

Havant Borough Council
Heritage Consultation Response

Date – 2/9/26

Officer – Rachael McMurray, Principal Heritage Officer

Application – APP/25/00425

Site Address – Havant Thicket Reservoir Site

Proposal:

Application for approval of all Reserved Matters (siting, scale, external appearance, and landscaping) relating to Phase 4 (Southern Access Road) of the Havant Thicket Reservoir development pursuant to Condition 2 of the S73 consent planning reference APP/24/00312 dated 6th December 2024.

Site / Location

The application site relates to the Havant Thicket Reservoir site, which is located in Havant Thicket, adjacent to Sir George Staunton Country Park and with the Leigh Park Grade II* listed registered park and garden.

Legislation

When assessing the proposal, the following legislation and policy context is taken in consideration.

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Section 16 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 ("1990 Act") requires local planning authorities to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building, its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest when considering whether to grant listed building consent.

Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires planning authorities, when considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires planning authorities, when considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a **Conservation Area**, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character and appearance of that area.

National Planning Policy Framework (revised August 2026)

Chapter 20 of the NPPF relates to the Historic Environment.

Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy 2011 and Allocations Plan 2014)

Policy CS11 – Protecting and Enhancing the Special Environment and Heritage of the Havant Borough

Policy CS16 – High Quality Design

Policy DM20 (Allocations Plan) - Historic Assets

Assessment

This Reserved Matters application relates solely to the detailed design of the approved Southern Access Road. The submitted details show a reduction in the road width from the originally approved dual carriageway arrangement to a predominantly single carriageway route with passing places, reducing its overall footprint and associated visual impact. The scheme incorporates native hedgerow planting, additional tree and scrub planting, and landscape measures intended to integrate the road into its surroundings and maintain the rural character of the area.

The supporting statement confirms that the design has been developed in accordance with the approved Development Specification, including the requirement that development should be sympathetic to the historic park and garden landscape and its setting.

Given that the principle of the access road has already been established, and having regard to the proposed landscaping and reduction in scale from the originally approved indicative design, it is not considered that the Reserved Matters details would result in additional harm to the significance or setting of nearby heritage assets beyond that previously assessed through the approved reservoir scheme.

Conclusion

Having regard to Chapter 20 of the NPPF and Policies CS11, DM13 and DM14 of the Havant development plan, no heritage objection is raised. The submitted Reserved Matters details are not considered to result in harm to the significance of nearby designated heritage assets, including the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden at Sir George Staunton Country Park, and are acceptable from a conservation perspective.

NO OBJECTION