



Developments Affecting Trunk Roads and Special Roads

Highways England Planning Response (HEPR 16-01)

Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Nicola Bell (Regional Director, South East)
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South East Region
Highways England
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To: Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (FAO Case Officer: Clare Howe)
c.howe@welhat.gov.uk

CC: spatialplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk

Council's Reference: 6/2020/3420/MAJ

Location: Biopark Broadwater Road, Welwyn Garden City AL7 3AX

Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and construction of 289 residential units (Use Class C3) and community hub (Use Class E/F.2), with public realm and open space, landscaping, access, associated car and cycle parking, refuse and recycling storage and supporting infrastructure.

Highways England Reference: HE South East

Referring to the planning application referenced above, in the vicinity of the A1(M) that forms part of the Strategic Road Network, notice is hereby given that Highways England's formal recommendation is that we:

a) offer no objection

**on the basis that we are satisfied that the proposal will not materially affect the safety, reliability and/or operation of the Strategic Road Network (the tests set out in DfT Circular 02/2013, particularly paragraphs 9 & 10, and MHCLG NPPF2019, particularly paragraphs 108 and 109) in this location and its vicinity.*

~~b) recommend that conditions should be attached to any planning permission that may be granted (see Annex A – Highways England recommended Planning Conditions);~~


- ~~c) recommend that planning permission not be granted for a specified period (see Annex A – further assessment required);~~
- ~~d) recommend that the application be refused (see Annex A – Reasons for recommending Refusal).~~

Highways Act Section 175B (covering new access to the SRN) is not relevant to this application.¹

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND (“we”) have been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such we work to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

This represents Highways England’s formal recommendation (prepared by the Area 5 Spatial Planning Team) and is made available to the Department for Transport as per the terms of our Licence.

Should the Local Planning Authority disagree with any recommendation they must consult the Secretary of State for Transport, as per the Town and Country Planning (Development Affecting Trunk Roads) Direction 2018, via transportplanning@dft.gov.uk.

Signature: 	Date: 16 February 2021
Name: Janice Burgess	Position: Spatial Planning Manager
Highways England: Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ	

¹ Where relevant, further information will be provided within Annex