



HAMPSHIRE
chamber of commerce

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTION BY HAMPSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL'S PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER 15/02897/FUL
FOR A NEW PRIMARY CARE CENTRE ON UPPER BROOK STREET CAR PARK

Hampshire Chamber of Commerce wishes to express its objection to Winchester City Council's planning application 15/02897/FUL to site a new primary care centre on Upper Brook Street car park, which will result in the loss of a significant area of short term parking adjacent to the prime shopping area of the town. This short term parking is essential for Winchester's excellent selection of independent, small shops to trade profitably.

In December 2015 Hampshire Chamber of Commerce's Winchester Area Committee responded to the Winchester Local Plan consultation and expressed concern about Winchester Town's economy, because there has already been a significant loss of employment sites to other uses arising from the new permitted change of use from offices to residential provision. Are we also to see a significant loss of short term parking in the town that will endanger its retail economy?

Until the future of Silver Hill and the town centre is clarified, Hampshire Chamber would like to see Winchester City Council do all in its power to keep business thriving, while at the same time increase its efforts to control air pollution in the town centre, as with the successful Park-and-Ride schemes.

While appreciating the need for the new primary care centre being proposed, we question the need to build it in the middle of the commercial town centre and with the resultant significant loss of short term parking. Hampshire Chamber of Commerce therefore joins the Winchester BID in submitting its robust objection to this planning application.

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Hampshire Chamber of Commerce is the Independent Voice of Local Business across the county and is one of the largest business representational groups in the UK. It brings together the combined influence, expertise and business support of the county's three former major Chambers of Commerce. This substantial business network engages businesses of all sizes and in all sectors, whether throughout Hampshire, or in local groupings as and when required to focus on the areas of Solent LEP, Enterprise M3 LEP, South Hampshire, the New Forest, North or East Hampshire, or the city regions of Portsmouth, Southampton, Winchester and main towns such as Aldershot, Andover, Basingstoke, Eastleigh, Fareham, Farnborough, Fleet, Gosport, Havant.