered that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment and as such, an EIAR is not required.

5.0 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

No Appropriate Assessment screening report has been provided with this application. In having regard to the nature and scale of the subject development and the nature of the receiving environment, no appropriate assessment issues arise and it is not considered that the proposed development would be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects on a European site (Special Area of Conservation or Special Protected Area) and as such, an Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2 AA) is not required.

6.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The Planning and Development Act 2024

Sections 1-5 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 commenced in December 2024.

Section 2 states:

“Development” means –

(a) the carrying out of works—

(i) on, in, over or under land, or

(ii) on, in, over or under the maritime area,

or

(b) the making of a material change in the use of—

(i) land or any structure on land, or

(ii) the sea, seabed or any structure, in the maritime area,

and includes the reclamation of land in the nearshore area;

“Exempted development” means:

(a) development of a class prescribed under section 9, or

(b) development that is exempted development by virtue of section 152;

“structure” means:

- (a) a building, edifice, construction, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or a maritime site, or any part thereof, or
- (b) the land or maritime site on, in or under which such building, edifice, construction, excavation, other thing or part is situated.

“unauthorised development” means, in relation to land or a maritime site—

- (a) unauthorised works (including the construction, erection or assembly of an unauthorised structure), or
- (b) an unauthorised use;

“unauthorised use” means, in relation to land or a maritime site, a use that is a material change in use of the land or maritime site, other than—

- (a) exempted development, or
- (b) development carried out in accordance with—
 - (i) a permission granted under Part IV of the Act of 1963 or deemed to be so granted under section 92 of that Act,
 - (ii) a permission granted under section 34, 37G, 37N or 293 of the Act of 2000,
 - (iii) a permission granted under section 9 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 , or
 - (iv) a permission granted under Part 4 ,
- (c) Chapter 6 State authority development within the meaning of Part 4 ,
- (d) development required by—
 - (i) a notice under section 339 ,
 - (ii) an order under section 341 ,
 - (iii) an enforcement notice under section 350 , or
 - (iv) a planning injunction under section 351 ,

or

- (e) development carried out in accordance with—
 - (i) a licence under section 13 , or
 - (ii) a licence under section 254 of the Act of 2000;

“Works” includes an act or operation—

- (a) of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal (including in relation to a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or a structure situated in an architectural conservation area), on, in, over or under land or a maritime site,
- (b) consisting of the application of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to the surface of a protected structure or proposed protected structure or the removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material from such surface, and
- (c) consisting of the application of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to the exterior of a structure situated in an architectural conservation area or the removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material from such exterior.

The Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

Section 4:

Section 4(1) provides a list of statutory exempted development.

Section 4 (1) (h) states that *development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures.*

Section 4(2) further provides for the making of regulations by the Minister relating to exempted development. The Planning & Development Regulations (PDR) 2001 (as amended) give effect to Section 4(2).

Section 5 states:

- (1) If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of this Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.
- (2) (a) Subject to *paragraph (b)*, a planning authority shall issue the declaration on the question that has arisen and the main reasons and considerations on which its decision is based to the person who made the request under *subsection (1)*, and, where appropriate, the owner and occupier of the land in question, within 4 weeks of the receipt of the request.

(b) A planning authority may require any person who made a request under *subsection (1)* to submit further information with regard to the request in order to enable the authority to issue the declaration on the question and, where further information is received under this paragraph, the planning authority shall issue the declaration within 3 weeks of the date of the receipt of the further information.

(c) A planning authority may also request persons in addition to those referred to in *paragraph (b)* to submit information in order to enable the authority to issue the declaration on the question.

Section 32:

Section 32 sets out a general obligation to obtain planning permission in respect of any development of land, not being exempted development, and in the case of development, which is unauthorised, for the retention of that unauthorised development.

The Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended)

Article 6:

Article 6 (1) states that subject to article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.

Article 9:

Article 9(1) provides restrictions on exemptions and states that “*Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act—*

(a) if the carrying out of such development would—

(i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,

(ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,
(iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users,

(iiia) endanger public safety by reason of hazardous glint and/or glare for the operation of airports, aerodromes or aircraft,

(iv) except in the case of a porch to which class 7 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies and which complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, comprise the construction, erection, extension or renewal of a building on any street so as to bring forward the building, or any part of the building, beyond the front wall of the building on either side thereof or beyond a line determined as the building line in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(v) consist of or comprise the carrying out under a public road of works other than a connection to a wired broadcast relay service, sewer, water main, gas main or electricity supply line or cable, or any works to which class 25, 26 or 31 (a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies,

(vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or 13 other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan, save any

excavation, pursuant to and in accordance with a licence granted under section 26 of the National Monuments Act, 1930 (No. 2 of 1930),

(viii) consist of or comprise the extension, alteration, repair or renewal of an unauthorised structure or a structure the use of which is an unauthorised use,

(ix) consist of the demolition or such alteration of a building or other structure as would preclude or restrict the continuance of an existing use of a building or other structure where it is an objective of the planning authority to ensure that the building or other structure would remain available for such use and such objective has been specified in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(x) consist of the fencing or enclosure of any land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding such fencing or enclosure for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility,

(xi) obstruct any public right of way,

(xii) further to the provisions of section 82 of the Act, consist of or comprise the carrying out of works to the exterior of a structure, where the structure concerned is located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan and the development would materially affect the character of the area.”

7.0 ASSESSMENT

The question has arisen as to whether “*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers development and is it or is it not exempted development.*” In this regard, it is necessary to consider the question of “development” and “exempted development” as provided for in statute and summarised above.

