

Sir John Moore Barracks

A distinctive neighbourhood sensitively responding in the site's topography



Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) is progressing proposals to bring forward new development at Sir John Moore Barracks – a site which is proposed to be allocated within Winchester City Council's Draft Local Plan (Policy W2) to deliver significant residential led development.

This is the first stage of our four-stage programme of engagement over the coming months - focused on gathering feedback on our revised vision and development principles, as well as welcoming further ideas and feedback on the site and how it best fits in with and supports the surrounding context.



Sir John Moore Barracks

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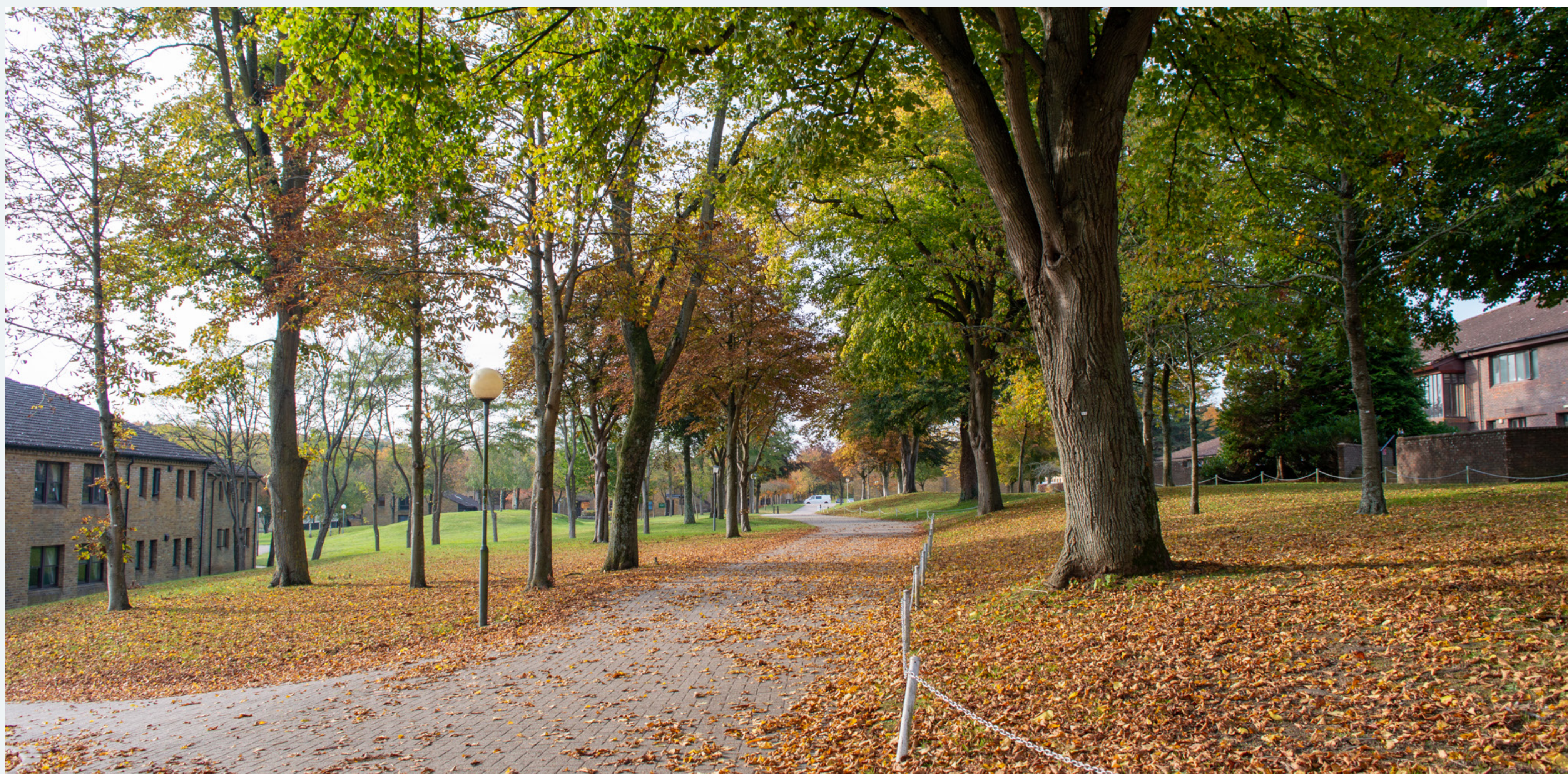
The story so far: Allocation for development

In 2016 the MOD embarked on the single biggest estates change programme within Defence. They are investing £5.1Bn in a better structured, modern and more sustainable estate to support military capability and improve security and resilience.

