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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: 25/01947/FP
HCC ref: NH/26213/2025
HCC received: 13 March 2026
Area manager: Manjinder Sehmi
Case officer: Shamsul Huda

Location

Land South Of A507 Near Cumberlow Green, Clothall Road, Clothall, Hertfordshire

Application type

Full Application

Proposal

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Full Planning Permission : Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), ground mounted solar farm, associated infrastructure, access and landscaping

Recommendation

OTHER

Amended Highway Comments:

A Highway Technical Note (HTN) has been submitted in response to the Highway comments provided on 26/09/2025, Please see the following further comments.

Access Points

The revised drawing (Ref: AMA□23064□SK□001□3.3 P07) indicates a primary site access arrangement that remains unsupported by the Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (RSA). The Highway Authority considers the proposed access location and design to be substandard when assessed against the scale of the proposed development and its forecast traffic generation. In this context, the Highway Authority would be amenable to considering the relocation of the existing access further south onto Cromer Heath, where a safe and secure primary site access could be more appropriately accommodated.

Visibility Splays

The visibility splays shown on the submitted drawing are unclear and difficult to interpret. The applicant is advised to revise the drawings to present the visibility splays clearly and accurately, in accordance with standard highway design guidance, to allow for proper assessment.

A507 Narrow Section

The proposed temporary traffic management measures associated with the A507 narrow section are unacceptable in the absence of sufficient detail. The lack of clarity regarding the duration, layout, and design of the temporary arrangements, as well as their approval status with the Highway Network Management Team, prevents meaningful assessment. The applicant is therefore advised to submit full details of the proposed temporary traffic management for review and approval in advance.

Temporary Highway Signage

It is noted that the provision of temporary highway signage is proposed to be addressed at the detailed design stage. However, the Highway Authority considers that the details of all temporary signage should be included as part of the Construction Traffic Management Plan and submitted at this stage for thorough review. This is necessary to identify and mitigate any foreseeable highway safety concerns at an early stage.

In summary, the Highway Authority considers that there are several significant highway safety issues, as outlined above, particularly in relation to the access point, which must be satisfactorily addressed before further comments can be provided.

Signed

Shamsul Huda

24 April 2026