



Developments Affecting Trunk Roads and Special Roads

Highways England Planning Response (HEPR 16-01)

Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Martin Fellows
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To: Cherwell District Council

CC: transportplanning@dft.gsi.gov.uk
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Council's Reference: 18/00825/HYBRID

Referring to the planning application referenced above, dated 17 May 2018, application for up to 1,175 new dwellings, 60 close care dwellings, 929 m2 of retail, a new medical centre, 35,175 m2 of new employment buildings, 2.4 ha site for a new school, 925 m2 of community use buildings, 515 m2 of indoor sports, observation tower with ancillary visitor facilities of up to 100 m2, 1,000 m2 energy facility/infrastructure, 2,520 m2 additional education facilities, creation of areas of Open Space, Sports Facilities, Public Park and other green infrastructure; change of Use of various buildings and areas for employment use, filming and heritage activities, education use, car processing, and associated infrastructure works, Heyford Park, Camp Road Upper Heyford Bicester OX25 5HD, notice is hereby given that Highways England's formal recommendation is that we:

- ~~a) offer no objection;~~
- ~~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 ~~is~~ is not relevant to this application.¹

This represents Highways England formal recommendation and is copied to the Department for Transport as per the terms of our Licence.

Should you disagree with this recommendation you should consult the Secretary of State for Transport, as per the Town and Country Planning (Development Affecting Trunk Roads) Direction 2018, via transportplanning@dft.gsi.gov.uk.

Signature: 	Date: 6 November 2018
Name: Shamsul Hoque	Position: Spatial Planning Manager
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Annex A **Highways England recommended further assessment required**

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND has 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 response represents our formal recommendations with regards to 18/00825/HYBRID and has been prepared by Shamsul Hoque.

The proposed next phase of the Heyford Park development comprises 1175 new dwellings along with almost 50,000sqm of commercial, transport and community infrastructure. It forms part of the larger proposals for a new community part of which is already built out. The former military base site is near to the M40, approximately 1 mile west of junction 10. As such it is likely to have a significant impact on the SRN.

¹ Where relevant, further information will be provided within Annex A.

The promoters of this development, Dorchester Living Ltd, have, through their transport consultants Peter Brett Associates (PBA), involved us in extensive pre-application discussions alongside Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

Since our last response dated 25th September 2018, PBA have undertaken detailed transport modelling to determine the scale of impacts on both the SRN and local highway network. PBA have continued discussing with us various mitigation proposals aimed at addressing those SRN impacts.

It was noticed that if one mitigation proposal could bring lesser traffic impact on SRN, while the same time the local roads may experience long traffic queues and vice versa. While the possible best mitigation scheme shows both the benefits and costs are disproportionate to the proposed development.

Currently, we understand that to reach a conclusion satisfactory to all parties more time may be needed to further refine modelling and the development of mitigation measures. Therefore, we recommend that the application is not determined before **21st December 2018**. This should hopefully allow the applicant's team time to complete their work and for us to review it.