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## 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: 6/2024/1804/FULL  
HCC ref: WH/22490/2024  
HCC received: 1 October 2024  
Area manager: Manjinder Sehmi  
Case officer: Shamsul Huda

### Location

15 RCCG Fountain of Life Howardsgate Welwyn Garden City AL8 6AL

### Application type

Full Application

### Proposal

Change of use of first & second floors from a church, education and community use (Use of Class F1) to function rooms (Use Class F2)

### 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 does not wish to restrict the grant of permission.

### Highway Informative:

AN) Storage of materials: The applicant is advised that the storage of materials associated with the construction of this development should be provided within the site on land which is not public highway, and the use of such areas must not interfere with the public highway. If this is not possible, authorisation should be sought from the Highway Authority before construction works commence. Further information is available via the County Council website at: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/business-and-developer-information/business-licences/business-licences.aspx> or by telephoning 0300 1234047.

AN) Obstruction of highway: It is an offence under section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 for any person, without lawful authority or excuse, in any way to wilfully obstruct the free passage along a highway or public right of way. If this development is likely to result in the public highway or public right of way network becoming routinely blocked (fully or partly) the applicant must contact the

Highway Authority to obtain their permission and requirements before construction works commence. Further information is available via the County Council website at: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/business-and-developer-information/business-licences/business-licences.aspx> or by telephoning 0300 1234047.

AN) Debris and deposits on the highway: It is an offence under section 148 of the Highways Act 1980 to deposit compost, dung or other material for dressing land, or any rubbish on a made up carriageway, or any or other debris on a highway to the interruption of any highway user. Section 149 of the same Act gives the Highway Authority powers to remove such material at the expense of the party responsible. Therefore, best practical means shall be taken at all times to ensure that all vehicles leaving the site during construction of the development and use thereafter are in a condition such as not to emit dust or deposit mud, slurry or other debris on the highway. Further information is available by telephoning 0300 1234047.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Key policy documents used to assess the applications are.

- National Planning Policy Framework (Dec 2023)
- Hertfordshire County Council's (HCC) Local Transport Plan-4 [2018-2031, May2018]
- HCC's Place & Movement Planning Design Guidance adopted in March 2024
- WH Local Planning policy [2016-2036]
- WH Supplementary Planning Guidance -parking standards 2004
- WH Parking Strategy 2020-2023

The application is to change of use of first & second floors from a church, education, and community use (Use of Class F1) to function rooms (Use Class F2).

The applicant provides a set of documents including proposed and exiting drawings. Upon checking the submitted documents, I can confirm that the proposed site location sits within heart of WGC Town Centre at Howardsgate. No changes are proposed to the existing access or parking arrangement.

In summary, the Hertfordshire County Council as the Highway Authority has considered that the development is small in scale and would not have unacceptable impacts on the adjoining highway network. Hence, no objection is recommended to the proposal.

**Signed**

Shamsul Huda

22 October 2024