This is aligned with the future capability requirements and force structures set out in Future Soldier which plans for a more agile Army. Relocating the current users of Sir John Moore Barracks to new facilities is part of an ambitious portfolio of interdependent programmes, construction activity unit and personnel moves, and land releases.

As part of the Defence Estate Optimisation (DEO) Programme, the MOD is proposing to relocate the current users of Sir John Moore Barracks to new facilities. In accordance with Treasury guidance, the MOD will therefore dispose of the site when it becomes surplus to military requirements and Sir John Moore Barracks will be vacated in 2026.

The training output from Sir John Moore Barracks is being re-provisioned at Alexander Barracks, Pirbright, with the development of the Army's future Soldier Academy, combining all basic training provision into this new single academy. It enables greater Basic Training Adaptation and creates a world-class Centre of Excellence for all Regular Army non-combat Basic training at Alexander Barracks, Pirbright.



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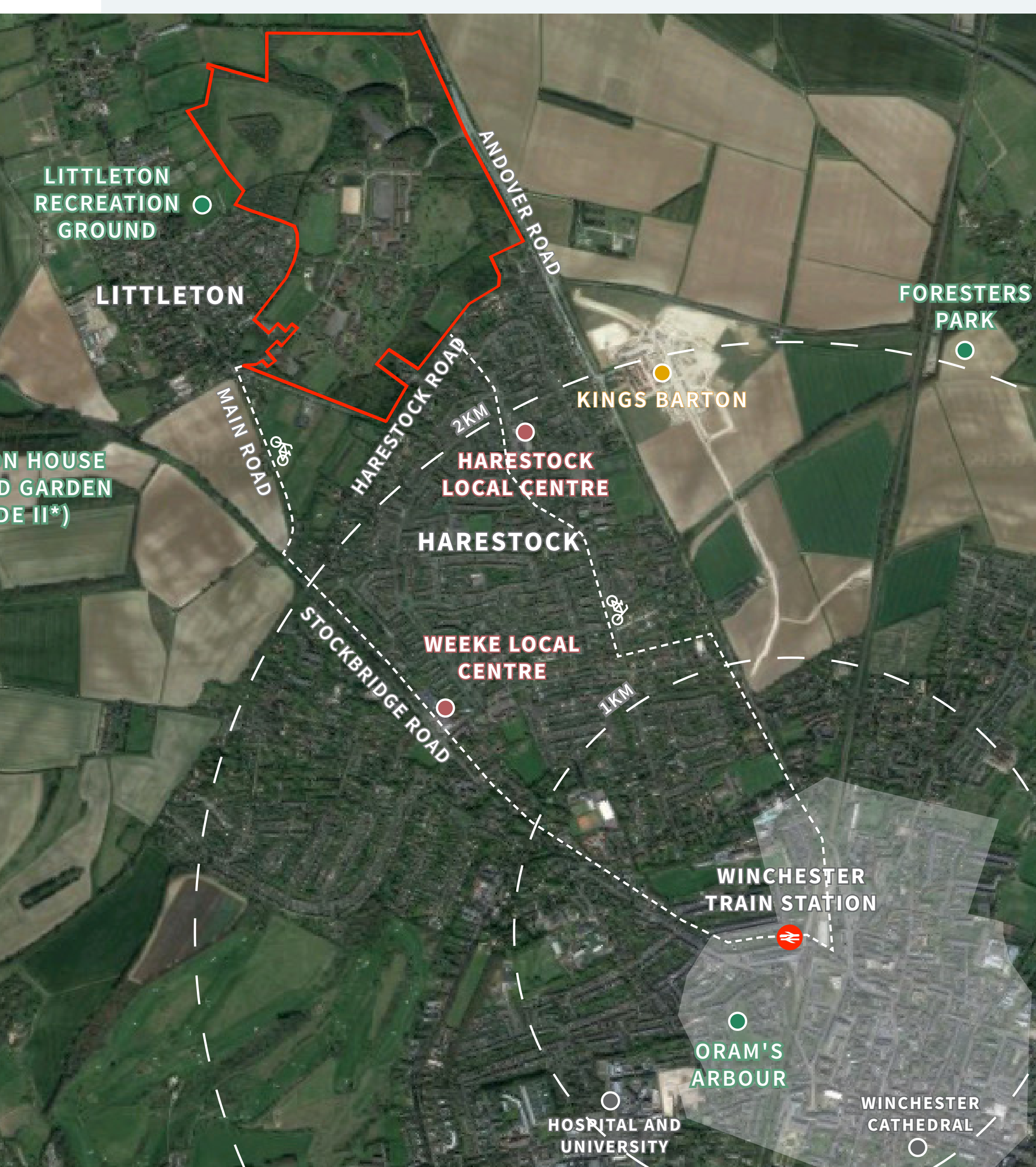
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The story so far: Allocation for development

