



1 Eversholt Street
London
NW1 2DN
T: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

05 October 2020

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning
Shire Hall
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB3 0AP
nec@greatercambridgeplanning.org

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning – Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan - Regulation 18 consultation

I write in order to provide Network Rail’s consultation response in relation to Greater Cambridge Shared Planning’s (GCSP) Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan (AAP) Regulation 18 consultation.

Thank you for giving Network Rail the opportunity to submit representation in relation to this policy document. Network Rail’s feedback to the draft North East Cambridge AAP is detailed below.

Site L - Land at Cambridge North

As detailed within Figure 6 of the Draft North East Cambridge AAP, Network Rail is the freehold owner of the Land at Cambridge North. Network Rail, together with Brookgate Land Ltd and DB Cargo UK (and through them Freightliner and Tarmac) form the Chesterton Partnership.

The Chesterton Partnership is promoting the rationalisation and redevelopment of the former Chesterton Sidings site (referred to as Site L within Figure 6). Please note that in relation to the Land at Cambridge North, a separate consultation response has been prepared by Bidwells LLP on behalf of Brookgate Land Limited.

Fen Road (Chesterton Junction) Level Crossing

Page 195 of the Draft North East Cambridge AAP states that, *'Any move to close the crossing will need to be initiated by Network Rail and go through due processes. The authorities will need to work together to form a view on where any alternative access route should go to deliver the best outcomes, should this situation arise; more certainty will be given as the plan process advances.'*

Whilst it is acknowledged that Fen Road Level Crossing is located outside the Draft North East Cambridge AAP boundary, Network Rail welcomes further discussion with GCSP, Cambridgeshire County Council and other stakeholders in relation to the crossing and potential opportunities for alternative access routes.

Cambridge North Station (Various Policies)

The Draft North East Cambridge AAP recognizes the important role that Cambridge North Station has in supporting the proposed regeneration of the surrounding area. It is vital that proposed developments on the approach to the station / surrounding the station, consider how they interact with the station environment and its operation. GCSP and Developers should engage with Network Rail at an early stage in relation to proposed developments.

Policy 17 - Connecting to the wider network

Policy 17, Part g) promotes the construction of a new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the railway to provide direct access to Chesterton Fen to the east of the railway line, and onwards to the River Cam tow path.

GCSP will need to engage with Network Rail with regards to the proposed new pedestrian and cycle bridge. This will enable Network Rail to advise on the railway industry review and approval processes which would be associated to any proposed bridge scheme over railway infrastructure.

Policy 19: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport

In relation to Policy 19, it is acknowledged that the proposed safeguarding of land is indicative at this stage, however, as it is currently shown in Figure 38 the shaded area is wholly Network Rail owned land including Network Rail's station lease area and operational railway land. Any proposed safeguarding of the land would need to be agreed with Network Rail and further engagement with Network Rail is required on this matter as and when it progresses.

Policy 26 - Aggregates and waste sites

Network Rail is the freehold owner of the Aggregates Railheads located in North East Cambridge. Any future potential relocation of the railhead would be discussed between Network Rail, DB Cargo UK Limited and their tenant Tarmac. Network Rail will engage with the GCSP if any changes to the railhead are proposed.

Developments adjacent to operational railway land and infrastructure

The proposed Draft North East Cambridge AAP proposes potential development on land located adjacent to Network Rail's operational railway and infrastructure. GCSP and potential Developers should be aware of and consider Network Rail's standard guidelines and requirements when developing sites located adjacent to or in close proximity to Network Rail's land, assets and operational railway infrastructure. For more information please visit <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/looking-after-the-railway/asset-protection-and-optimisation/>. Future developers will need to engage with Network Rail's Asset Protection Anglia team (AngliaASPROLandClearance@networkrail.co.uk) at an early stage to ensure that any proposed development does not have a detrimental impact on the safety and operation of the railway network.

Thank you again for providing Network Rail with the opportunity to comment on this consultation. I trust that the comments above are clear, but if you require any further information or have any queries do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Elliot Stamp

Town Planning Manager (Anglia)