

POLICY HS9

PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NORMALLY BE GRANTED FOR THE RESIDENTIAL USE OF UPPER FLOORS IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WITHIN THE TOWN CENTRE.

- 4.42 Vacant upper storeys represent an under use of resources and can lead to future maintenance problems. There are a number of factors which may discourage the use of upper storeys, including financial considerations, security, insurance difficulties and fire regulations. The issue is a complex one and largely outside the control of the Local Planning Authority. However, it is considered that insistence on normal standards of parking provision and open space for residential development is inappropriate in relation to the need to secure a use for upper storeys. Such accommodation is unlikely to be suitable for families and it is expected that it will normally be restricted (by its design) to non-family households.
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