Winchester City Council has been preparing its Local Plan, with the Council's draft plan allocating Sir John Moore Barracks as a site which is capable of delivering significant residential led development of between 750-1,000 new homes, including a Park and Ride of circa 850 spaces (known as Policy W2).

The draft allocation requires the masterplan to include the following elements:



Comprised of 86.5ha of land, the site is located to the north of Winchester, between existing residential settlements of Littleton (to the west) and Harestock (to the east).

- Deliver a high-quality design, including the delivery of green spaces, high standards of architectural design, and innovative, sustainable new buildings.
- Provide necessary supporting infrastructure, and create neighbourhood centres with supporting uses (noting that these should be proportionate to any proposed redevelopment and dependent on identified need).
- Considers the need for education on or off-site, and provides suitable sustainable travel links.
- Deliver a scheme which relates to the whole of the allocated site or does not prejudice the remainder of the site, avoiding piecemeal development.
- Investigates the potential to reuse/repurpose existing buildings and prioritises the use of previously developed land.
- Provides access off Andover Road and maximises opportunities for sustainable travel.
- Retain the existing access at Chestnut Avenue /Kennel Lane to be used for pedestrian, cyclist and potential emergency access purposes.
- Record and retain features of heritage significance, and provide a heritage trail which celebrates the sites military history.
- Retain and open the existing leisure centre for public use, subject to an assessment of its viability.
- Mitigate flooding impacts, deliver SuDS which include multi-functional green/blue links which increase biodiversity on the site and avoid impacts on the SINC.
- Incorporate and include public realm to create a sense of place.
- Include a Park and Ride of circa 850 spaces.

