

## 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  
[REDACTED]

To: The Planning Inspectorate  
FAO, Major Casework Team

CC: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Council's Reference:** S62A/22/0005

**National Highways Ref:** 96670

**Location:** Canfield Moat, High Cross Lane West, Little Canfield, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1TD.

**Proposal:** Full planning application proposing the erection of 15 new dwellings.

Referring to the consultation on a planning application dated 08 November 2022, referenced above, in the vicinity of the A120, 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.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Where relevant, further information will be provided within Annex A.

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

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 [REDACTED] and may not determine the application until the consultation process is complete.

<b>Signature:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Date:</b> 17 November 2022
<b>Name:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Position:</b> Assistant Spatial Planner
<b>National Highways</b> Woodlands   Manton Lane   Bedford   MK41 7LW	

#### **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 side of Canfield Road B1256, where the nearest SRN junction is between A120 and B1256. The site access will be from the local road network. National Highways' primary interest lies in any impact on the safe operation of the A120, part of the Strategic Road Network.

It is evident that a development of 15 dwellings in this location would fall far short of generating the 30 or so additional two-way trips in the peak hour at the nearest SRN junction, which National Highways typically adopts as a threshold above which a junction capacity model is required in order to quantify its impact. Therefore, even in the context of numerous committed developments in the Great Dunmow and Takeley areas, and the ongoing expansion of Stansted Airport, it is safe to assume that the impact of these additional 15 dwellings would be imperceptible at the nearest SRN junction (the A120/ B1256 Dunmow west junction), some 1.25km to the north-east.

As a matter of principle, we would normally start looking for a developer's Transport Assessment to consider the site's impact at the SRN if it met one of the following criteria:

- It was seen as likely to generate more than 30 additional two-way trips in the peak hour at the nearest SRN junction; or
- It was physically located so close to an SRN junction that traffic entering and leaving the site could affect the safe and free-flowing operation of the SRN junction in question.

With the possibility that the traffic generated by this proposed development at the Canfield Moat site could travel west along the B1256 towards Takeley and Stansted Airport, as well as east towards Dunmow. However, due to the scale and nature of this proposed development, it is unlikely to have any severe impact on the Strategic Road Network.

Therefore, National Highways offers no objection.