

The University of Reading

Whiteknights Campus, Reading, Berkshire

Widening of the Campus footpath along Queen's Drive

Planning Statement in Support of Application for Planning Consent

1. INTRODUCTION

The proposal is to improve the pedestrian access into the Whiteknights Campus by widening the footpath which runs alongside Queen's Drive. This will be widened using macadam with concrete edgings to blend in with the existing footpath.

2. THE REASON FOR THE PROPOSED WORKS

The footpath alongside Queen's Drive is a primary pedestrian route into the Campus and has become congested, being of inadequate width to serve the numbers of students, staff, and visitors using the route. The existing path varies in width along its route but is less than 2.1m in sections.

3. THE PROPOSED WORKS

The proposal is to widen the path to typically 4.0 m and with the narrowest sections at 3.5m. In order to preserve the grassed verge and trees which line Queen's Drive between the road and the footpath, the proposal is to widen the path on the North side, removing sections of planting and lawn.

4. TREES

There are a number of trees along the route. All but three are being retained and protected, and where appropriate a permeable low invasive surface is being used to widen the path. Refer to Challice Consulting Ltd Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement submitted with this application, reference CC/1781 AR3792. Tree protection measures will be implemented as shown within this AIA and Method Statement.

5. SURFACING

The footpath is being widened in macadam. The finish will blend in with existing.

The specification for this macadam is:

35mm AC6 dense surface layer 100/150 to BS EN13108-1 on

60mm AC20 dense binding layer 160/220 to BS EN13108-1 on

Minimum 200mm Type 1 sub-base to HA specification for Highway Works CL.803 compacted to table 8/4, on

Tensor Triax stabilisation Geogrid.

Where indicated within the AIA Appendix 2 drawing, a low invasive surface is being installed in accordance with the AIA Method Statement and surfacing details shown in Appendix 6.

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6. LANDSCAPE

No new soft landscape is proposed. Where disturbed, existed grassed areas will be reinstated on Completion.

Between the car parking areas and the footpath a low timber barrier rail will be installed as shown on drawing UR1814/PL02.

7. ACCESSIBILITY

The widened footpath will improve accessibility for wheelchair users and others with physical impairments. The existing tactile pavings and drop kerbs will be extended to suit at cross-over locations.