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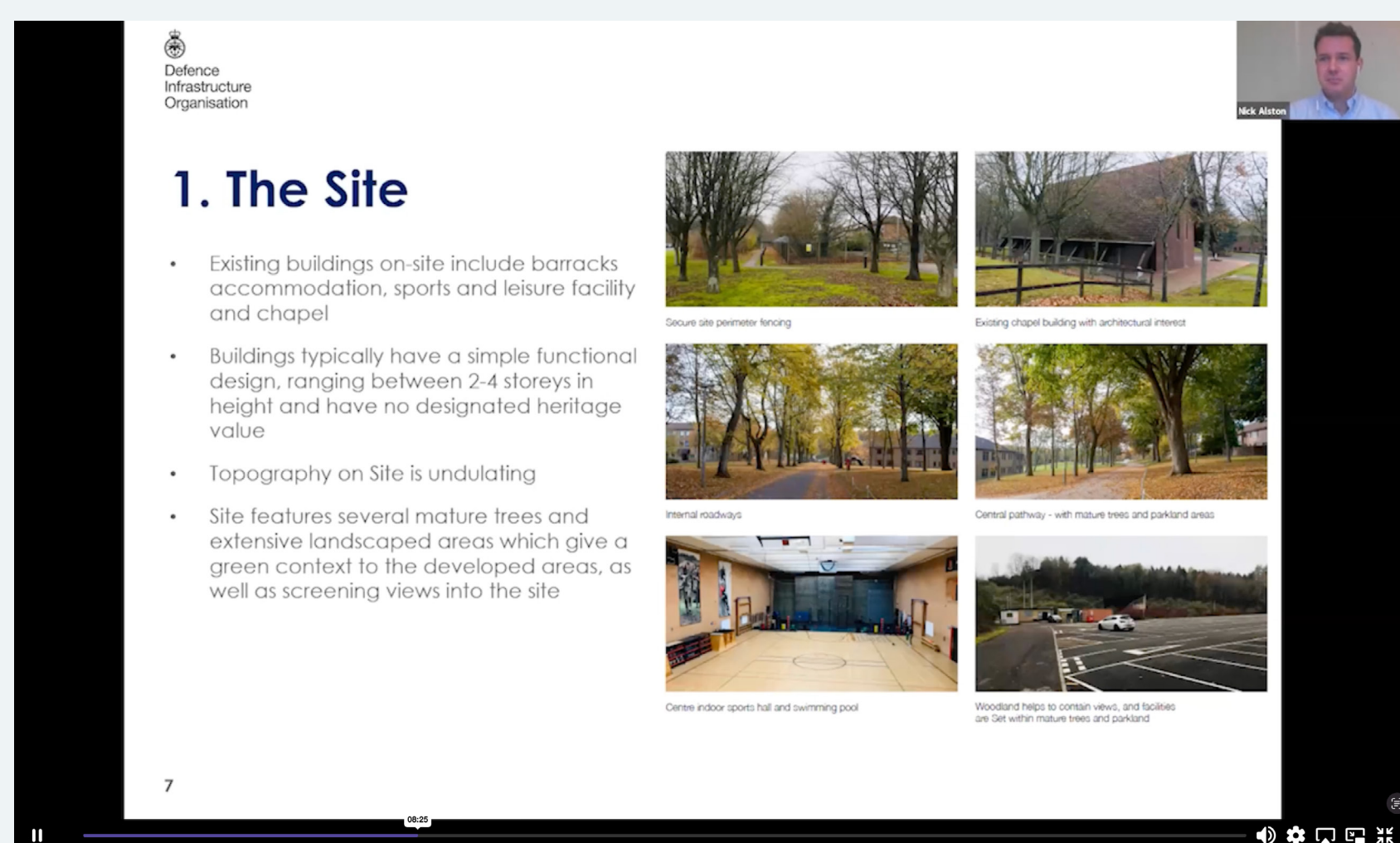
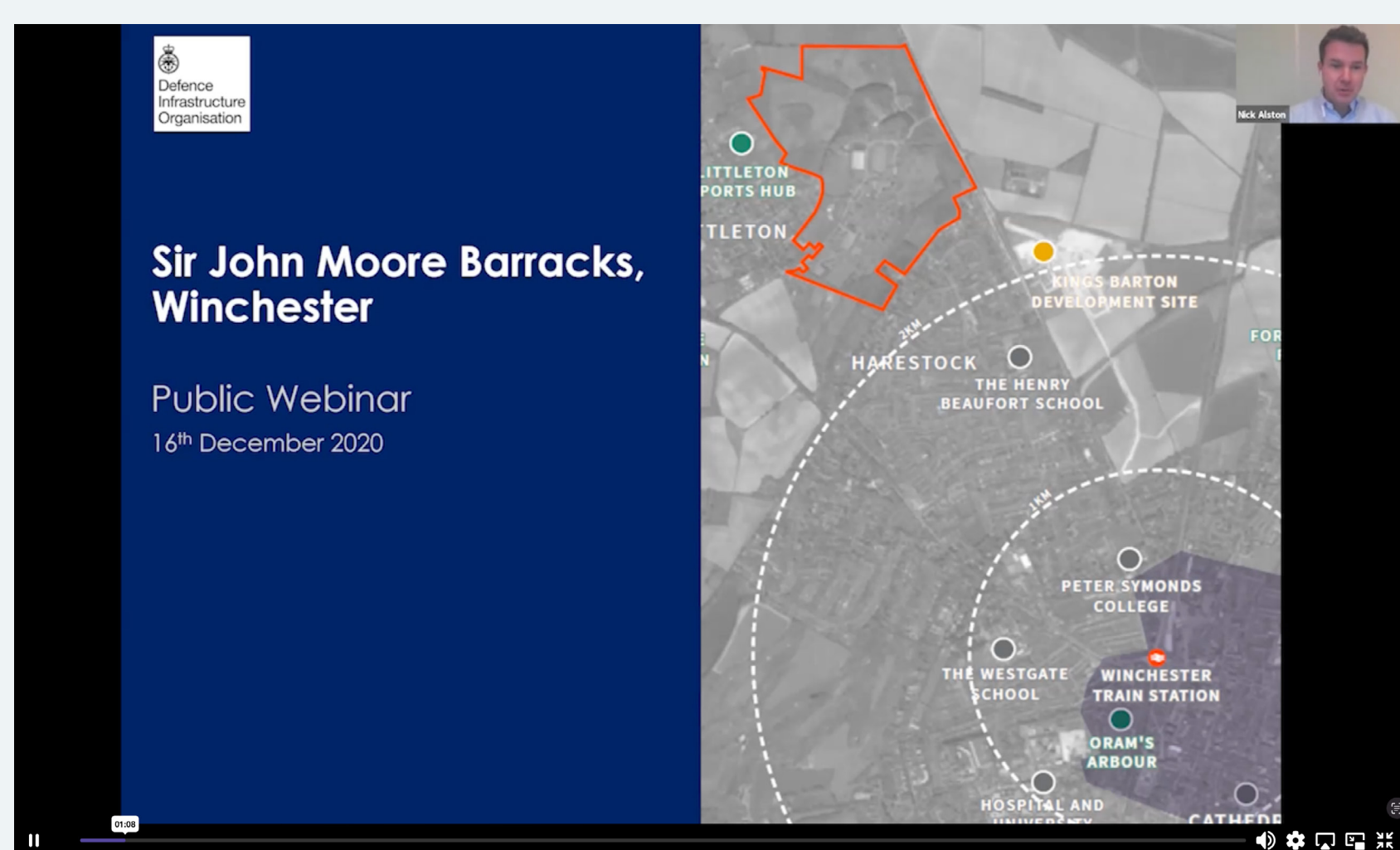
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The story so far: Consultation with the community

