

## Comment on a planning application

### Application Details

**Application:** 23/3259/FUL

**Address:** Karslake And Ruston And Ward Buildings At Hampton Water Treatment Works Upper Sunbury Road Hampton

**Proposal:** Conversion and extension of the site including Ruston and Karslake Buildings and works at basement level to provide 36 no. residential units (Use Class C3) and 318.8sqm flexible business space (Use Class E(g)), associated car parking, access and landscaping works. In association with Listed Building application reference 23/3265/LBC.

### Comments Made By

**Name:** Mr. Mark Baker

**Address:** 5 Belgrade Road Hampton TW12 2AZ

### Comments

**Type of comment:** Object to the proposal

**Comment:** I object to this application on the basis of the poor and outdated analysis of the traffic and parking situation. Specifically:

- The Servicing and Car Parking Management plan is dated June 2020 and primarily based on observations and data from 2019, before the start of the pandemic. No midday observations were taken. (3.6.1)
- Work and shopping habits have changed dramatically over the following 4+ years. Online shopping and local delivery has greatly increased van traffic in and around the Hampton area, making the traffic estimates in tables 5.1 and 5.2 highly optimistic.
- The Centre for London 2023 report Understanding Car Ownership in London shows that Richmond Borough has one of the highest vehicle ownership rates in London and one of the poorest public transport accessibility ratings. (<https://centreforlondon.org/blog/car-ownership-census/>)
- This location is at the furthest edge of Richmond Borough so would be expected to be closer in vehicle ownership to neighbouring Surrey, where the lowest vehicle access rate is 1.4 per household. (<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/policies-plans-consultations/transport-plan/background-and-context>)
- The 2021 census shows that in the Hampton Village area, 18% have no access to a vehicle, 50% have access to 1, and 32% have access to 2 or more, indicating an overall rate of at least 1.2 vehicles per household. The report uses outdated census data from 2011 for its analysis (4.4.2) (<https://www.surreyi.gov.uk/census-2021/2021-census-car-or-van-availability/>)
- These demonstrate that a household vehicle ownership rate of <1 in the proposal is unrealistic and should be re-evaluated.
- The Servicing and Car Parking Management plan also seems to consider access to/from the site only in an east-to-west direction, ignoring the additional traffic challenges caused by people making right hand turns both into and off of Upper Sunbury Road.
- The traffic on the Upper Sunbury Road has increased dramatically since the pandemic, with queues regularly tracing back to Kenton Ave. in Sunbury. Analysis needs to be done to understand the potential increase in traffic caused by realistic numbers of access to/from the site.