



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

From: Nicola Bell (Regional Director, South East)
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To: Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council FAO Case Officer Elizabeth Mugova
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CC: transportplanning@dft.gov.uk
spatialplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk

Council's Reference: 6/2021/3052/ADV

Location: Luna Student Accommodation 301 St Albans Rd, Hatfield AL10 9RH

Proposal: Installation of three internally illuminated hanging signs

National Highways Ref: #15455 / 93350

Referring to the consultation on a planning application dated 26 November 2021 referenced above, in the vicinity of the A1(M) 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.

	Date: 03/12/2021
Name: Janice Burgess	Position: 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.

Statement of Reasons

National Highways' interests relate to the operation and safety of the SRN, and in proximity to the proposed site, this includes the A1(M). We are interested as to whether there would be any adverse safety implications or material increase in queues and delays on the SRN because of this proposal.

We have reviewed the planning application documents which are available on the portal and believe this proposal would be unlikely impact the safety, reliability and / or operation of the SRN. This is because the proposed illuminated signage is unlikely to be visible from the A1(M) due to the difference in grade, the distance from the site and the dense vegetation and buildings present. The proposals are also unlikely to have any impact on traffic levels due to the nature of the development.