

For the attention of: David Eaves

Planning reference: APP/19/00703

Site location: Langstone Technology Park, 2B Langstone Road, Havant PO9 1SA

Proposals: Part demolition of Building 1000 with an associated works; the erection of new flexible use industrial units; and a new car parking layout with associated works to layout and access.

Thank you for sending us this consultation. Please accept this response as being that of the Countryside Service, in relation to this application we are responding on behalf of Hampshire County Council as Highway Authority in respect of Public Rights of Way.

Site Context: Havant Footpath 50 runs east-west along the northern boundary of the site then links to Havant Footpath 51 part 2 which runs down the eastern Boundary alongside the River and Havant Footpath 51 part 1 which leads northward through the underpass to Solent Road.

A copy of the Definitive Map of Rights of Way can be found at

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/definitivemap>

Comment:

In the pre-application GEN/19/00046 both HCC Highways and HCC Countryside Service highlighted the need for improvements to Havant Footpath 51 to provide pedestrian and cycle access to work. Highways said in their response that this should be upgraded with a bound tarmac surface to allow shared use for cyclists and walkers.

The Design and Access Statement Principle 4 states: 'Reinforce Walking and Cycling - Encourage walking and cycling through coordinating existing routes. Increase permeability, security and safety.' We support this and it is in line with Local Plan Policy and the National Planning Policy Framework. However, Footpath 51 on the East side of the site is often impassable during the winter months therefore surface improvements are needed to make this route usable year-round for employees to access Langstone via a safe off-road route and reduce impacts of air pollution to pedestrians or provide a cycle route away from the Langstone Road.

The submitted Transport Assessment has determined that there were good off-road links to the North of the site but has not fully assessed links and need for improvements for cyclists and pedestrians to the South. The access from the South is achieved via Langstone Road. Surfacing and improvements of Footpath 51 would provide an important off-road link to the Southeast and wider cycle links for employees via the Coastal Path away from the busy road.

In the absence of improvements to Footpath 51 the current proposals are not in line with the Design and Access Statement and the requirements of the Highway Authority. We therefore request a contribution towards the surfacing of Footpath 51 to make it a usable year-round path which can be used by walkers and cyclists to link to the site and the North section of Footpath 51 and National Cycle Network

Route 22. We would be happy to discuss the cost of the necessary works with the Local Planning Authority and the applicant in conjunction with Highways Development Planning.

Should permission be granted for this application, we request that the applicant is made aware of the following requirements through informatives:

- i. Nothing connected with the development or its future use should have an adverse effect on the right of way, which must remain available for public use at all times.
- ii. There must be no surface alterations to a public right of way without the consent of Hampshire County Council as Highway Authority. To carry out any such works without this permission would constitute an offence under s131 Highways Act 1980.

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