

Appendix B

Royal Holloway, University of London, in response to Runnymede Borough Council - Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Royal Holloway, University of London, is in the early stages of developing its new strategy, RH2030s which will help the University to decide its ambitions for the next decade and shape it for future generations. Consultation around the development of the strategy will commence in 2024. There will be engagement opportunities for the local community.

The University will continue to update the local community on the strategy development through the Royal Holloway and Runnymede Group Forum meetings.

Student numbers: Royal Holloway currently has 11,844 FTE students across its Egham (Surrey) and Bedford Square (London) sites. All further and supporting information on any student growth targets will be provided in the new strategy once complete in 2024. Currently 39% of the University's students commute to campus (mostly by public transport) and it is likely that this number will increase over the course of the next strategy.

Car parking: Royal Holloway manages its parking areas (in and around its campus in Egham) through the application of parking permits for eligible staff and students and advanced visitor booking. Students who reside in halls on site are prevented from bringing a car onto campus.

The preparation and mobilisation of a Green Travel Plan (GTP) is a key element of emergent sustainable operational project planning, a process currently underway, with an objective delivery date of the end of 2025. This document will set modal split targets for reduced vehicle movements and particularly single car usage, with the support of Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) and Surrey County Council (SCC).

Whilst control of parking in the local area is the remit of the council, the University is committed to working with RBC and SCC to reduce the impact of car movements accessing and egressing car parks in neighbouring residential areas. Over the last decade the University has been working with RBC and SCC on parking in the local area, contributing approximately £50,000 to RBC through a planning condition for the council to deliver Controlled Parking Zones in Egham and Englefield Green.

The University already has a Car Park Management Plan (CPMP) prepared in support of the Rusham Park development that has been circulated to RBC and SCC as statutory agencies. The CPMP will need to be aligned with the GTP and will be reviewed whenever the University undertakes any major development planning application.

Accommodation: The development of a student village at Rusham Park in Egham has been paused until further notice to enable Royal Holloway to review the original plans and objectives for the site.

We are working with our construction partners, Balfour Beatty UK, to ensure that the essential works required to maintain, manage and secure the site are in place.

We are currently able to service all needs for university accommodation from new students on our Egham campus and continue to review all our options for the development of new student accommodation and the upgrade of our existing student accommodation in future.

At the November 2023 meeting of the Royal Holloway and Runnymede Group Forum, it was referenced that the University is exploring a potential head lease scheme to give landlords and

students more security and stability for accommodation. This is very much in the early stages of consideration and no plans have been made.

The University will be interested to hear more detail from RBC about its the plans for an Article 4 Direction when these are available.

There is no update to the Student Accommodation Policy and Residential Provision Document. The University will continue to update the community on plans to develop its historic estate through the Royal Holloway and Runnymede Group Forum meetings, the Community Matters newsletter and on the local community pages of its website.

Community engagement: The University's relationship with its wider community is important and as a university of social purpose this will be a key consideration in the development of the new strategy, RH2030s.

The University will continue to update the local community on the strategy development through the Royal Holloway and Runnymede Group Forum meetings.