

Report To: The Planning Board

Date: 6 February 2019

Report By: Head of Regeneration and Planning

**Report No: 18/0043/IC
Plan 02/19**

**Local Application
Development**

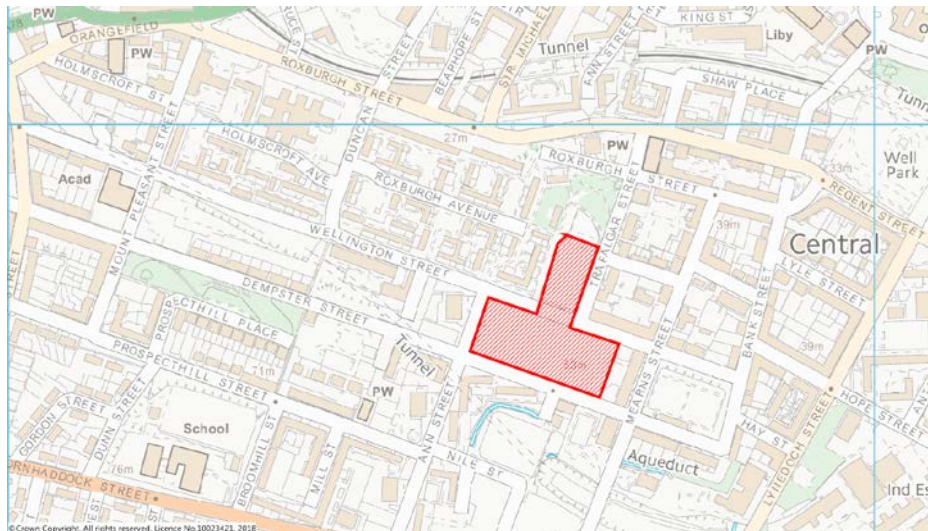
Contact Officer: David Ashman

Contact No: 01475 712416

Subject: Submission of Travel Plan in accordance with condition 14 of Planning Permission 18/0043/IC (construction of a 4 storey health and care centre and formation of an associated car park)

at

Former Wellington Academy, Wellington Street, Greenock



SUMMARY

- Planning permission was granted in June 2018 for the construction of a 4 storey health and care centre and the formation of an associated car park.
- Condition 14 of the permission required the submission and approval of a Travel Plan prior to the health and care centre being brought into use. It is required that the Planning Board consider the Travel Plan.
- The recommendation is that the Travel Plan is accepted and that the **PLANNING CONDITION IS DISCHARGED.**

Drawings may be viewed at:

<https://planning.inverclyde.gov.uk/Online/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=P48SB1IMG6700>

BACKGROUND

On 6 June 2018 the Planning Board granted planning permission for the construction of a 4 storey health and care centre and the formation of an associated car park in the grounds of the former Wellington Academy at Wellington Street, Greenock.

Condition 14 of the Planning Permission requires “that prior to the building hereby permitted being brought into use, the applicant shall submit a Travel Plan for approval in writing by the Planning Authority and that, for the avoidance of doubt, it shall address (but not be limited to) how people will travel to the site, existing public transport provision (including an assessment of spare capacity on existing services), identify if additional services are required and whether a bus shuttle service is required to the bus station or if the existing bus service can be accommodated. Cycle demand also requires to be addressed.”

It was the express wish of the Planning Board that it be given the opportunity to consider the submitted Travel Plan.

THE TRAVEL PLAN

The Travel Plan is a 33 page document providing advice on sustainable travel and setting out measures to encourage the adoption of sustainable travel. It also advises how modal shift from car journeys to more sustainable modes such as active travel and public transport will be encouraged.

The Travel Plan considers accessibility of the site for those walking and cycling and the proximity of public transport facilities, including train stations and bus routes. It also addresses planned bus stop improvements on Wellington Street. The Plan is based on a site survey of how patients, staff and visitors presently arrive at the current Greenock Health Centre. This has informed the objectives and targets of the Travel Plan as follows:

- Objective 1: to promote and increase active travel, as currently of 4,000 visitors per week only 665 walk. This is to be achieved by measures to promote active travel through the use of media including the website, e-mail, TV display screens, intranet and posters, and to participate actively in schemes relating to the Healthy Working Lives Gold Award, including “walking to work initiatives”.
- Objective 2: to provide greater transport choice. This is to be achieved through the provision of an interactive screen with up to date information and providing staff with Travel Plan information during staff induction. There will also be bus stop improvement on Wellington Street to include a build out with a shelter and high access kerbs.
- Objective 3: to reduce the need for unnecessary staff travel. This will be achieved through promoting car sharing schemes, investigating the development and implementation of flexible working patterns, and public transport ticket loans.
- Objective 4: to promote and increase the use of public transport. Measures engaged will be the same as for objective 2 and will include the bus stop improvements on Wellington Street.
- Objective 5: to reduce single occupancy vehicle travel. Measures engaged will be the same as for objective 3.

The Travel Plan will be subject to annual monitoring to assess modal shift, although it is a lifetime document. If targets are not being met additional measures will require to be identified.

An undertaking is given that the applicant is committed to ensuring adequate transport is provided for the new centre and there will be continued liaison with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport. Discussion with operators will take place on the feasibility of re-routing services along Wellington Street to provide more frequent, wide ranging services. It is anticipated that the level of footfall will be greater than the current health centre which should in turn encourage

operators to review their services to the new facility. A Travel Plan Co-ordinator will help ensure consistency with sustainable transport goals. The HSCP is also reviewing the community transport provision with a view to utilising potential capacity where there has been some rationalisation of day service transport.

CONSULTATION

The Head of Environmental and Public Protection (Roads) has advised that all the information required is contained within the document and it is recommended that the Plan be approved.

CONCLUSION

Based on the submitted Travel Plan and the positive response of the Head of Environmental and Public Protection (Roads) reply to consultation, I am satisfied that the Travel Plan successfully sets out measures as to how modal shift to active (walking and cycling) travel will be achieved, together with measures to reduce private vehicle use and increase that of public transport.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Board accepts the submitted Travel Plan and authorises the discharge of condition 14 of planning permission 18/0043/IC.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Regeneration and Planning

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 – Background Papers. For further information please contact David Ashman on 01475 712416.