

Our ref: Q080473
Your ref: Call for Sites Response
Email: [REDACTED]
Date: 25th March 2019



South Cambridgeshire District Council Planning Services
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge
CB23 6EA

For the attention of Stephen Kelly

Dear Mr. Kelly,

Greater Cambridge Local Plan – Call for sites

Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton, CB10 1SA

On behalf of Wellcome we enclose our response to the Call for Sites. The response is provided electronically only.

The Wellcome Genome Campus is home to world leading research institutes, the Wellcome Sanger Institute and the EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute, whose ground breaking research in genomics and computational biology have delivered scientific insights which have changed the course of biology and medicine. The proposed development would build upon this work and support Government objectives to grow UK's Science and Innovation capabilities, including in research and translation, and through its contribution to life sciences. It represents an opportunity of national and international importance by helping to enhance the UK's status as a global leader in genomics and bio-data.

Life sciences, and genomics and biodata in particular, are central to the delivery of the Industrial Strategy, which underpins the Government's plans for a positive future for the UK economy.

The Government's Life Science Sector Deal 2, was published this week and included further commitments to investment to support the Industrial Strategy. It makes a world-first commitment to sequence one million whole genomes in the UK within the next five years including 500,000 through the NHS in addition to the 500,000 in the UK Biobank project. The existing Campus is central to this work. The deal has a wider ambition to make the UK the home of genomic healthcare. The campus expansion plans are intended to help achieve this ambition.

The Wellcome Genome Campus has now built out of almost all of the floor area that has already been granted planning permission. It will be at risk from global competition if it cannot continue to offer new opportunities for life changing scientific research.

An outline planning application was therefore submitted in December 2018 to provide for the growth needed for the Campus. With this planning application approved, the Wellcome Genome Campus would be well placed to compete in the global market, to attract major internationally footloose investment and talent as well as to continue to offer important opportunities for translation and innovation.

This Call for Sites response is consistent with the proposals set out within the planning application and puts forward a masterplan that sets a development framework for a 21st century living and working research



community, the only single focus genomics and bio-data science campus in the world. It would have an unparalleled concentration of genomics and bio-data expertise set within an attractive liveable place of the highest quality, an exemplary environment for healthy living and working. In turn, it would enable more opportunities for interactions and collaborations to support innovation.

It is estimated the development would create circa 4,300 net additional jobs on site and, taking into account displacement and multiplier effects, up to 9,750 net additional jobs across the district, and 11,700 across the UK.

The proposed development also seeks to support the creation of more localised benefits, including the following:

- the provision of up to 1,500 new homes would support Campus workers with high quality accommodation and shorter commutes, in turn contributing to the sustainability of the Campus in the long-term, and reducing pressure on the local housing market;
- the capacity to provide social infrastructure, working closely with local providers to ensure complementary delivery of education, health, community and leisure facilities; and
- the early delivery of publicly accessible open space and landscape planting to extend the current beautiful and biodiverse environment of the campus and minimise and mitigate any potential landscape and visual impacts prior to the delivery of buildings on site. This will provide a well-managed net gain in ecological and woodland areas, and create high quality open spaces, including children's play space and outdoor sports provision.

Enclosures

Accompanying this letter are the following:

- a Site location plan identifying the land in question, along with the wider land holdings of the Wellcome Trust;
- Parameter Plans identifying the extent of developable land, site access proposals and improvements to the A1301;
- The Case for Growth;
- The Environmental Statement Non Technical Summary;
- Chapter 18 (Socio-economic assessment) of Volume I of the ES;
- Transport Assessment; and
- Foul Water and Utilities Assessment.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Yours sincerely,



Matthew Sharpe
Director

cc. [REDACTED], Wellcome