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## Note

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*To:* County Planning – Katie Snell  
*From:* Highways Development Planning – Tim Wall  
*Our Reference:* TW/6/3/5/MIN (3181)  
*Copies to:*  
*Date:* 29 May 2012

*Subject:* **WRE056 – HCC 2012/0135 – Harestock Infant School,  
Bramshaw Close, Winchester**

Thank you for your consultation on the current planning application at the above site. The application is to supply, deliver and erect one double modular temporary classroom to provide two extra general teaching spaces. The proposal responds to an increase in local pupil demand, and is required to be in place prior to the start of the 2012 academic year.

Harestock Primary School is an existing school which provides primary education to around 250 pupils. The school is located within a residential area with good opportunities to access the school on foot. The school catchment principally includes the Harestock Estate, the village of Littleton and the northern part of the Weeke Estate. The School Travel Plan identified that around 83% of pupils walk to school, with the remainder being driven to school. The proposed development is likely to result in an additional 60 pupils travelling to the site. It is likely therefore that the majority of additional pupils that access the school will travel to school on foot. There will however be a proportion of pupils which are driven to school.

There are currently 11 full-time employees at the school site, and 15 part-time employees (a total of 16 FTEs). The proposed development will increase the level of staff at the school by 2 further full-time employees. The Travel Plan carried out in 2010 identified that 88% of staff travel to the site by car, with 12% walking to school. This accounts for both full-time and part-time staff.

The proposal to deliver a new temporary modular classroom does not propose any increase in the number of car parking spaces provided on-site. There are currently 9 car parking spaces on site, of which 1 is provided for use by disabled people. No information has been supplied with the application to identify the current level of parking demand on site, nor to reconcile existing arrangements with the adopted car parking standards. It is considered likely however that current parking provision on-site is significantly below the current parking standard and at the time of a site visit all 9 car parking spaces

on the school site were fully occupied, and in addition 3 cars were informally parked upon verges within the school site.

Immediately outside of the school site there is a parking area on Bramshaw Close which provides parking opportunities for around 15 further cars, and the School Travel Plan notes that staff members regularly park in this area. This additional parking area was also fully utilised at the time of a site visit with no spare spaces. In addition, Bramshaw Close was heavily parked with vehicles.

Accident statistics for the latest 5 year period have been obtained which identify one accident occurring at the junction of Bramshaw Close and Bradley Road. No accidents occurred on Bramshaw Close itself, and no accident trends or patterns have been identified.

The proposed development will increase the staff parking demand on the site, with both new staff members likely to drive to the school based on current travel patterns. There is inadequate space on the site to accommodate this additional parking demand. Whilst there is already significant parking locally on Bramshaw Close, bearing in mind the relatively small increase in staff proposed, it is considered that any additional informal parking in this area is unlikely to have a significant or materially impact on road safety in the local area. Similarly, the additional pupil capacity at the school has the potential to increase existing pressures along Bramshaw Close during school pick-up and drop-off times. Bearing in mind the propensity of pupils to access the school on foot, the number of new car trips will however be relatively small with 10 pupils likely to be driven to school. This level of additional demand will be unlikely to significantly worsen the existing conditions on Bramshaw Close.

The existing School Travel Plan should be reviewed and updated to accommodate the increase in pupils and to ensure the traffic impact is minimised. This updated travel plan should include ongoing assessment of parking issues on Bramshaw Close, and should explore opportunities for improvement.

No information has been supplied with the application to set out how the classrooms will be constructed or at what time of the year. If the classrooms are not to be constructed during a school holiday period then adequate measures should be put in place to ensure that safety of the site during the construction period, and any vehicle movements and deliveries restricted to times outside of school pick-up and drop-off. This should be conditioned.

### **Recommendation**

The application includes very little information, and does not provide adequate information to enable the proposals to be considered against current policies, particularly relating to parking.

Whilst the impact of additional staff parking demand is relatively low and is unlikely to materially impact on road safety, with informal parking opportunities available on local roads, the increased parking demand will place pressure on

existing facilities which appear to operate close to capacity. It is recommended that the school consider opportunities on-site to provide additional parking, or to formalise existing informal parking on the site. This should be considered further through a review of the Travel Plan.

### **Recommendation**

I raise **no objections** to the current planning application from a highways and transportation perspective.

Within three months of occupation of the development a review of the School Travel Plan should be undertaken to include measures to address the additional trips to be made as a result of the permitted development. This review shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and once approved shall be thereafter implemented.

Reason: *To minimise congestion and parking on the highway*

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me.