



To: Howard Smith, Exeter City Council:
planning@exeter.gov.uk

20/1177/FUL Site of Former Devon Orthopaedic Association (DOA) & Exeter Mobility Centre (EMC) Wonford Road Exeter Devon EX2 4DU

19th October 2020

Dear Howard Smith,

The Exeter Cycling Campaign is writing to object to the proposed car parking facility in application 20/0834/FUL on the basis that this is detrimental to sustainable transport and does not support this in any way. This development would have a negative impact on the area, both in terms of levels of traffic and appearance.

In the application, it is stated that the scale of the development is proportionate to the location and density of the built environment. This is strongly misrepresented, as whilst the location is close to the RD&E FT main site, this area is primarily residential with a great deal of character properties particularly in the Wonford Road area. This car parking facility would be extremely out of place and unpleasant for the surrounding neighbourhood.

During the COVID-19 pandemic Devon County Council have allowed staff from the RD&E to park at County Hall. Given that high numbers of staff are still working remotely, the campaign is unable to see why this can't continue to provide the required spaces, given it is only slightly further away that the proposed new site.

This proposal for up to 240 extra car parking spaces, on top of the existing 60 spaces already in use on this site will lead to increased traffic on Barrack Road and Wonford Road, reducing safety for people cycling in this area and increasing air pollution.

The transport plans have described some of the measures implemented for people traveling sustainably, however these will have accommodated 40 cycle parking spaces, 7 co-bike stands and 10 cycle lockers, a total of 57 usable facilities compared to the requested 240 parking spaces. In order to fully support sustainable transport the Trust should not proceed with this car park, but should progress other measures to further improve the sustainable offer to staff as follows:

- Work with Devon County Council to help to improve cycling along Barrack Road and Polsloe Road providing a key route to the Hospital from both the North and South of Exeter. This could include the Trust providing the council with some of their land just off Barrack

Road, to provide space for segregated infrastructure for pedestrians and those choosing to cycle.

- Work with Co-Bikes to not only provide further docking stations at all main entrances to the hospital, but also to have a significant number of docks installed at the Digby Park and Ride Site to allow people an option other than the bus, for those not currently choosing to use public transport.
- Ensure that all areas of the RD&E main site are accessible by all modes of active transport. This should include adding pavements for pedestrians in the numerous areas where there are none, as well as adding dropped curbs to access existing cycle parking, also assisting those who use a wheelchair or mobility scooter to navigate the site.
- Work with Devon County Council to formally endorse and support the permanent point closure of Dryden Lane.
- Installation of significantly more cycle parking across the site, including more covered shelters.

Thank you for taking the time to read these comments, we hope that these will be considered when making a decision about this development.

Kind regards,

Kim Goonesekera

for and on behalf of:

EXETER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

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