



Mark Youngman  
Development Management Group Manager  
Hertfordshire County Council  
Postal Point CH0242  
County Hall  
Pegs Lane  
Hertford  
SG13 8DE

## **Response to Planning application from Hertfordshire County Council (T and CP GDP Order 2015)**

### **Director of Planning**

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
The Campus  
Welwyn Garden City  
Hertfordshire  
AL8 6AW

District ref: 6/2023/1574/FULL  
HCC ref: WH/17726/2023  
HCC received: 1 August 2023  
Area manager: Manjinder Sehmi  
Case officer: Sarah Forty

### **Location**

2 Mulberry Mead Hatfield AL10 9EN

### **Application type**

Full Application

### **Proposal**

Formation of a drop kerb to the rear of the site, with the addition of 3 parking bays to provide additional parking for a C2 Childcare home

### **Recommendation**

Notice is given under article 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 that Hertfordshire County Council as Highway Authority recommends that permission be refused for the following reason:

The proposed access arrangements are not in accordance with Hertfordshire County Council specifications as documented in Roads in Hertfordshire; Highway Design Guide and has the potential to interfere with the free and safe flow of highway users on the adjacent highway. The proposals are therefore contrary to policy guidelines as outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP4).

### **Comments/Analysis**

#### **Description of Proposal**

Formation of a dropped kerb to the rear of the site, with the addition of 3 parking bays

#### **Site and Surroundings**

Mulberry Mead is an unclassified local access route subject to a 30mph speed limit which is highway maintainable at public expense. The site is located in the north-western corner of Hatfield.

## **Highway Impact**

The application proposes to create a dropped kerb at the site to facilitate additional onsite parking. However, although not clearly shown on the proposed plans, there is already a dropped kerb at the site which serves the existing garage. In accordance with the Residential Dropped Kerbs Policy, secondary accesses are not acceptable as they are an additional area of conflict between highway users, giving priority to vehicles crossing the footway and interrupting the highway user hierarchy outlined in Policy 1 of LTP4. Additionally, the proposed dropped kerb would be considered oversized for use by a single house; a 7.2m dropped kerb would only be suitable when serving multiple dwellings as outlined in Roads in Hertfordshire. Drawing number UK2201-TD-A-102 shows the depth of the parking area to be 4.8m, whilst within the new Residential Dropped Kerbs Policy, the depth of a hardstanding must be a minimum of 5m to allow for a modern vehicle to park and not overhang the footway.

## **Conclusion**

HCC as the Highway Authority have reviewed the supporting documents and drawings and wishes to raise an objection to the application. This is due to the proposals being contrary to the design standards contained in Roads in Hertfordshire: Highways Design Guide and Manual for Streets, and infringing upon Policies 1 and 5 in the Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP4) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

## **Signed**

Sarah Forty

21 August 2023