As many residents may know, a previous consultation exercise took place between November 2020 and January 2021. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and associated social distancing restrictions, this initial consultation was undertaken virtually and comprised the following elements:

- Meetings with key stakeholders
- Consultation website
- Public webinar
- Online survey



Previous consultation webinar

Following this engagement exercise:

- Winchester City Council announced an extension to the Local Plan Development Scheme timetable targeting adoption in 2024.
- The proposed date for the closure Sir John Moore Barracks also shifted from 2024 to 2026, in line with strategic decisions made by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Secretary of State for Defence's future Solider announcement in November 2021.

Both of these factors mean that there is now therefore an opportunity to better align the DIO's project programme with the Council's Local Plan timeline.

Since 2021, the DIO has spent time working closely with its appointed specialist consultant team undertaking further technical work and reviewing the consultation feedback received, seeking to embed this in early ideas for the masterplan wherever possible.

A revised vision statement and set of key development principles have progressed as a basis for preparation of a new masterplan.



Have your say

Tell us what you think by leaving a comment on our interactive map and filling out a feedback form.

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Stage 1 engagement event

Our vision and development principles

The vision and development principles will be used to develop a new concept masterplan, outlining the components and distribution of development. This will then be further developed into a full outline masterplan.

Our vision

Our vision is to create a distinctive neighbourhood for Winchester that responds to the site's topography, benefitting from views in and out of the site and offering a unique setting and place to live.

While preserving the character and setting of the adjacent villages, promoting biodiversity and encouraging healthy living and active travel, Sir John Moore will provide a range of much-needed new homes for all, designed and built to the highest standards of energy efficiency, alongside significant new public green spaces and hub for new community facilities.

Development principles

We have progressed a set of development principles that will guide us through the next stages of engagement and planning. We would like to know your thoughts on these and whether we have captured everything that should be considered.

