# High Wycombe woman ordered to demolish six-bedroom home for breaching planning rules



A woman in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, has been ordered to demolish her newly constructed six-bedroom home after local council officials deemed it "unneighbourly and overbearing." Complaints from neighbours highlight a significant disruption to their gardens, claiming that the property blocks natural light and is out of alignment with the area's established character.

The dispute focuses on a two-storey extension at the back of the house on Marlow Road, which reportedly exceeds the dimensions outlined in the approved planning permissions. Parry Virdee, a planning agent, stated that the builder incorrectly interpreted the plans, leading to the structural infraction. Local residents expressed their ire, suggesting that the owner engaged in a “build it now, ask for forgiveness later” approach, particularly after observing an oversize property nearby that had recently received council approval.

Documents from Buckinghamshire Council reveal that permission was granted last year for a six-bedroom home with three parking spaces. However, subsequent plans for another house of a similar scale were rejected in March. In an enforcement notice, the council stated the extension's size and design resulted in a considerable loss of light to neighbouring properties, diminishing both outlook and general amenity. The notice emphasised that no conditions could mitigate these concerns.

While the council insists on compliance, some residents question the fairness of demolishing the newer home when a larger property was permitted in proximity. One local expressed bewilderment, noting the approved house appears even larger than the one under scrutiny, prompting concerns about consistency in the planning process. Another resident remarked that the oversized property had become an eyesore, drawing unwanted attention from passersby.

Interestingly, the controversy surrounding property development in High Wycombe is not an isolated case. In another instance, a homeowner in Reading was compelled to demolish two illegally constructed homes in her back garden, underlining the perils of neglecting planning regulations. Similarly, a woman in Coventry faced the demolition of a holiday cabin due to neighbour complaints, exemplifying the stringent enforcement of local ordinances.

These cases collectively underscore the delicate balance between individual property aspirations and maintaining community standards. They illustrate the necessity of adhering to established planning regulations to preserve the character of local neighbourhoods. The owners of the High Wycombe property have been given nine months to either comply with the enforcement notice or face further consequences, including potential legal action, as communities increasingly resist developments that threaten their established way of life.

Across the country, the tension between urban development, community rights, and established regulations continues to simmer, with many residents advocating for clear and collaborative planning processes that reflect the needs and desires of existing communities rather than imposing disjointed developments that disrupt local harmony.

### Reference Map

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Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

* <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14683925/Woman-ordered-demolish-unneighbourly-overbearing-newbuild-six-bed-mansion-council-builder-misread-plans.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/news/24618622.plans-high-wycombe-hmo-rejected-neighbour-backlash/> - Plans to convert a family home in High Wycombe into a six-bedroom house in multiple occupation (HMO) were rejected after neighbors objected, citing concerns over increased traffic and the development being out of character with the area. Buckinghamshire Council refused the application, emphasizing insufficient parking provision and potential negative impacts on the local community. The decision highlights the importance of community input in planning decisions and the council's commitment to maintaining the area's character.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c07nmx4j474o> - A homeowner in Reading, Berkshire, was ordered to demolish two illegally constructed homes in her back garden. The Planning Inspector dismissed her appeal against the council's enforcement action, stating the structures were unsuitable for habitation and harmed the area's appearance. The council emphasized the importance of adhering to planning regulations and the potential consequences of non-compliance, including prosecution and fines.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/may/09/london-estate-resident-goes-to-high-court-over-demolition-plans> - A resident of a London council estate has taken legal action against developers and the local authority over plans to demolish her home. The resident argues that the redevelopment plans amount to 'social cleansing' and that the changes deviate from the original masterplan without proper consultation. The case underscores tensions between urban development and the rights of existing residents, highlighting concerns over gentrification and community displacement.
* <https://www.coventrytelegraph.net/woman-demolish-cabin-garden-avoid-26862617> - A woman in Coventry was compelled to demolish a holiday cabin she built in her garden after a neighbor's complaint led to a council investigation. The council determined the cabin was a second home, resulting in a council tax bill. Despite the owner's claim that it was not a second home, the council's decision highlights the importance of adhering to planning regulations and the potential financial implications of non-compliance.
* <https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/uk-world-news/monster-home-causes-years-hell-8611044> - Residents in a Cornwall community have been living in distress due to a large house built without planning permission. The council issued an enforcement notice demanding its demolition, which was upheld after an appeal. The case illustrates the challenges communities face when unauthorized developments disrupt local harmony and the importance of enforcing planning regulations to maintain community well-being.
* <https://www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/news/24527990.new-hmo-housing-high-wycombe-despite-parking-concerns/> - Despite concerns over insufficient parking, Buckinghamshire Council approved plans for new housing in multiple occupation (HMO) in High Wycombe. The development will convert an existing building into six five-bedroom HMOs, with limited parking provisions. The decision reflects the council's approach to addressing housing needs while balancing community concerns, emphasizing the importance of sustainable development practices.