

My ref: SP/AIR/147

Your ref:

Date: 10 December 2021

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Place & Economy

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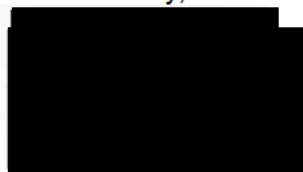
Dear Sir or Madam,

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), as Highway Authority, would like to submit this letter of support in conjunction with CCC's submission to the Greater Cambridge Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation for the allocation of land adjacent to Buckingham Business Park (reference 40191) for the purposes of a joint highways depot. If allocated, the proposal will be to build a new fit for purpose facility with other public sector partners. The site may also provide an opportunity to provide a recycling centre.

Allocation of this land would allow CCC Highways to improve service delivery as it is well located for its operational requirements, with excellent direct transport links. CCC has had discussions with Highways England to access the site directly from the A1307 and will continue to pursue this further. The nature of the proposed use ideally suits the rural/industrial location away from more sensitive uses such as residential. The detailed design of the site can take into account the adjacent Water Treatments Site and can locate compatible functions closer to that facility. The site would reduce CCC's carbon footprint in the delivery of its services by reducing lengths of journeys and would allow CCC Highways to co-locate with its supply chain partners providing better communication, and improved efficient and effective working practices.

The allocation of this site would allow the release of the current Whittlesford Depot Site (reference 40165) which is located within the Whittlesford Opportunity Area. Whittlesford Depot is located within a semi-residential area of Whittlesford just off the A505. This location is not easily accessible during peak usage of the A505 which impacts on CCC's ability to efficiently treat the network. The size of this site is not fit for operation highways purposes as it is too small, especially for winter gritting and storage. The buildings on site are towards the end of their economic life, are not fit for purpose for modern working practices and require substantial investment. There is not capacity to expand the site or redesign the site to treat existing deficiencies.

Yours sincerely,



Sue Procter

Service Director, Highways & Transport