



National Highways Planning Response (NHPR 21-09) Formal Recommendation to an Application for Planning Permission

From: Amy Williams
Operations Directorate
North West Region
National Highways
PlanningNW@nationalhighways.co.uk

To: Halton Borough Council FAO: Jeff Eaton

CC: transportplanning@dft.gov.uk
spatialplanning@nationalhighways.co.uk

Council's Reference: 23/00018/FUL

National Highways Ref: 97357

Location: The Woodyard, Weaver View, Clifton, Runcorn WA7 4XU

Proposal: Proposed filling station with ancillary convenience store (325 sq m GIA), forecourt with 4, 2-sided, pump islands, canopy, electric vehicle charging points and associated car parking, a drive-thru fast food restaurant (349 sq m GIA)(Use Class E(b)/sui generis hot food takeaway use) with associated car parking, new site access road, new electricity substation, firewall to valve compound and associated works

Referring to the consultation on a planning application dated 19th January 2023 referenced above, in the vicinity of the M56 Junction 12 that forms part of the Strategic Road Network, notice is hereby given that National Highways' formal recommendation is that we:

- a) offer no objection (see reasons at Annex A);
- ~~b) recommend that conditions should be attached to any planning permission that may be granted (see Annex A – National Highways recommended Planning Conditions & reasons);~~
- ~~c) recommend that planning permission not be granted for a specified period (see reasons at Annex A);~~
- ~~d) recommend that the application be refused (see reasons at Annex A)~~

Highways Act 1980 Section 175B is / is not relevant to this application.¹

This represents National Highways' formal recommendation and is copied to the Department for Transport as per the terms of our Licence.

Should the Local Planning Authority not propose to determine the application in accordance with this recommendation they are required to consult the Secretary of State for Transport, as set out in the [Town and Country Planning \(Development Affecting Trunk Roads\) Direction 2018](#), via transportplanning@dft.gov.uk and may not determine the application until the consultation process is complete.

Signature: 	Date: 2 nd August 2023
Name: Benjamin Laverick	Position: Assistant Spatial Planner
National Highways 8th Floor, Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD	

¹ Where relevant, further information will be provided within Annex A.

Annex A ~~National Highways recommended Planning Conditions /
National Highways recommended further assessment required /
National Highways recommended Refusal~~

National Highways does not consider that the proposed development would have an adverse impact on the safety of, or queuing on, a trunk road.

The Climate Change Committee's [2022 Report to Parliament](#) notes that for the UK to achieve net zero carbon status by 2050, action is needed to support a modal shift away from car travel. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) supports this position, with paragraphs 73 and 105 prescribing that significant development should offer a genuine choice of transport modes, while paragraphs 104 and 110 advise that appropriate opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport should be taken up.

Moreover, the *build clever and build efficiently* criteria as set out in clause 6.1.4 of [PAS2080](#) (Carbon Management in Infrastructure) promote the use of low carbon materials and products, innovative design solutions and construction methods to minimise resource consumption.

These considerations should be weighed alongside any relevant Local Plan policies to ensure that planning decisions are in line with the necessary transition to net zero carbon.