



Proposed Extension to Merok House
Care Home
New Brighton Road, Emsworth

Travel Plan Statement

for

Caldwell & Beling Limited

July 2013

Document Control Sheet

Travel Plan Statement

Merok House Care Home

Caldwell & Beling Limited

This document has been issued and amended as follows:

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1.0 Introduction

Travel Plan Statement Scope

- 1.1 This Travel Plan Statement (TPS) has been prepared by Motion on behalf of Caldwell & Beling Limited in relation to a proposed extension to Merok House Care Home, New Brighton Road, Emsworth.
- 1.2 Merok House Care Home currently provides short-term and long-term residential care for up to 22 residents with 12 full-time equivalent members of staff employed at the site. It is proposed that the care home will be extended to accommodate up to 30 residents with a total of 14 full-time equivalent members of staff working at the site.
- 1.3 The site currently provides parking for 8 cars, accessed directly from the New Brighton Road via two vehicular crossovers. Following the implementation of the proposals, the northernmost vehicular crossover will be closed and 2 additional car parking spaces will be provided, amounting to a total of 10 car parking spaces on-site.
- 1.4 The purpose of the TPS is to provide a strategy for encouraging visitors and staff to reduce their dependency on travelling by private car in favour of more sustainable modes such as public transport, car sharing, walking and cycling for all journey purposes. The aims of the TPS are; (a) to maximise the quality of life for staff and visitors and minimise any adverse effects on the surrounding community; (b) to increase awareness of the advantages and potential for travel by more environmentally-friendly modes; and (c) to introduce a package of 'hard' infrastructural and 'soft' behavioural measures that will facilitate this travel behaviour.
- 1.5 The remainder of this report is divided into 3 sections. Following this introduction, the existing provision of transport infrastructure and services within the vicinity of the application site is outlined in Section 2. Section 3 sets out the hard and soft measures that will be implemented to encourage sustainable travel behaviour amongst new residents, while Section 4 summarises and concludes this report.

2.0 Site Accessibility

Site Context

- 2.1 The application site is located on the eastern side of the B2147 New Brighton Road, approximately 800 metres to the north of Emsworth town centre. New Brighton Road is subject to a speed limit of 30 mph and unrestricted parking is available along both sides of the carriageway. The surrounding area is predominantly residential, with dwellings located on both sides of New Brighton Road and a number of cul-de-sacs located in the vicinity of the site.
- 2.2 The B2147 New Brighton Road joins the B2148 Horndean Road some 300 metres to the south of the care home and provides access into the centre of Emsworth. Horndean Road also provides access towards destinations to the north-west of the site, such as Durrants, Rowlands Castle and Horndean. The A259 Havant Road is accessible from the centre of Emsworth and provides access to the A27, as well as a number of local destinations such as Southbourne and Fishbourne.

Accessibility by Foot and Cycle

- 2.3 It is generally accepted that walking and cycling provide important alternatives to the private car, and should also be encouraged to form part of longer journeys via public transport. Indeed, it is noteworthy that the Institute of Highways and Transportation (IHT) has prepared several guidance documents that provide advice with respect to the provision of sustainable travel in conjunction with new developments. Within these documents it is suggested that:
- ▶ The maximum walk distance for commuting is 2 kilometres (Providing for Journeys on Foot, 2000);
 - ▶ The maximum walk distance for non-commuting trips is 1.2 kilometres (Providing for Journeys on Foot, 2000);
 - ▶ Reasonably fit people can comfortably cycle 8 kilometres to work (Cycle Friendly Infrastructure, 1996); and
 - ▶ Walking distances to a bus stop should not exceed 400 metres (Planning for Public Transport in Development, 1999).
- 2.4 The care home is well located with respect to existing pedestrian and cycle facilities. For example, footways are present along both sides of New Brighton Road which connect with the wider pedestrian network. These footways are well-lit and of a good quality, providing access to bus stops along New Brighton Road as well as into the centre of Emsworth.
- 2.5 The site is also considered to be accessible by cycle, with a number of residential streets in close proximity of the site, which are well lit, level and attractive to cyclists. National Cycle Route 2 is accessible from the centre of Emsworth and provides an east-west cycle route between Newhaven and Portsmouth. Much of this cycle route is traffic free and provides access to a number of destinations along the south coast by cycle. The cycle route also connects with National Cycle Route 22 in the centre of Havant.
- 2.6 The site is considered to be highly accessible on foot and by cycle for the purposes of commuting and for visitors. It is apparent that there are a number of amenities and popular commuter destinations located within the recommended walk/cycle distances set-out in 'Providing for Journeys on Foot' (2000) and 'Cycle Friendly Infrastructure' (1996).

Accessibility by Bus

- 2.7 The nearest bus stops are located on New Brighton Road some 100 metres to the north of the site. Bus stops 'Christopher Way' provide access to northbound and southbound bus services on routes 27 and 36, operated by Emsworth and District. A summary of the destinations served and the frequency of these services is presented in Table 2.1 below.

Service	Destinations	Service Frequency		
		Monday to Friday	Saturdays	Sundays
27	Southbourne – Westbourne – Emsworth – Havant – Leigh Park – Durrants – Rowlands Castle/Causeway	Every 30 Minutes	Every 30 Minutes	No Service
36	Southbourne – Westbourne – Emsworth – Havant – Bedhampton Asda	2 per day	No Service	No Service

Table 2.1 – Bus Services on New Brighton Road

- 2.8 It is apparent that there are bus stops located within 400 metres of the site, which are accessible on-foot and provide access to bus routes serving a range of local destinations.

