



Fao: Kerry Trueman, Programme Officer at Fareham Borough Council

Re: **Fareham Local Plan – Transport Considerations (March 2022) from Hampshire Chamber of Commerce for the Fareham Borough Council Local Plan Examination Hearing.**

Welborne

- Welborne to all intents and purposes is a green field site reliant primarily on the M27 for its transport access.
- Junction 10 improvements seem to be slipping into the future. Junction works anticipated to start towards the end of 2022 / start of 2023 with a possible 2 year construction period. The Chamber is aware of high demands for commercial land now, with clients being turned away. The current time framework is too late to cater for current commercial land requirements from planned employment allocations.
- If a full junction cannot be funded, can a separate highway access link road be created early in order to release the employment land at Welborne for logistics usage in particular as this is in high demand and few other sites in the south of Hampshire are available? This could be accommodated as part of the first phase of house building at Knowle.
- What sustainable travel options are being developed for Welborne, specifically with the need to link to Fareham and reduce reliance on east - west pressures on the M27? We note the proposed initial bus service to be introduced when the first phase of building is undertaken and hope this will be expanded as further building occurs and kept in place for a minimum 20 years. This should cover all the time period for building Welborne out.
- It would be useful if the proportion of dwellings with capacity for 2 cars upwards is reduced in favour of households with less reliance on cars. This would enable the best support for fledgling services and networks to mature and establish for the long term.
- There needs to be a new walking and pedestrian network provided throughout Welborne to link with the proposed commercial centres, educational centres and public transport hubs to give as much encouragement to ease of use in the future, instead of reliance on car based travel.

- What status is the proposal to include a reopening of Knowle Station Halt to help encourage Welborne residents to use the railways instead of driving? Such a station would help those who wish to commute along the line of the M27 and northwards towards Winchester, Basingstoke and London, instead of adding to an already congested M27 and M3 and back, rat run roads around Wickham and Bishops Waltham.

Daedalus

- What sustainable travel options are being developed for Daedalus as it cannot all rely on the new bypass road for access? This should include a new walking and pedestrian network in the area, plus additional bus services to and from the local residential areas and a living Business Travel Plan for the site.

Fareham Railway Station

- Non-car based access to Fareham Railway station needs to be improved from throughout the Borough.
- Fareham Railway Station is a strategic interchange facility for services traveling east-west and northwards. There should be increased provision of bus services, as well as cycle and pedestrian access from all areas of Fareham.
- Rail improvements are already being considered to the station forecourt and as well as general accessibility. Discussions with Network Rail about making the middle platform into a through platform to ease congestion and increase services on the south coast network have been incorporated into the Solent Continuous Strategic Planning Model and have been submitted to government for consideration. This will encourage additional usage of Fareham Station.
- Further improvements and extensions to the Eclipse bus service between Fareham and Gosport via the railway station must be supported to help reduce traffic congestion in the area.

Fareham Town Centre

- Consideration of removing more car traffic from the centre of Fareham along with increased pedestrianisation, bus lanes and cycleways should be considered to revitalise the town centre and rebuild its economy.

M27

- We are pleased the work on the M27 Smart Motorways has been completed and note that there are no further capacity improvements which can be made to the motorway in south Hampshire.
- Creation of additional Green Field Housing Sites such as Welborne will automatically increase travel demands further afield into Basingstoke, Winchester, Bournemouth, Southampton, Chichester and Portsmouth. This not only contradicts previous

aspirations to make developments self sufficient, but puts strain on an already over-stretched road network.

- We have to consider within a Climate Emergency framework the development and expansion of sustainable transport solution alternatives to meet our economic and housing pressures of the future.

Environment

- Within any commercial development in the Fareham Local Plan there should be increased emphasis on electric vehicle charging points to ensure our logistics and commercial sectors play their part in reducing emissions.



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