

National Highways Planning Response (NHPR 21-09) Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Martin Fellows (Regional Director)
Operations Directorate
East Region
National Highways
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To: The Planning Inspectorate FAO, Major Casework Team

CC: transportplanning@dft.gov.uk
spatialplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk

Council's Reference: S62A/2022/0014

National Highways Ref: 96975

Location: Land west of Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden.

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of up to 170 dwellings with access from Thaxted Road with all other matters reserved.

Referring to the consultation on a planning application dated 08 December 2022, referenced above, in the vicinity of the M11, that forms part of the Strategic Road Network, notice is hereby given that National Highways' formal recommendation is that we:

- a) offer no objection (see reasons at Annex A);
- ~~b) recommend that conditions should be attached to any planning permission that may be granted (see Annex A – National Highways recommended Planning Conditions & reasons);~~
- ~~c) recommend that planning permission not be granted for a specified period (see reasons at Annex A);~~
- ~~d) recommend that the application be refused (see reasons at Annex A)~~

Highways Act 1980 Section 175B is/is not relevant to this application.¹

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

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

Should the Local Planning Authority not propose to determine the application in accordance with this recommendation they are required to consult the Secretary of State for Transport, as set out in the [Town and Country Planning \(Development Affecting Trunk Roads\) Direction 2018](#), via transportplanning@dft.gov.uk and may not determine the application until the consultation process is complete.

Signature: S. H.	Date: 15 December 2022
Name: Shamsul Hoque	Position: Assistant Spatial Planner
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Annex A National Highway's assessment of the proposed development

National Highways has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as a 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.

The proposed development site is located south of Saffron Walden town. The site lies within the administrative boundary of the Uttlesford District Council (UDC).

We have completed our review of the supporting traffic information provided. The proposed development's vehicular access to the Site will be from the B184 Thaxted Road, part of the local road network. Our interest lies in any impact on the safe operation of the Strategic Road Network. With respect to this proposed site access, we do not have any comments.

Due to the proposed site location which is remote from the nearest Strategic Road Network (SRN), any traffic generation from this future development would be diluted before reaching the nearest SRN. Therefore, there is unlikely to have any severe impact on the Strategic Road Network.

Consequently, National Highways offers no objection to this application.