Accessibility by Train and Tram

- 2.9 Emsworth rail station is located approximately 500 metres to the south of the site on North Street and is accessible from the care home via a well-connected network of footways. The station is well facilitated and serves national rail services operated by Southern Trains to many local and regional destinations such as Portsmouth Harbour, Brighton, Southampton Central, Clapham Junction, Crawley and London Victoria. Trains towards London Victoria typically operate at an hourly frequency while trains towards Southampton Central and Brighton typically depart every 30-45 minutes.
- 2.10 It is clear that there are a number of national rail services accessible well within 2 kilometres of the care home and as such, the site is considered accessible by rail.

Car and Cycle Parking

- 2.11 The relevant local car parking standards are contained within Havant Borough Council's Core Strategy (March 2011) which sets out maximum parking standards based on the number of full-time equivalent members of staff and the number of residents. For care establishments such as this, the maximum permitted car parking provision is 1 space per 2 members of staff and 1 visitor space per 2 residents. The maximum permitted level of car parking following the proposed redevelopment is therefore 7 spaces for staff and 15 spaces for visitors. With a total of 10 spaces being provided on-site, it is apparent that the proposed level of car parking is in accordance with the relevant local standards.
- 2.12 The Havant Borough Council Core Strategy (March 2011) also contains cycle parking standards. For care establishments there is a requirement to provide at least 1 space per 6 members of staff (full-time equivalents) for long stay parking plus at least 2 additional spaces for short stay parking. The proposals incorporate 4 secure cycle stands on-site, located to the north of the main building. The proposed level of cycle parking is therefore in accordance with the relevant local standards.

3.0 Measures to Encourage Sustainable Travel

- 3.1 This section of the TPS outlines the 'hard' infrastructural and 'soft' behavioural measures to be implemented at the site in order to encourage travel by non-single occupancy vehicle.
- 3.2 A number of 'hard' measures have been incorporated in the site layout and design of the development to encourage sustainable travel:
- ▶ Secure parking for 4 cycles will be provided at the north of the site, in accordance with local Policy; and
 - ▶ The provision of 10 on-site car parking spaces is below the maximum permitted level set-out in the relevant local standards.
- 3.3 Following construction works, the emphasis for encouraging sustainable travel behaviour amongst staff and visitors will be focused on the implementation of a number of 'soft' measures, most notably through the provision of information. However, it is understood that a large majority of the existing staff live locally and already travel to the site by sustainable modes. The following measures will therefore predominantly serve to maintain the existing modal share for sustainable means of travel.

Walking

- 3.4 In order to encourage travel to and from the site on foot:
- ▶ Information on local walking routes, such as maps and guides on suitable routes, will be issued to new and existing members of staff within Travel Welcome Packs; and
 - ▶ Local maps and guides on suitable walking routes will be displayed on notice boards in a public area of the care home so that they are visible to visitors.

Cycling

- 3.5 Cycling is a cheap, quick and sustainable mode of transport that provides benefits for personal health as well as reducing road congestion. For these reasons the following measures will be implemented to encourage staff and visitors to travel by cycle:
- ▶ Staff will be provided with Travel Welcome Packs containing information on local cycle routes/maps, cycle parking locations, cycle retailers within the vicinity of the site, and information on national 'Bike Week' which takes place on an annual basis in June;
 - ▶ Web links to the cycling pages on the Havant Borough Council website will also be provided in the Travel Welcome Packs, to enable staff to access information on cycling routes and local events.
 - ▶ Use of the cycle parking spaces will be monitored, with the potential to provide additional cycle parking should sufficient demand arise; and
 - ▶ Local cycling maps and advice for cyclists will also be attached to notice boards in public areas in order to encourage visitors and staff to cycle to the site.

Public Transport: Bus and Rail Services

- 3.6 As previously mentioned, the site lies within a short walking distance of several bus stops and a national rail station, both of which provide regular services to a number of local and regional destinations. Measures to encourage staff and visitors to travel by public transport are as follows:
- ▶ Staff will be provided with Travel Welcome Packs containing timetables and route maps for local bus and rail services, the location of the nearest bus stops and national rail stations as well as the contact details for all local public transport operators;

- ▶ Web links to the Traveline (<http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk>) and National Rail (<http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>) journey planner websites will be included in the Travel Welcome Packs; and
- ▶ Local timetables, routes served and the location of the nearest bus stops and rail station will be affixed to the notice boards in public areas so that they are visible to visitors.

Taxis

- 3.7 Taxis have an important role when other modes of transport may not be available. Details of local taxi operators will therefore be included in the Travel Welcome Packs and on notice boards.

4.0 Summary and Conclusions

- 4.1 This Travel Plan Statement (TPS) has been prepared by Motion on behalf of Caldwell & Beling Limited in relation to a proposed extension to Merok House Care Home, New Brighton Road, Emsworth.
- 4.2 The purpose of the TPS is to provide a strategy for encouraging staff and visitors to reduce their dependency on travelling by private car in favour of more sustainable modes such as public transport, walking and cycling for all journey purposes.
- 4.3 This TPS demonstrates that:
- ▶ The site is highly accessible by a range of public transport modes, including by bus and rail;
 - ▶ The surrounding highway network offers good facilities for cyclists and pedestrians;
 - ▶ The proposed development incorporates a number of 'hard' measures to encourage travel by non-private car;
 - ▶ A significant proportion of the existing staff live locally and already travel to the site by sustainable modes of transport
 - ▶ Staff and visitors will be provided with information regarding local transport facilities and walking/cycling routes.
- 4.4 It is apparent that the development is in a highly sustainable location, accessible by a range of non-car modes. With this in mind, and following the implementation of the proposed measures, it is considered that the objective for a development with a low dependency on the private car will be achieved.