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Travel Plan

Challoner House Care Home
175 Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford
SO53 2DU

MARCH 2023

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APPENDIX I – BUS TIMETABLES

I INTRODUCTION

- I.1 This Travel Plan has been prepared by Walsingham Planning on behalf of Barchester Healthcare Ltd who manage Challoner House Care Home, 175 Winchester Road in Chandlers Ford.
- I.2 This Travel Plan has been produced to encourage non-car modes of transport for Barchester staff and visitors.

2 SITE & SURROUNDINGS

- 2.1 Challoner House Care Home lies on the north-west side of Winchester Road in Chandlers Ford. It currently provides 47 bedrooms with ensuite toilet facilities as well as a day room and landscaped garden.



Challoner House Care Home



Aerial view of Challoner House (Google)

- 2.2 The existing care home building lies centrally in the site and there is car parking to the front with vehicular access from Winchester Road. There are landscaped gardens to the side and rear of the care home with mature trees to all the boundaries. The site slopes down to the north and west.

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- 2.3 The King Rufus public house lies adjacent to the south-west of the care home and its pub garden extends towards the care home. Beyond Winchester Road to the south-west is 172 Winchester Road, a detached two storey property, and a small block of flats - 1-4 Corinthian Court. To the north-east is 175 Winchester Road, a detached two storey property. To the north-west (rear) of the care home are the gardens of properties on Westwood Gardens.

Accessibility

- 2.4 The site has good accessibility by non-car modes of transport.
- 2.5 Chandlers Ford train station lies approximately 1.2km to the south-west of the application site.
- 2.6 Winchester Road is served by a number of bus services. For north-bound travel, the bus stop is located in front of the care home. For south-bound travel, the bus stop is located approximately 85m to the south-west. Both bus stops have shelters. The Bluestar 1 service links Southampton and Winchester via Chandlers Ford (including Chandlers Ford train station). There are three services per hour on weekdays and two to three services per hour at the weekends. This makes the bus a realistic and convenient prospect for staff on day shifts.
- 2.7 There is a safe crossing point with pedestrian refuge close to the site.

3 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Barchester

- 3.1 Barchester Healthcare develop and operate sector-leading residential, dementia and nursing care homes throughout the UK. Founded in 1992, Barchester now have over 240 care homes across England, Scotland and Wales.
- 3.2 Barchester care homes deliver high levels of care which meet and exceed regulatory compliance standards. As one of the largest care home operators their standards and high quality care provision is renowned, including attractive day spaces and activity lounges ensuring the residents and visitors are well catered for. Barchester Healthcare regularly win awards for care performance by the company and also by individual staff members.

Application Proposals

- 3.3 The proposal is for a two storey rear extension to the care home to replace the existing conservatory. The extension would provide 10 net additional ensuite rooms across the first and second floors. The first floor will enjoy a lounge and the second floor will benefit from a lounge with a terrace (with glazed surround).

4 WHAT IS A TRAVEL PLAN?

- 4.1 A Travel Plan is a package of measures produced by employers to encourage both staff and service users to use alternatives to single-occupancy car-use. Such a plan for example, could include: car sharing schemes; a commitment to improve cycling facilities; a dedicated bus service or restricted car parking allocations. It might also promote flexible-working practices such as remote access and video conferencing.
- 4.2 Travel Plans can offer real benefits not only to the organisation and its employees, but also the community that surrounds it. It may help to relieve local parking or congestion problems or improve public transport connections across the area. It may also relieve stress on employees through reducing delays or providing the opportunity to cut their travel commitments by working from home on occasion.
- 4.3 As well as being beneficial to a specific site, a successful Travel Plan can also provide wider environmental benefits. Any reduction in car journeys will obviously lead to an overall reduction in both air and noise pollution. Encouraging more people to use public transport can also provide other benefits including the potential to promote social inclusion and the promotion of the health benefits associated with choosing more sustainable travel methods, all of which are compliant with policy at National, Regional and Local Level.

Planning Policy

- 4.4 Section 4 of the NPPF relates to promoting sustainable transport. It recognises that transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development and contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives.
- 4.5 The Travel Plan section of the NPPG states at Paragraph 003 explains that “*Travel Plans are long-term management strategies for integrating proposals for sustainable travel into the planning process*”.

Travel Plan Vision and Key Objectives

- 4.6 The Travel Plan’s vision is to support and encourage Barchester Healthcare staff and visitors to reduce the number of car journeys they make, for commuting to work and in visiting residents at the care home, recognising the positive impacts this will have on staff health, and on the local environment.

