SUMMARY AIR QUALITY PROOF OF EVIDENCE ABACUS SCHOOL, FORMER HAMPSTEAD POLICE STATION

ENSAFE PROJECT REFERENCE: AQ109324S1

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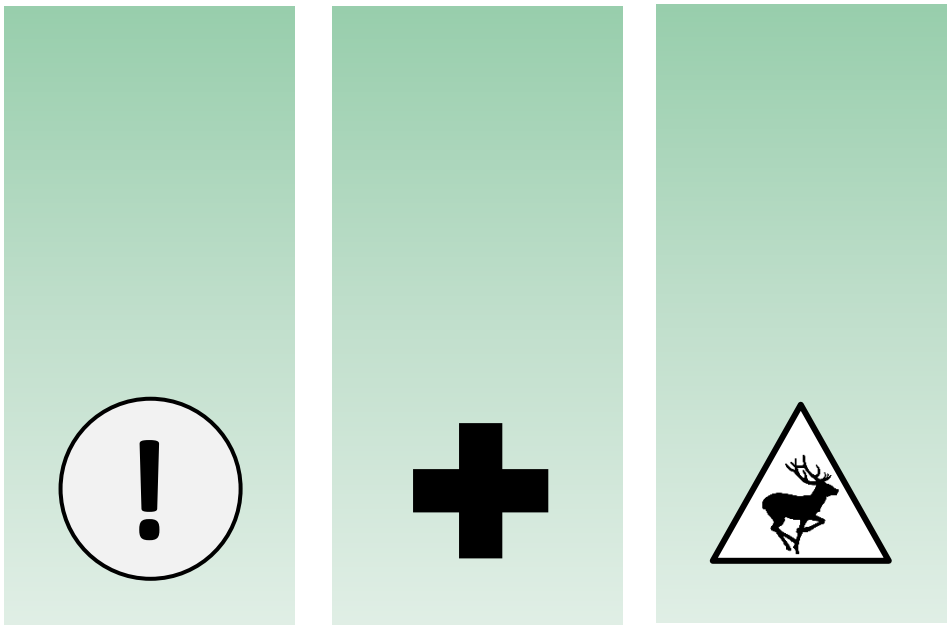

CHALLEN COMMERCIAL INVESTIGATIONS LIMITED T/A ENSAFE CONSULTANTS
2 BROWNS ROAD, DAVENTRY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, N11 4NS T: 01604 878190 www.ensafe.co.uk info@ensafe.co.uk
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND NO: 03426833, VAT NO: 669400520

SUMMARY AIR QUALITY PROOF OF EVIDENCE

The original assessment used valid inputs, relevant guidance and the results were assessed against relevant policy and legislation.

The original assessment was based on robust and worst case assumptions would result in likely over prediction of concentrations at the development site and that the assessment can be considered as robust, valid and the mitigation measures proposed as cautious. The results showed that whilst exceedances of the annual mean AQO for NO_2 could be expected at roadside facing facades, concentrations at higher elevations and in the rear yard were below in the AQO for all pollutants and metrics.

Therefore, it is considered that the proposed development, subject to the inclusion of the proposed mitigation measures through mechanical ventilation is acceptable from an air quality perspective and that the third reason for refusal should not be upheld on air quality grounds.

These results and conclusion are supported by the NO_2 monitoring in the vicinity of the site. Whilst over a relatively short period the results were annualised and bias corrected to provide a valid measure and comparison of concentrations at locations around the proposed development site.

This indicated that levels are likely to have been overestimated by the modelling assessment and supported the evidence that concentrations to the rear of the existing building are significantly lower than those at the road facing building facades.

To further support the existing evidence the modelling exercise was updated for NO_2 using 2018 meteorological and monitoring data. This also used updated emissions factors and background concentrations. A number of scenarios were tested to consider the effects of expected road vehicle emissions and background concentration improvements in future years and also the potential for street canyon effects on roadside pollutant concentrations.

The results supported the conclusion that the original assessment can be taken as robust and valid and that pollutant concentrations can be expected to decrease by the expected development opening year. It also indicated that pollutant concentrations at the proposed mechanical ventilation inlet would be well below the AQO for NO_2 and by proxy for other pollutants. Therefore the proposed mitigation measures can be seen as a cautious but good approach to ensure that future users are not exposed to unacceptable concentrations of air pollution and therefore does not contravene LBoC planning policy CC4.

It is shown that the third reason for planning refusal is not justified on air quality grounds.

Similarly, when considering worst case potential emission generated by the proposal these have been shown to be well below screening thresholds and are therefore shown to be not significant. The development can also be considered at least air quality neutral and therefore in line with the London Plan relevant policy.

It is shown that the first reason for planning refusal is not justified on air quality grounds.