

Planning Application 2023/5130/P 14 Grays Inn Road

Comments from Camden Cycling Campaign

We are the local branch of the London Cycling Campaign and represent the interests of cyclists living or working in or travelling through the Borough of Camden.

We have reviewed the Design and Access Statement and the draft CMP and have a few comments:

Design and Access

We are pleased to see the re-use of the existing ramp to provide access to the basement cycle store; this is much better than stair channels. We note also that a lift will be available for those with mobility issues and that a cycle repair station will be included. Semi-vertical stands are not ideal but are a pragmatic solution and we note that there are a number of Sheffield stands in addition to spaces for adapted cycles.

CMP

Grays Inn Road has segregated cycle lanes on both sides and we are concerned about the impact of construction on the southbound lane. We are pleased to see that the primary access for construction vehicles will be via Brooke Street so that the lane on Grays Inn Road should not be obstructed except for exceptional deliveries (see section 19c) but we think that the CMP should cover these exceptional situations and address how cyclists will be protected.

We are concerned about HGVs turning into Brooke Street. The plan in section 18a shows vehicles approaching from the west. It would be better if they approached along Holborn from the east, as right-turns are inherently safer than left turns, which have a disproportionate number of KSI events. There should be a marshal at this junction.

We note that the planned works on the Waterhouse building (PA 2023/3419/P) will overlap with these works, contrary to the statement in section 14. The developers of Waterhouse Square also plan to use Brooke Street for access and works are scheduled from May 2025 through March 2027. This should be covered in the CMP with some discussion of the cumulative impact and how it could be minimised.

John Chamberlain

Camden Cycling Campaign

31st January 2024

Cc Max Lyne, Camden Council