

I ask that Councillors making the decision think critically about the data in the application and refuse permission based on insufficient vehicle movement data and lack of detail on the impacts of future demand and growth.

I believe the applicant has based the vehicle movements on the pharmaceutical companies' distribution centre data, the stated 2415 vehicle movements per day is grossly understated for a last-mile delivery hub which is a very different type of business.

The additional traffic will be chaotic for an already stressed town centre, the application states that there will be a 58% impact on the B2149/Park Road North roundabout. This coupled with other developments in the Havant area requires careful consideration to avoid making a bad situation worse. There should be an intelligent assessment across all planning applications to establish the overall traffic impact in the area.

In 2020, the World Economic forum predicted that the demand for last-mile delivery is expected to grow c 78% globally by 2030¹. They also suggest that ecommerce could increase vehicles on the road by 36% and result in 30% more vehicle-led emissions by 2030². In the UK, retail Ecommerce could rise from 19.2% to 53% by 2028³.

It is paramount to understand what interventions the firm plan to mitigate the impacts that future demand will have on traffic volumes. The World Economic forum¹ warn that last-mile traffic will pose severe challenges to cities in the next one to three years; you should expect these challenges to apply to Havant.

Finally, growth factors must be taken into account with this application as they will have an impact on the volume of traffic. Given that the data is potentially already understated it would be prudent to insist on the full facts in order to make an informed decision.

Shelley Saunders - Local Havant Resident and Coordinator Havant Green Party (views expressed are my own)

References

- 1 http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Future_of_the_last_mile_ecosystem.pdf
- 2 <https://thenextweb.com/news/how-last-mile-services-and-shared-mobility-can-streamlining-the-delivery-business-syndication>
- 3 <https://ecommercenews.eu/ecommerce-uk-accounts-for-53-of-retail-sales-by-2028/>