# PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, <br> HADRIAN'S CAMP <br> SITE ACCESS REVIEW - NOVEMBER 2015 

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Vectos has been commissioned by North Associates to provide a review of access options to a residential site at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton in Cumbria. The site is located approximately 4.5 km to the north west of Carlisle and has previously served as a military training camp.
1.2 Story Homes have recently been approved consent for 90 dwellings on part of this area. The layout for the approved Story Homes application is presented as Dwg CPT-197-PL-02 and this includes a new give way junction onto Houghton Road. Our client has reserved access over the Story Homes land.
1.3 This report assesses the access potential to serve an additional 300 dwellings using the Houghton Road Access supported by an EVA off Centurions Way. This figure of 300 dwellings includes a 50 dwelling extension of the Story Homes sites described as Phase 1b. The general masterplan showing the approved site (A) the Phase 1b sites (B\&C) and the wider development is shown in Plan 1.
1.4 Within this review we have considered CCC and DfT Highway Design Guidance, Manual for Streets as well as other industry standard design guides.
1.5 This review considers the capacity of the access onto Houghton Lane, the need for an Emergency Vehicle Access and finally the benefits of the site for access by non car modes.

2 SITE ACCESS ONTO HOUGHTON ROAD
2.1 As a military training camp the site previously benefitted form an access onto Houghton Road. Story Homes have gained planning approval for access to the residential development at the same location as the existing access. The use of that Houghton Rod access represents the optimum access location for further development on the site.
2.2 The new access onto Houghton Road that has been designed and approved by CCC highways officers to serve the Story Homes Site. It benefits from good visibility and during discussions with the highways officers on the design of that access, consideration was given to the potential of that access to serve additional dwellings so that the highway design did not present a constraint to further development.
2.3 During those discussions, it was agreed with highways officers that there was no requirement for a right turn ghost island. Vectos then prepared traffic capacity models of the Houghton Road access and how it would operate with the full development.
2.4 The forecast operation using the Industry Standard PICADY model at a 2020 future year AM peak shows that the junction operates at a maximum of $30 \%$ of its capacity. The average queues are no greater than one vehicle in length and the delay for traffic leaving the site is no more than 13 seconds at the busiest time for right turners. In summary this junction can easily cater for the full development without any material queues or delays.

## 3 NEED FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCES

3.1 Subject to confirmation by the local Fire Officer, it is expected that the full development would require an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA).
3.2 Centurion's Walk offers the optimum location for an EVA and this could also provide a pedestrian link which helps connectivity for the site and existing residents off Brampton Old Road. The location of this EVA is shown in Plan 2.
3.3 Centurion's Walk previously provided access to the former Army Camp and it is our understanding that there is no impediment to Centurion's Walk being used as an EVA.
3.4 This EVA link could be a joint footway/cycleway at a width of 3.7 m controlled by lockable bollards. Centurion's Walk is not adopted but the client benefits from access rights. There is no requirement to change the nature of Centurion's Walk with its use as an EVA.

## 4 ACCESS ON FOOT AND BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

4.1 Manual for Streets (MfS) promotes the need for connectivity with neighbouring urban areas, and emphasising the importance of a permeable and walkable neighbourhood. This development provides the opportunity to link the residents of Centurion's Walk on Brampton Old Road with Houghton to the north allowing residents to access the amenities in a more direct and sustainable manner.
4.2 There is an hourly bus service on Houghton Road with bus stops close to the site access provided as part of the Story Homes planning conditions. Further development of the site would strengthen the passenger demand for that service to and from Carlisle thereby helping secure the services viability.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1 This Access Review has demonstrated that there are no highways or transportation constraints to the further development of residential dwellings at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton.
5.2 There is already an existing access that serves the first phase of development of 90 units by Story Homes. The full development of the site will result in a further 300 dwellings. It is proposed that this extended development be accessed from the upgraded junction on Houghton Road prepared in support of the first phase of the Story Homes development with an Emergency Vehicle Access available via Centurions Walk.
5.3 During the discussions with highways officers for the first phase Story Homes development, it was agreed that the highway design should not offer any constraint to further development. The upgraded access junction has been approved by CCC Highways officers, it meets the visibility criteria and would operate in a safe manner. Traffic modelling has shown that it accommodate a full development of a further 300 dwellings and operate at round $30 \%$ of its capacity with only no material queues or delays.
5.4 An Emergency Vehicle Access is expected to be required and the route via Centurion's Walk offers the logical solution as this route provided a former access into the military camp. This would be controlled by lockable bollards and also offer a pedestrian route into the site. No changes are proposed to Centurion's Walk.
5.5 The development of the site offers a comprehensive footpath network linking the residents on Brampton Old Road with an alternative link to Houghton itself. The further development of the site will also help support the viability of the existing bus services that stop close to the new site access.
5.6 In conclusion there are no highways or transport constraints to the further development of Hadrian's Camp.


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