

By email only: 46Walsgrave@planninginspectorate.gov.uk The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House Temple Quay Bristol BS1 6PN Please ask for Direct Line E-mail Address Our ref Your ref

@rugby.gov.uk

Date

22 May 2025

TR010066

Dear Sir/Madam

TR010066 - A46 Coventry Junctions (Walgrave) Rugby Borough Council - Local Impact Report

It is not the intention of Rugby Borough Council to submit a detailed local impact report.

A statement of applicable development plan policies is set out in our relevant representations (RR) dated 27 February 2025.

Rugby Borough Council's scrutiny and responses to the proposals to date is summarised in its statement of common ground (SOCG) with National Highways.

As detailed therein, there remains one outstanding matter under discussion which concerns accessibility and integration for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders (WCH). At present accessibility across the A46 for WCH from Coventry to Combe Abbey and Prospero Ansty business park is poor. The A46 Walsgrave scheme presents an opportunity to improve that accessibility.

As set out in the SOCG, Rugby Borough Council seeks improvements to PRoW R75x/R75b together with improved links between Coventry and Coombe Abbey. In lieu of the applicant providing this infrastructure, Rugby Borough Council seeks a Development Consent Obligation agreement to secure funds to enable these upgrades and connections.

We would highlight one further local impact not covered in the SOCG or RR. On 7 May 2025 full planning permission was granted for:

Rugby Borough Council, Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby CV21 2RR Telephone: (01788) 533533 Email: contact.centre@rugby.gov.uk

Creation of an employment-led headquarters campus development, composed of head office and distribution/warehouse facilities, concept research and development retail and leisure (including gym, swimming pool, fitness studio/sports hall, sport pitches and associated facilities), ancillary food and beverage and convenience retail, onsite accommodation including a hotel and group accommodation, learning and development academy (including auditorium and training rooms), supplier offices, nursery, helipad, landscaping and ecological enhancements, site contouring, earth bunds, drainage, surface and multi-storey car parking, cycle parking, access roads, cycleways and footways, permanent ingress/egress points, utility diversions, ancillary buildings and structures, temporary construction ingress/egress, associated infrastructure and works, and demolition of existing buildings/structures.

at Crowner Fields Farm and Home Farm, Hinckley Road (B4065), Ansty, Warwickshire, CV7 9JA (Rugby Borough Council planning reference R23/1027). A site location plan for that development is appended to this letter.

The development permitted by that planning permission comprises the following quanta of floorspace:

| Building/Use | Breakdown (if required) | Gross Internal Area (sqm) |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Office Headquarters and Supplier Hub | | 17,911 m² |
| Concept Retail R & D | (not including F&B, Convenience or Nursery floorspace) | 20,755 m² |
| Nursery | Not inclusive of 105 m ² external play space | 547 m² |
| Learning and Development (L&D) | Auditorium (750 seats) | 823 m² |
| | Services/Back of House/Plant | 591 m² |
| | Training Rooms (10) | 1,223 m ² |
| | Cafe/Foyer | 541 m² |
| L&D Total | | 3,179 m² |
| Hotel | 100 Rooms | 4,311 m ² |
| Food and Beverage | | 592 m² |
| Concept Leisure R & D | Gym | 1,893 m² |
| | Studios | 388 m² |
| | Swimming Pool 25m x 13m (6 lane) | 585 m² |
| | Flexible Fitness Studio/Sports Hall (34.5 x 21.3m - 4 padel courts) | 824 m² |
| | Services/Back of House/Plant | 709 m² |
| | Changing Rooms (wet & dry) | 653 m² |
| Concept Leisure R & D Total | | 5,054 m² |
| Mobility Hub | | 190 m² |
| Convenience Retail | | 369 m² |
| Group Accommodation | 80 units and shared common room space | 2,309 m² |

| Logistics Buildings | Logistics Building 1 | 100,382 m ² |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | Logistics Building 2 | 53,890 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 3 | 23,228 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 4 | 23,264 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 5 | 50,180 m ² |
| Logistics' Buildings Total | | 250,944 m² |
| | Logistics Building 1 Office | 11,953 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 2 Office | 4,125 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 3 Office | 1,743 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 4 Office | 1,747 m ² |
| | Logistics Building 5 Office | 3,876 m ² |
| Logistics' Buildings Offices Total | | 23,444 m² |
| Service/Back of | Including Vehicle Maintenance Unit & | |
| House/Plant Buildings | gatehouses | 943 m² |
| Multi Storey Car Parks | MSCP HQ | 16,568 m² |
| | MSCP East | 20,526 m ² |
| | MSCP West | 16,333 m ² |
| | MSCP Concept Retail R & D | 11,881 m² |
| Multi Storey Car Parks Total | | 65,344 m² |
| TOTAL | | 395,856 m ² |

Planning condition 97 states:

CONDITION 97:

No part of the development hereby approved shall be occupied until the improvement works at the A46 Walsgrave Junction (B4082 / Coventry Eastern Bypass (A46) roundabout) are completed and fully operational (the A46 Walsgrave junction improvement is included within the modelling assessment - detailed at https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/west-midlands/a46-coventryjunctions-upgrade/). REASON: In the interests of highway safety and traffic flows.

Therefore, if this DCO is not progressed then there would be a significant local economic impact as R23/1027 would not be able to be occupied and therefore the benefits assessed as part of the planning application would not be able to be realised.

Finally, we would also highlight that a Regulation 18 "Preferred Options" public consultation on a new Local Plan for Rugby Borough covering the period 2024-2045 took place between 24 March 2025 and 19 May 2025. The consultation document: https://rugby.gov.uk/w/local-plan-review-preferred-options-public-consultation-document proposes two new allocations for employment development on the eastern edge of Coventry close to the A46. Those proposals are at North of Ansty Park for circa 75,000m² of employment floorspace and at Prologis Park West and Mountpark, Ryton-on-Dunsmore for 350,000m² of employment floorspace.

Neither scheme is within 1km of the DCO proposal, nor should those schemes be regarded as commitments. Changes to the plan may be made prior to the Regulation 19 consultation timetabled for January 2026. Transport modelling of those potential developments, and other alternative potential sites, is progressing as part of the strategic transport assessment of the local plan.

It is not considered that proposed allocations in the Regulation 18 consultation document can be given weight in decision-making. Nonetheless we wish to make the examining authority aware of this as relevant background.

Yours faithfully,

Neil Holly
Development Strategy Manager

Appendix: Crowner Fields Farm site location plan (not to scale)

