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

Director of Planning

North Hertfordshire Council
Council Offices
Gernon Road
Letchworth Garden City
Hertfordshire
SG6 3JF

District ref: 26/01831/FP
HCC ref: NH/30090/2026
HCC received: 14 August 2026
Area manager: Manjinder Sehmi
Case officer: Paul Marshall

Location

Land South Of 1, Arnold Close, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 0QQ

Application type

Full Application

Proposal

Full Planning Permission : Erection of one 3-bed attached dwelling and creation of two car parking spaces including dropped kerb on land opposite

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 subject to the following conditions:

CON1) Prior to the first commencement of the development hereby permitted, a plan for cycle storage is to be provided and be designed in line with design standards contained in Chapter 11 of the Cycle Infrastructure Design' DfT Local Transport Note 1/20 (July 2020). Prior to first occupation the approved design shall be fully implemented and thereafter retained for this purpose.

Reason: To ensure the provision of adequate cycle parking that meets the needs of occupiers of the proposed development and in the interests of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport in accordance with Policies 1, 5 and 8 of Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan (adopted 2018)

CON2) Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted the proposed access parking bays shall be implemented in accordance with the approved drawing number 101 Rev E and retained thereafter available for that specific use.

Reason: To ensure construction of a satisfactory development and in the interests of highway safety in accordance with Policy 5 of Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan (adopted 2018).

CON3) Construction of the approved development shall not commence until a Construction Management Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority in consultation with the highway authority. Thereafter the construction of the development shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved Plan. The Construction Traffic Management Plan shall include construction vehicle numbers/routing of construction traffic and shall be carried out as approved.

The Construction Management Plan of:

Construction and storage compounds (including areas designated for car parking, loading / unloading and turning areas);

Siting and details of wheel washing facilities;

Cleaning of site entrances, site tracks and the adjacent public highway;

Timing of construction activities (including delivery times and removal of waste) and to avoid school pick up/drop off times;

Provision of sufficient on-site parking prior to commencement of construction activities; where works cannot be contained wholly within the site a plan should be submitted showing the site layout on the highway including extent of hoarding, pedestrian routes and remaining road width for vehicle movements.

Reason: In order to protect highway safety and the amenity of other users of the public highway and rights of way in accordance with Policies 5, 12, 17 and 22 of Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan

HCC as Highway Authority recommends inclusion of the following Advisory Note (AN) to ensure that any works within the highway are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Highway Act 1980.

AN1) 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.

AN2) 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.

AN3) 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.

AN4) Gravel / shingle driveways: Where loose gravel or shingle is used, a suitable measure to prevent material spilling onto the road/footpath/verge must be installed. It is an offence under section 148 of the Highways Act 1980 to deposit debris onto the public highway, and section 149 of the same Act gives the Highway Authority powers to remove such material at the expense of the party responsible. Further information is available by telephoning 0300 1234047.

AN5) Avoidance of surface water discharge onto the highway: The applicant is advised that the Highway Authority has powers under section 163 of the Highways Act 1980, to take appropriate steps where deemed necessary (serving notice to the occupier of premises adjoining a highway) to prevent water from the roof or other part of the premises falling upon persons using the highway, or to prevent so far as is reasonably practicable, surface water from the premises flowing on to, or over the footway of the highway.

COMMENTS

The proposals are for Full Planning Permission: Erection of one 3-bed attached dwelling and creation of two car parking spaces including dropped kerb on land opposite

Context:

Arnold Close is an unclassified local access road and is highway maintainable at public expense. A 30mph speed limit applies. on HCC's Place and Movement network, Shephall View is classed as P2/M1 (Residential Street). No reportable highway accidents recorded within the immediate vicinity of the application site (5-year rolling). No Public Right of Way (as shown on the Public Rights of Way map) directly affects the site or would be affected by the proposal. The county council considers Shephall View not to be a traffic sensitive road.

Policy Review:

The key documents used to assess the application are

- Manual for Streets 2007
- National Planning Policy Framework (July 2021)
- Hertfordshire County Council's (HCC) Local Transport Plan-4 [2018-2031, May2018]
- Cycle Infrastructure Design Guidance (Department for Transport Local Transport Note July 2020)
- Hertfordshire County Council's Place & Movement Planning Design Guidance (adopted in March 2024)

PLANNING HISTORY

The application site has previous planning history.

DRAWINGS

The Highway Authority note the submission of materials in support of the planning application, including drawing numbers: 101 Rev E, 102 Rev A, HSLP1, and Design & Access Statement

ACCESSIBILITY

WALKING

Arnold Close is within easy walking distance of Hitchin Town Centre, rail station, shops and amenities.

'Cycle Infrastructure Design' DfT Local Transport Note 1/20 (July 2020) recommends for cycle parking storage should be 2m (1.8m is acceptable) in length by 0.3m space between cycles. There should be parking for 1 cycle per dwelling. Outside cycle parking should be covered and lockable. The provision of well-located, safe and secure cycle parking for residents and visitors is a key factor in encouraging people to cycle as an alternative to using the private car. There does not appear to be cycling storage proposed. Please see Condition 1 above.

PARKING

It is proposed to install two parking bays on Arnold Close drawing 101 Rev E illustrates the bays as 5.0m x 2.4m. These do not comply with Hertfordshire County Council's Place & Movement Planning Design Guidance (adopted in March 2024) P&MPDG Part 4 Chapter 6 Table 11.9. The parking bays should be 2.5m x 5.0m. Please see Condition 2 above.

VISIBILITY

The site demonstrates acceptable levels of vehicle-to-vehicle inter-visibility and pedestrian visibility and accords with the principles set out in Hertfordshire's Place and Movement Planning Design Guide, Part 4, Chapter 6, Section 18.1 (Page 70). Visibility is considered sufficient for vehicles and pedestrians using Arnold Close parking area

EMERGENCY ACCESS

Consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (2023), paragraph 116 (d), applications for development should allow for access by emergency vehicles. Guidance is set out in Manual for Streets (MfS) (6.7.2). HCC's Place and Movement Planning Design Guide (P&MPDG) (Part 2 Chapter 4). Requirements are set out in the Building Regulations: Fire Safety Approved Document B, Vol 1, Dwellings, 2010 (as subsequently amended). Access for a pumping appliance should be provided to within 45m of a single dwelling house (and within 45m of all points within the dwelling house). As far as it can be reasonably ascertained from submitted plans, the proposed development would be within the recommended emergency vehicle access distance from the highway.

REFUSE / RECYCLING

The proposals for recycling bin storage must be in line with Manual for Streets MfS 6.8.9 residents should not be required to carry waste more than 30m and be within 25m of the kerbside/bin collection point.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP)

It is important that a CMS is provided considering the nature of the site Facing St Michaels Road The statement must have or be shown as a drawing of the construction site and the dedicated areas within. These should include but not limited to, construction parking area, wheel washing, and storage area. Please see Condition 3 above.

CONCLUSION

Should the LPA be minded to approve the application please note the above conditions and informatives. This level of development is unlikely to generate any extra movements which would ultimately lead to demonstrable harm to the highway network in terms of free flow and capacity, therefore; the highway authority would not wish to restrict the grant of planning permission.

Signed

Paul Marshall

26 August 2026