

Copeland area Planning Department, Cumberland Council

For the attention of Cathy Henderson

Date: 8 September 2023

Your reference: 4/23/2187/0F1

Dear Cathy Henderson

## **CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATION**

**Appn: 4/23/2187/0F1**  
**Site Address: KELLS LIBRARY, HIGH ROAD, WHITEHAVEN**  
**Proposal: CHANGE OF USE FROM PUBLIC LIBRARY (CLASS F1) TO CHILDRENS NURSERY (CLASS E) & ASSOCIATED WORKS INCLUDING REPLACEMENT OF WINDOWS WITH PVC; MINOR ALTERATIONS TO REPLACE ONE WINDOW ON FRONT ELEVATION WITH A DOOR TO ACCESS PLAY AREA & CREATION OF A SMALL OUTDOOR PLAY AREA WITH SECURE WALL**

Thank you for your consultation on 10 August 2023 regarding the above Planning Application.

Cumberland Council as the Local Highway Authority (LHA) has reviewed the above planning reference and our findings are detailed below.

Further to discussions with the applicant, the various observation and concerns the LHA raised previously have been addressed as follows.

- **Parking and waiting control measures to reduce vehicle /pedestrian conflict**
  - The LHA acknowledge that there is an existing problem of pedestrian / vehicle conflict and erroneous waiting / parking on High Road in the vicinity of the schools and library. The LHA has proposals to review the KEEP CLEAR and waiting restrictions on High Road which would address this. Therefore, we are not seeking a contribution towards the TRO costs or the signing and road marking work as these are already included in a wider TRO programme.
  
- **Parking and Boundary Wall / Visibility Splay**
  - The applicant has proposed that the parking spaces will be removed from the front of the site therefore removing or at least reducing the potential conflict with children / parents etc. The proposed boundary wall can

therefore be implemented as proposed. There will be a service space retained but service / delivery vehicles are less likely to cause a problem as they typically service outside the arrival and leaving times of the nursery and school. These must reverse park (usual practice due to unloading practicalities).

- **Pedestrian Crossings and Desire Lines**

- A formal pedestrian crossing is desirable in the vicinity of the primary school / proposed nursery to both cater for existing demand and to provide a better facility for those walking from the west side of the road to the site. The change of use from a library to nursery will exacerbate this demand but the main driver for an increase in crossing activity to the nursery will be the development of large residential sites on High Road to the south, on the west side of the road (opposite side to the nursery). The LHA will be seeking the crossing improvement as part of the traffic mitigation measures and better active travel / safer routes to schools in connection with these developments.

**Conclusion:**

The LHA has no objection to the proposal and no financial contributions will be required.

**Advisory Statement**

Any works within or near the Highway must be authorised by Cumbria County Council and no works shall be permitted or carried out on any part of the Highway including the footway and verges, until you are in receipt of an appropriate permit (i.e. Section 184 Agreement) allowing such works. Enquires should be made to Cumbria County Councils Street Work's team - [streetworks.central@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:streetworks.central@cumbria.gov.uk)

Fees: <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/fees.asp>

Please be advised that the Highway outside and or adjacent to the proposal must be kept clear and accessible at all times.

Yours sincerely

**Shamus Giles**



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Lead Officer - Flood & Development Management