Key development principles



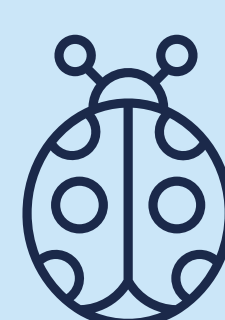
A sustainable place to live



A distinctive place



A walkable neighbourhood



Enhancing biodiversity and the landscape

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Development principle 1

A sustainable place to live

The draft allocation of Sir John Moore Barracks in Winchester City Council's emerging Local Plan includes the requirements to deliver a high-quality design, with the delivery of green spaces, high standards of architectural design, and innovative, sustainable new buildings. It also asks the proposals to provide suitable sustainable travel links as well as access off Andover Road that maximises opportunities for sustainable travel.

The DIO is continuing to engage with WCC officers to review the embodied carbon considerations associated with redeveloping the Site. As these matters progress, masterplanning options will be reviewed as part of a comprehensive carbon assessment (to help ensure that the emerging masterplan is delivered as sustainably as possible in due course). We recognise that these matters are becoming increasingly important in planning decision-making and will continue to be a main focus of WCC's emerging Local Plan.

We can create a sustainable place to live in many different ways:

- Safe and attractive connections between new homes and amenities.
- High quality, low carbon energy efficient homes.
- A walkable neighbourhood, with walking and active travel connections to schools, adjoining settlements and existing cycle network and pedestrian routes.
- Development of Winchester's Northern Park & Ride facility to promote fast and frequent city wide travel options.



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How would you ensure that Sir John Moore Barracks is a sustainable place to live?

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Development principle 2

A distinctive place

Situated on the site of the former HMS Flowerdown, a Second World War naval listening station, Sir John Moore Barracks has a rich military history and legacy. We want to respect that and celebrate it.



Aerial view of the site with existing built form



Existing views from the site

We can create a distinctive place in many different ways:

- Connecting the site's rich heritage through the creation of a heritage trail.
- Retaining and repurposing many of the existing buildings, such as the central sports centre and chapel.
- Celebrating and protecting the site's green spaces.
- Using a variety of different house types to create an inclusive neighbourhood.
- A neighbourhood comprising opportunities for a range of tenures, from starter homes to later living; to create a cross-generational self-supportive community.
- Embracing local materials whilst also being innovative in design.
- A sensitive approach to modern materials and methods of construction and design, in order to achieve higher standards of low carbon energy efficiency required of our future homes.
- As part of the proposals, we are committed to targeting to delivering a policy compliant affordable housing provision.

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How would you ensure that Sir John Moore Barracks becomes a distinctive place?

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Development principle 3

A walkable neighbourhood

Due to the site's military use, there is currently no public access through the site. The proposals present a real opportunity to open up the site through an internal network of footpaths, cycle infrastructure and streets. This would connect to the local network of roads and footpaths, as well as existing public transport and cycle networks.

Reflecting feedback received from the local community as part of our previous consultation back in 2020/21, there will be no primary vehicle access onto Kennel Lane. All vehicular access will be from Andover Road. Whilst no vehicular access is proposed, Kennel Lane does present opportunities for pedestrian and cycle routes.

We can create a walkable neighbourhood in many different ways:

- Mixed local facilities within walking distance.
- A pedestrian-first streetscape.
- Extensive site permeability and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists inside and outside the site.
- New paths creating safe and attractive routes to green spaces.
- Streets designed to be pedestrian and cycle friendly.
- High quality walking connections to and from existing local infrastructure.



Local connections to the site



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How would you ensure that Sir John Moore Barracks becomes a walkable neighbourhood?

