National Highways Planning Response (NHPR 24-02)
Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Regional Director, South West Operations Division, National Highways
PlanningSW@nationalhighways.co.uk

To: Wiltshire Council
FAO Lucy Minting

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

Council's Reference: PL/2024/00333

Location: Martha's Down Campsite, Chicklade Road, Hindon, Wiltshire, SP3 6DJ

Proposal: Change of use of the land from a mixed use of agriculture and a temporary recreational camping and caravan site (50 pitches for 60 days) to a mixed use of agriculture and a temporary recreational camping and caravan site (50 pitches between Good Friday Bank Holiday or 1st April (whichever is sooner) and 31st October in any calendar year)

National Highways Ref: NH/24/05348

Referring to the consultation of the planning application referenced above, in the vicinity of the A303 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 not relevant to this application.[1]

[1] 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 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.

The Local Planning Authority must also copy any consultation under the 2018 Direction to Planningsw@nationalhighways.co.uk .

Signature: G Gallacher	**Date:** 11 March 2024
Name: Gaynor Gallacher	**Position:** Assistant Spatial Planner
National Highways: Ash House, Falcon Road, Sowton Ind. Estate, Exeter EX2 7LB	
Email: Gaynor.Gallacher@nationalhighways.co.uk	

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.

We have undertaken a review of the relevant documents supporting the planning application to ensure compliance with the current policies of the Secretary of State as set out in DfT Circular 01/2022 "The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development" and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF. This response represents our formal recommendations with regards to planning application reference PL/2024/00333.

Reasons

The application is seeking consent for the change of use of land to allow for 50 pitches to operate between March and October. The site operates as an existing, established recreational campsite which currently operates for 60 days per year in line with permitted development rights. The application will extend the number of days of operation.

The site has an existing access onto a minor road which connects directly to the A303 via a priority junction at Chicklade (approximately 800m to the north of the site) and links into the surrounding local road network to the south.

Whilst National Highways would not wish to see development which would significantly increase turning movements at the A303 junction, particularly large, towing vehicles, it is considered that the daily number and type of vehicle movements arising from the proposals are unlikely to be materially different to the current permitted use of the site.

We therefore consider that the proposals are unlikely to result in an unacceptable or severe impact on the SRN (in safety or capacity terms) in line with DfT Circular 01/2022 and the NPPF.

Recommendation

National Highways has no objection to the proposed development.

Standing advice to the local planning authority

The Climate Change Committee's 2022 Report to Parliament notes that for the UK to achieve net zero carbon status by 2050, action is needed to support a modal shift away from car travel. The NPPF supports this position, with paragraphs 74 and 109 prescribing that significant development should offer a genuine choice of transport modes, while paragraphs 108 and 114 advise that appropriate opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport should be taken up.

Moreover, the build clever and build efficiently criteria as set out in clause 6.1.4 of

PAS2080 promote the use of low carbon materials and products, innovative design solutions and construction methods to minimise resource consumption.

These considerations should be weighed alongside any relevant Local Plan policies to ensure that planning decisions are in line with the necessary transition to net zero carbon.