



McCormack House, 56A East Street, Havant, PO9 1BS

I am writing in response to your consultation regarding planning application APP/23/00996 for McCormack House. I wish to express significant concerns about the suggestion to explore using Grove Road for access to the proposed school site.

There are several critical issues that render this proposal unsuitable:

1. Historical context: The 1981 planning consent for McCormack House explicitly prohibits vehicular access via Grove Road. This restriction was implemented for valid reasons that remain pertinent today.
2. Safety concerns: The rear entrance on Grove Road is adjacent to paths frequented by vulnerable road users, including school children, pedestrians, mobility scooter users and cyclists. Introducing substantial taxi traffic to this area would create unacceptable safety risks.
3. Traffic volume: Conservative estimates suggest this proposal could generate up to 240 additional taxi journeys per school day, equating to over 45,000 annual vehicle movements on a residential street ill-equipped and never designed for such an increase.
4. Infrastructure limitations: Grove Road lacks suitable waiting areas for taxis, with limited parking and extensive double yellow lines. This would likely result in queues extending to Town Hall Road and its junction with Emsworth Road, exacerbating existing peak-hour congestion. Driveways on Grove Road are already subject to blocking during peak times.
5. Environmental impact: The concentration of idling taxis during drop-offs and pick-ups would significantly increase local air pollution, contradicting efforts to improve urban air quality.
6. Wider traffic implications: The proposal would have knock-on effects for Lower Grove Road, Orchard Road, and South Street, particularly during events that disrupt normal parking patterns.
7. Policy inconsistency: This suggestion appears to contradict Hampshire County Council's own transport policies, which aim to reduce traffic and promote sustainable travel options.
8. Practical unfeasibility: The lack of suitable waiting areas for taxis makes this proposal impractical to implement without causing significant local disruption.

Given these substantial concerns, I strongly urge you to reconsider this aspect of the proposal. It is imperative that alternative solutions are explored that do not compromise the safety, well-being, and daily functioning of our local community.

I look forward to hearing how these issues will be addressed as the planning process moves forward.