Does the proposal constitute development?

In accordance with Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024, “Development” means –

(a) the carrying out of works—

(i) on, in, over or under land, or

(ii) on, in, over or under the maritime area,

or

(b) the making of a material change in the use of—

(i) land or any structure on land, or

(ii) the sea, seabed or any structure, in the maritime area,

and includes the reclamation of land in the nearshore area;

it is considered that the proposed development falls within the statutory interpretation of “works” as per section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 and therefore **constitutes ‘development’** as defined within the Planning and Development Act, 2024.

Does the proposal constitute exempt development?

The applicant has submitted detailed drawings of the property showing the location of the internal fire doors and fire extinguishers. It is considered that these works to the interior of the property do not materially affect the external appearance of this property.

It is therefore considered that, the proposed works fall under Section 4(1) (h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) which provides an exemption for *development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures.* As such, the proposed works **constitute ‘exempted development.’**

Consideration under Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

The restrictions of Article 9 have been reviewed and do not apply to this particular proposal.

6.0 CONCLUSION

Having regard to the foregoing, it is considered that “*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers*” at Plaster, Mountpleasant, Dundalk constitutes development within the meaning of section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 that is exempted development having regard to section 4 (1) (h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

Accordingly, I recommend an Order along the following lines is issued: -

WHEREAS a question has arisen pursuant to Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) as to whether “*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers development and is it or is it not exempted development*”

AND WHEREAS the said question was referred to Louth County Council by Lana Kane c/o Medforce Ltd

AND WHEREAS Louth County Council in considering this reference, had regard reference particularly to –

- a) The definition of “*development*”, in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024,

- b) Section 4(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in particular the provisions under section 4(1) (h)
- c) Article 6(1) and Article 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended,
- d) The plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority on 16th and 20th March 2026,
- e) The planning history of the site,

AND WHEREAS Louth County Council has concluded that on the basis of the information submitted that:

- (i) *“the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers”* **is development** under section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 and;
- (ii) *“the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers”* is considered to constitute maintenance or improvement works which affects only the interior of structure and would not materially affect the exterior and as such **is exempted development** under section 4(1) (h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

NOW THEREFORE Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that the question as to whether *“the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers”* at *Plaster, Mountpleasant, Dundalk* is **development** and is **exempted development**.



Lisa Grant
Assistant Planner
Date: 31/03/2026



Turlough King
A/Senior Planner
Date: 31/03/2026



Thomas McEvoy
Director of Services
Date: 02/04/2026

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDER

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (as amended)

Section 5 Exempted Development

Chief Executive's Order No: 239/2026

Reference No: S5 2026/14

Date Application Received: 20/03/2026

Description of Development: Whether the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development and is it or is it not exempted development

Name of Applicant: Lana Kane c/o Medforce Ltd

Location of Development Plaster, Mountpleasant, Co Louth

WHEREAS a question has arisen pursuant to Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act (as amended) as to *“Whether the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development and is it or is it not exempted development”*

AND WHEREAS the said question was referred to Louth County Council by Lana Kane c/o Medforce Ltd

AND WHEREAS Louth County Council in considering this reference, had regard reference particularly to –

- a) The definition of *“development”*, in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024,
- b) Section 4(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in particular the provisions under section 4(1) (h)
- c) Article 6(1) and Article 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended,
- d) The plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority on 16th and 20th March 2026,
- e) The planning history of the site,



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Medforce Ltd
c/o Lana Kane
Medforce Ltd
15 Pembroke Street
Dublin 2
D02 DD35

By email only to [REDACTED]

2nd April 2026

Re: Ref. S5 2026/14

Application for Declaration of “Exempted Development” Part 1, Section 5 Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) as to ‘Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development and is it or is it not exempted development at Plaster, Mountpleasant, Co Louth’ is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your application received on 20th March 2026 in relation to the above. Having assessed all information and enclosures received with the application, the Planning Authority wishes to advise as follows: -

WHEREAS a question has arisen pursuant to Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act (as amended) as to *“Is the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development and is it or is it not exempted development.”*

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- (a) The definition of *“development”*, in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024,
- (b) Section 4(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in particular the provisions under section 4(1) (h)
- (c) Article 6(1) and Article 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended
- (d) The plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority on 16th and 20th March 2026

Louth County Council
Halla an Bhaile, Town Hall
Sráid Clówe, Clówe Street
Dundalk, County Louth
A91 W20C

E info@louthcoco.ie
W www.louthcoco.ie

Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras Gaeilge - Correspondence in Irish is welcome
Féach foláirimh faoi Lú ón gComhairle ag www.mapalserter.ie/Louth
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(e) The planning history of the site,

AND WHEREAS Louth County Council has concluded that on the basis of the information submitted that:

- a) "*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers*" **is development** under section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 and;
- b) "*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers*" is considered to constitute maintenance or improvement works which affects only the interior of structure and would not materially affect the exterior and as such **is exempted development** under section 4(1) (h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

NOW THEREFORE Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that the question as to whether "*the addition of internal fire doors in place of the existing internal doors and the addition of fire extinguishers pursuant to section 3 of the Childcare regulations 1996 development*" is **development** and is **exempted development**.

In Summary

A Declaration of Exemption is hereby GRANTED for the development as detailed on the plans and particulars submitted on 20th March 2026.

This decision may be referred by you to An Coimisiún Pleanála for review within 4 weeks of the date of this letter subject to the payment of the appropriate fee.

Yours faithfully,



Brian Duffy
Planning Section