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**Chairman: Keith Leaman**



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To whom it may concern

**Sir John Moore Barracks - Phase 1 Consultation (December 2020)**

Thank you, the DIO and Team, for presenting the initial stages of your masterplan design process, for comment.

The City of Winchester Trust is Winchester's civic society, and was founded in 1957. The Trust is dedicated to ensuring that Winchester is a vibrant and desirable place to live, work, study and visit. It does this by working to protect Winchester's rich heritage, its landscape setting and its essential character, by pursuing a vision for the future that Winchester remains a great city today and for generations to come.

The remit of the Trust is the area of City of Winchester covered by wards and not parish councils. However, surrounding parishes such as Littleton have an impact on the setting and the life of the City, and where the Trust identifies a development of significance that will have an impact on the City, it feels justified in making its views known.

The Army Training Regiment have used this site for nearly forty years, and operated in an isolated woodland setting. The 86.5 ha undulating site, although part of Winchester, has been apart from the life of the City because of its military use and limited access.

The Trust supports the principles underlying the Masterplan Vision on place, pedestrian movements, landscape and sustainability. There is an underlying tension between the need to retain and reinforce the perimeter woodland setting, and integrating the site with Littleton and Harestock. Also to be acknowledged is the Local Plan designation of a Local Gap between Littleton and Harestock.

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This is a significant 'brownfield site' both in size and location. The Trust at this early stage of planning for redevelopment, poses the question, **'Is the proposal for mixed use development an easy and opportunistic use for this site?'**

The site is an edge of City location, some 2 miles from the City centre, and has an isolated woodland setting. The nearby Barton Farm site of 93 ha. to the south east is providing 2000 houses, a district centre and a primary school.

Prior to this consultation the Trust would like to know if DIO has marketed the site, to see if there are organisations or enterprises for whom use of this site would be ideal. The Trust has in mind uses such as TV and film studios, Research and Development for industries such as the pharmaceutical industry, a hospital or a new site for Winchester Prison, that would release land in Romsey Road for the Royal Hampshire County Hospital or the University of Winchester. The opportunity to match this brownfield site with a unique use does not often arise and should be pursued if it is found to exist.

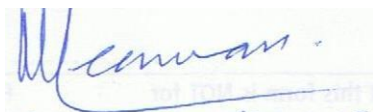
At present, sites in Winchester at Bushfield Camp, Central Winchester Area (Silver Hill), Station Approach and the Cattle Market site in Andover Road, have unresolved futures. Whether it is decided to use the Barracks site for housing and/or employment, or other uses mentioned above, the Trust would want to see the final decision taken in the context of need identified in the Local Plan Review.

Provision of a Park and Ride site should be subject to a feasibility study that could serve users entering the City from the A34 at the Three Maids Hill junction, to help reduce traffic in the City Centre.

The development of this site should require a review of the decision to close Andover Road to traffic south of Well House Lane, that was made as part of agreements to develop Barton Farm.

Finally, the Trust, would appreciate, as part of the next stage of consultation, the opportunity to visit the site.

Yours faithfully



Keith Leaman  
Chairman