

Can I carry out internal alterations, external repairs and maintenance?

Subject to site location, planning history and particulars, you can carry out any internal alteration you wish as long as you do not alter the use of the house. External works of repair, maintenance and improvement such as painting or re-plastering do not need planning permission as long as they do not materially affect the external appearance, by making it inconsistent with neighbouring buildings. You may need approval for certain external alteration e.g. a new connection to a sewer.

This exemption does not apply to protected structures, nor to the subdivision of a house into flats or granny flats. Planning permission must be obtained for such works.