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TRANSPORT TECHNICAL NOTE

HOOKE FARM, EFFINGHAM COMMON, EFFINGHAM, SURREY KT24 5JE

**Prepared on behalf of Runnymede Homes** 

**November 2023** 

Reference: P22116 TN/PC

**Introduction and Site Location** 

1 This Transport Technical Note is prepared on behalf of Runnymede Homes (the "Applicant") in relation to their residential development proposals at Hooke Farm,

Effingham Common, Effingham, Surrey KT24 5JE (the "application site"), located within

the administrative authority of Guildford Borough Council (GBC). The location of the site  ${\bf r}$ 

in the context of the local area is shown in Figure 1 overleaf.

2 The site is located an approximate 2.5km travel distance to the northeast of Effingham

village centre and a 1.6km travel distance to the east of East Horsley village centre.

Effingham Junction train station is a 1.2km travel distance to the north. The site is within

an area that is rural in character but interspersed by individually designed dwellings and

farmland. The site is accessed from a single track lane which serves a further dwelling

(Hooke Farm) and associated buildings to the west. To the east of the application site, the

access lane leads to a gated access with a further single track lane referred to a Effingham

Common, some 160 metres to the east of the application site.

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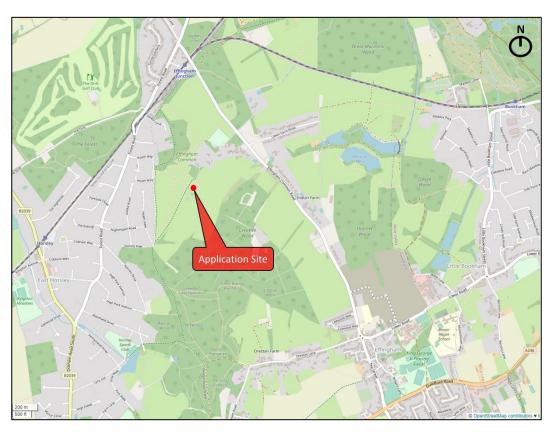


Figure 1: Site Location

- 3 Effingham Common serves predominantly individual dwellings on both sides as well as Effingham Cricket Club some 350m to the northeast of the application site. Effingham Common forms a priority junction with Effingham Common Road some 550 metres to the northeast of the application site.
- 4 Effingham Common Road is straight in alignment at its junction with Effingham Common, with excellent visibility splays in each direction. Effingham Common Road is subject to a 40mph speed limit in the vicinity of Effingham Common.
- Within the application site itself, there are five buildings that are in equestrian and associated storage uses. The site is no longer in full operating capacity, but was formerly in use as DIY livery and stables, providing horse riding lessons, stabling and other equine facilities.



- This report accompanies a full planning application for the demolition of the existing equestrian/storage buildings and the redevelopment of the land to provide a development of two 2-bedroom, single-storey dwellings with associated car parking, cycle parking, landscaping and refuse storage facilities. The dwellings and associated car parking spaces shall be accessed via a central accessway that will continue as a pedestrian-only route through to a wildflower meadow.
- 7 An extract from the proposed site layout plan prepared by Doug Dadswell Architecture is shown in **Figure 2** below.



**Figure 2: Proposed Site Layout Extract** 

## **Recent Site Planning History**

8 In June 2022, a planning application (GBC planning reference 21/P/02609) for the

demolition of the existing buildings and the erection of 5 dwellings on the site was refused

due to four reasons. The first reason for refusal referred to failing to promote sustainable

patterns of transport.

9 Surrey County Council (SCC), as local highway authority, assessed the application on

safety, capacity and policy grounds and raised no objection to the proposals and

recommended the imposition of four planning conditions relating to visibility splay

provision, site layout, Construction Transport Management Plan and electric vehicle

charging points.

10 In August 2021, a Prior Approval application (GBC planning reference 21/W/00080) for

the change of use of a barn to two dwellings was refused for the reason that the barn was

deemed to be in equestrian use and not in agricultural use.

11 The transport and highways impacts of the development were considered by GBC who,

within the Officer's Delegated Report, stated "The proposed development will use an

existing access track to the site. The number of vehicular trips associated with two two-

bedroom properties is not considered to be at a significant level which would have any

adverse impact on the existing situation in this regard. There would be space within the

curtilage of the site to provide parking".

12 SCC, as local highway authority, were consulted and considered "that the proposal is

unlikely to have a material impact on highway safety issues".