4.7 This vision is supported by the following objectives:

Objective 1: To promote and encourage more sustainable transport choices (cycling, walking, car sharing and public transport) for Barchester Healthcare staff for commuter journeys through promotion and awareness raising;

Objective 2: To promote and encourage more sustainable transport choices (cycling, walking, car sharing and public transport) for visitors to the care home;

Objective 3: To support staff and visitors to make healthy lifestyle choices through active travel;

Objective 4: To raise awareness among Barchester Healthcare staff and visitors of the positive health, environmental and economic impacts of more sustainable travel, as well as the negative impacts of car travel;

Objective 5: To contribute to Barchester Healthcare's Environmental Policy objectives;

The Benefits of Introducing a Travel Plan

4.8 Travel Plans can have benefits for all user groups of the care home. The benefits for Barchester Healthcare and its staff include:

- Reduced congestion and pollution in the vicinity of the care home;
- Contribution to Barchester Healthcare's Environmental Policy objectives;
- Help provide less stressful options for travel to work;
- Give opportunities to build healthy exercise into daily life;
- Reduce journey times to work;
- Reduce the cost of travel to work or avert the need to buy a car.

4.9 The benefits for visitors include:

- Improved health and fitness by increasing levels of walking and cycling;
- Improved road and personal safety skills and travel awareness;

- Improved knowledge of community surroundings and the local environment;
- Reduced driving stress and improved journey quality

4.10 The benefits for the community include:

- Reduced local road congestion;
- Reduced noise and air pollution;
- Improved quality of life and makes the local area safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

Support of Senior Management

- 4.11 Senior Management at Barchester Healthcare fully supports the creation of a Travel Plan at Challoner House Care Home and understands the benefits that a successful Travel Plan can bring to the company, as well as its staff, visitors and the wider community.
- 4.12 The General Manager will act as the Travel Plan Co-ordinator and will be briefed on the Travel Plan and its requirements.

5 TRAVEL PLAN INITIATIVES

Staff Initiatives

- 5.1 Barchester Healthcare will implement various initiatives for staff to encourage the use of alternative travel methods to the private car. The care home is located within a sustainable location where non-car modes of transport are a realistic and convenient option. A
- 5.2 Initiative 1 – Barchester Healthcare will publicise the existing cycle purchase scheme for staff. This is a scheme whereby Barchester Healthcare will pay for cycles for staff and then staff make a salary sacrifice as repayments towards the cycle. This is beneficial to the employee as the salary sacrifice is taken from the gross salary and is non-taxable.
- 5.3 Initiative 2 – Staff will be advised of the availability of cycle parking facilities during recruitment.
- 5.4 Initiative 3 – Staff will be provided with public transport information as part of a starter pack which they will receive when they start work at Barchester Healthcare. This information will give details of bus and rail services, including frequencies and times that serve the care home.
- 5.5 Initiative 4 - Where more than one member of staff drives to the care home, they will be encouraged to car share with other drivers. Details of existing carshare schemes will be given to staff such as www.liftshare.com.
- 5.6 These initiatives are summarised in the action plan below.

Visitor Initiatives

- 5.7 As well as trying to encourage staff to use sustainable transport methods to get to work, Barchester Healthcare is also keen to encourage people visiting residents at the care home.
- 5.8 Initiative 1 - As for staff, public transport information will be provided as part of a new resident's starter pack so that their visitors can be made aware of sustainable travel options. This information will give details of bus and rail services, including frequencies and times that serve the care home.
- 5.9 Initiative 2 - Visitors will be advised of the cycle parking facilities available at the care home.
- 5.10 These initiatives are summarised in the action plan below.

6 IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE TRAVEL PLAN

- 6.1 This Travel Plan is a continuous process for improvement, requiring monitoring, review and revision to ensure it remains relevant to Barchester Healthcare and those using the site.
- 6.2 When new staff are recruited they will be given a new staff starter pack, this pack will contain information relating to public transport facilities, the cycle purchase scheme, details of cycle parking facilities and carshare schemes. Therefore new starters will be encouraged early on to consider more sustainable forms of transport for their commute to work.
- 6.3 New residents will also be given starter packs which will also contain details of public transport facilities for their visitors.
- 6.4 Barchester Healthcare will review this Travel Plan 12 months after the extension is completed to check that the initiatives are still applicable and useful. Travel Plan initiatives will be reviewed and new initiatives introduced if necessary.