



Active
Travel
England

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Your Ref: 25/02571/OP
Our Ref: ATE/25/01572/OUT
Date: 15 April 2026

Active Travel England Planning Response Detailed Response to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Planning & Development Division, Active Travel England

To: North Hertfordshire District Council

Application Ref: 25/02571/OP

Site Address: BA1(Land East Of North Rd And North Of Railway Line); BA10(Land Between Railway Line And Royston Rd); BA3 (Land West Of A505); BA2 (Land South Of Clothall Rd); Walls Field; Urban Open Land West Of A505, And Land West Of North Rd, Baldock

Description of development: Growing Baldock Development Site: Outline planning application with all matters reserved except for means of highway access into the development from the A505/Royston Road, North Road and Clothall Road for: up to 3,200 homes, up to 16ha of employment, waste and leisure infrastructure, a mixed use local centre, up to 1 secondary school, up to 2 x primary schools, up to 1 SEND school, health hub, green infrastructure (including parks, formal sports provision, play, habitat areas, informal open space and structural planting), internal street network, access junctions and railway crossing, public transport infrastructure, pedestrian/cycle network (including PRow diversions, active travel routes, mobility hubs and crossing of the railway), utilities and drainage infrastructure (including diversions of existing and provision of new infrastructure, pumping stations, sustainable drainage, primary substations, rising main/strategic sewer and renewable energy infrastructure), ground remodelling/earthworks and any necessary demolitions.

Notice is hereby given that Active Travel England's formal recommendation is as follows:

- a. **Deferral:** ATE is not currently in a position to support this application and requests further assessment, evidence, revisions and/or dialogue as set out in this response.

1.0 Background

It is understood that in February 2026, North Hertfordshire Council (NHC) issued a formal request for further information in relation to the Environmental Statement under Regulation 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

The following changes are considered relevant to the prior comments made by Active Travel England (ATE):

- **North Road Gateway and Primary Street Alignment**
- **Additional pedestrian access from North Road**

ATE has reviewed the plans relevant to the above and welcomes the proposed amendments. It is considered that these changes address the issues raised under the *“Development Site Accesses: North Road”* section of ATE’s previous consultation response.

- **Removal of reference to detailed approval for the A505/Royston Road roundabout access into BA1:**

ATE also notes this amendment.

Notwithstanding the above, ATE maintains a position of deferral pending receipt of further responses to the outstanding matters raised in its previous consultation response.