13 The proposed scheme therefore represents a reduction of 3 dwellings compared to the

refused scheme and comprises the same number of dwellings to that of a scheme that

has previously been deemed not to have a material impact on capacity or highway safety

issues.



## Accessibility

14 The application site is within a rural location characterised by individually designed

dwellings and farm/agricultural uses. The site is located within the designated Effingham

neighbourhood plan area.

Local amenities within the area include Effingham Cricket Club (350m), Effingham Mini

Mart convenience store (1.2km) and many local amenities and facilities within East

Horsley and Effingham, including restaurants, hot-food takeaways, convenience stores,

hairdressers, library, post office and schools. As the site is within an established rural

location, it is evident that access by car would be the primary mode of travel, although

some day-to-day journeys would clearly be feasible by non-car modes of travel.

Despite its rural location, the site is reasonably accessible by non-car modes of travel.

Effingham Common is lightly-trafficked lane characterised by a shared surface for all

users. Between the site access and Effingham Cricket Club, the lane forms part of Public

Right of Way (PRoW) 548. By definition, a lightly-trafficked, shared surface lane that forms

part of a PRoW would not have a separate footway.

17 It is also worthy of note that the Surrey Design Guide Technical Appendix (now-superseded

by Healthy Streets for Surrey) stated at paragraph 3.3.4 that "streets may be designed

without footways (as Shared Surfaces) where serving up to 50 dwellings or equivalent. In

these situations, where traffic speed is less than 20mph, a segregated facility for

pedestrians is unnecessary".

PRoW 548 connects with a network of PRoWs and footways within the area, details of

which are shown in Figure 3 overleaf.



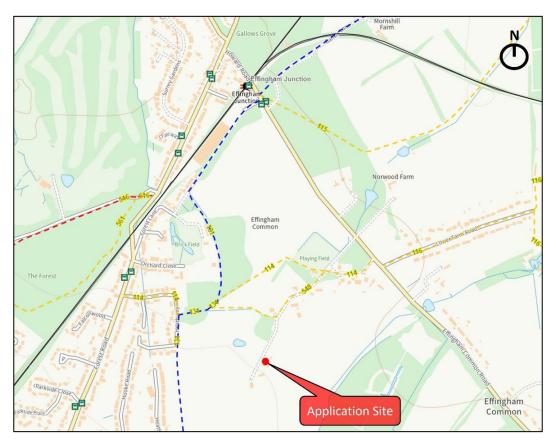


Figure 3: Local PRoWs and Public Transport Facilities (source Surrey Interactive Map © Crown copyright and database rights (2023) OS 100019613)

- A standard width footway is located along the eastern side of the carriageway of Effingham Common Road, separated from the carriageway in places by a grassed verge. This continues to Effingham Junction to the northwest and Effingham to the southeast.
- The nearest bus stops (reference 'Effingham Junction') to the site are located on each side of Effingham Common Road, a short distance to the south of Effingham Junction and a 1.1km walk/cycle (15 minute walk) from the site via Effingham Common Road. These stops provide access to the number 478 bus service which is operated by Reptons Coaches on behalf of Surrey County Council and routes four times per day in each direction between Leatherhead and Guildford bus station, via Leatherhead railway station, Great Bookham, Effingham, Effingham Junction, Horsley railway station, West Horsley, West Clandon and Merow. The service operates Monday to Friday (except public holidays), with no services on a Sunday or on public holidays.



of the site via Effingham Common Road. Effingham Junction station and stopping services are operated by South Western Railway. There are typically three off-peak trains per hour to London Waterloo, of which two route via Cobham and one via Epsom. In the opposing

direction there are typically three off-peak services per hour to Guildford. The typical

Effingham Junction railway station is a 1.2km travel distance (16 minute walk) to the north

journey time between Effingham Junction and London Waterloo is circa 47 minutes.

Between Effingham Junction and Guildford, the typical journey time is 20 minutes.

In relation to rural development, Paragraph 79 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2023 states "To promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing should

be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. Planning

policies should identify opportunities for villages to grow and thrive, especially where this

will support local services. Where there are groups of smaller settlements, development in

one village may support services in a village nearby."

23 Furthermore, Paragraph 105 of the NPPF states that "opportunities to maximise

sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should

be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making."

In summary, the site is located within a rural area, but within the immediate proximity of

other residential dwellings and nearby local amenities and facilities. Effingham Junction

railway station and nearby bus stops are within a 1.2km travel distance to the north which

equates to a 16 minute walk or 4 minute cycle.

25 Advice issued by The Institution of Highways & Transportation (IHT) within 'Guidelines for

providing for journeys on foot' suggests acceptable walking distances for the purpose of

commuting, with 1km being an acceptable walking distance and 2km being the preferred

maximum. The walk distance of 1.2km would therefore evidently be within the range of

acceptability for residents to be able to walk or cycle on a regular basis.

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## **Proposed Development**

The development proposals involve the demolition of the existing equestrian and storage

use buildings, to be replaced with two detached 2-bed residential dwellings with

associated car parking, cycle parking, refuse storage provision and amenity space.

The scheme will retain the existing vehicular access onto the track which forms part of the

application site as well as the adjacent verge along the western side of the track. The verge

is a mix of grassed and gravelled surface and is presently used for presenting refuse bins

for collection and likely visitor car parking. Large vehicles associated with the existing

equestrian use that may need to reverse into the site from the track are also likely to

utilise this land when turning.

The proposed development would make use of the existing access arrangements onto the

access lane. Visibility splays will be improved by the removal of the immediately adjacent

building and the setting back of the Plot 2 dwelling, with the access widened and acting

as a turning area to enable visitors and servicing vehicles to turn around. Swept path

analysis for a car, fire tender and typical delivery vehicle is contained at Appendix A.

29 It was noted from the site visit undertaken on a bin collection day that refuse vehicles will

turn around further along the access track to the west in the proximity of the adjacent

dwelling known as Hooke Farm. Consequently, it is not necessary to overdesign the access

to accommodate the turning manoeuvre of a refuse vehicle as such a manoeuvre will not

take place.

Both dwellings shall be provided with two car parking spaces. Plot 1 shall have external

driveway parking and Plot 2 shall have a partially covered driveway.

Locally adopted parking standards are set out within GBC's Parking Standards for New 31

Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) March 2023. For 2-bed houses

within village and rural locations, the expected provision is 1.5 spaces per unit (for 3-bed

houses the expected provision is 2 spaces per unit). The proposed level of provision is

therefore in accordance with parking standards.

32 With regards to cycle parking, the SPD stipulates a minimum requirement of 1 cycle

parking space per bedroom. Plot 1 shall have sheltered cycle storage provision to the side

of the dwelling and Plot 2 shall have cycle parking provision within the rear of the covered

driveway. Both cycle parking areas shall have capacity for two bicycles, in accordance with

standards.

33 Each dwelling shall have dedicated bin storage space on plot, and it is expected that bins

will be presented at the side of the access lane in advance of collections, in keeping with

the collection arrangements for the adjacent Hooke Farm dwelling and nearby dwellings

along Effingham Common. Bin collection areas alongside the access are indicated on the

proposed site layout plan.

**Trip Generation** 

34 As discussed within paragraphs 10 to 13, the number of vehicular trips associated with

two 2-bedroom properties would not be significant and would not have any adverse

impact in terms of highway safety or capacity issues.

35 With reference to the TRICS database, such a land use would typically generate 5-6 vehicle

movements per dwelling per weekday, with no greater than a typical total of 2 vehicle

movements during the peak hours.

36 The existing site use is not fully operational and therefore it is not possible to undertake

a meaningful traffic count of the existing site.

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There are limited comparable sites within the TRICS database in order for a meaningful 37

trip rate analysis to be undertaken. The most modest yet comparable site (TRICS site

reference WM-16-C-02) is a 1.16ha livery with 2 full time employees and 1 part time

employee. The site generates 20 arrivals and 19 departures during a weekday, with 5-7

movements during the peak hours.

38 It is therefore more than reasonable to conclude that the vehicular trip generation of a

DIY livery and stables, providing horse riding lessons, stabling and other equine facilities

would be expected to generate a higher level of vehicle trips than two 2-bedroom

dwellings during a typical weekday.

**Summary and Conclusions** 

39 The proposed scheme is for two 2-bedroom dwellings which is the same number to that

of a scheme that has previously been deemed by the local planning and highways

authorities not to have a material impact on capacity or highway safety issues.

40 The proposed dwellings would be accompanied by a level of on-site car and cycle parking

provision that is in accordance with locally adopted parking standards. Refuse collection

arrangements will be in keeping with other nearby dwellings along Effingham Common.

41 The proposed scheme largely retains the existing access arrangements, but with

improvements to visibility and manoeuvrability.

42 This note has demonstrated that due consideration has been given to the potential

transport and highways aspects of the proposed scheme and it is considered that the

scheme would be entirely acceptable on transport and highways grounds.

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## **Appendix A:**

**Swept Path Analysis** 