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Development principle 4

Enhancing biodiversity and the landscape

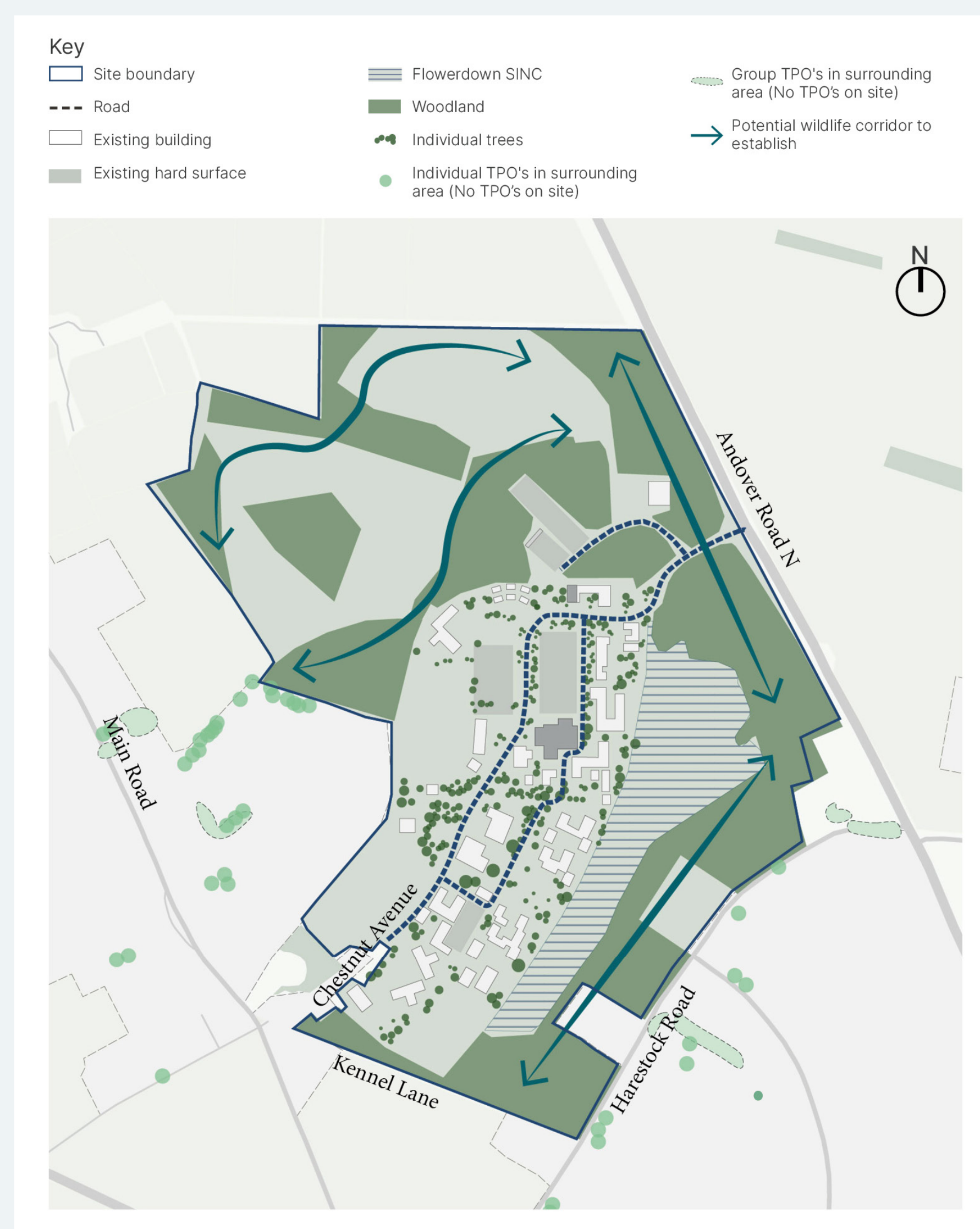
There is considerable opportunity to create biodiverse solutions to the nature emergency declared by Winchester City Council. We can do this by bring forward a landscape led masterplan with a significant amount of green space provided for the benefit of both new and existing residents, opening up a site that has historically been largely closed off to the public.

The proposals present an opportunity to retain and enhance the ecological value of the site, for example through the enhancement and connection of woodland habitats, improved management of areas of importance to nature conservation and incorporating biodiversity within the built environment. As part of the proposals, we are committed to delivering a biodiversity net gain of at least 10%.

With much of the site being undulating, with several small valley features running across it, and with four grass training fields form flatter open spaces adjacent to the buildings, there is significant opportunity to create a distinctive neighbourhood.

The tree cover surrounding the site provides extensive screening. A sensitive approach is required to the north western training field and Kennel Lane in order to protect the semi-rural character of Littleton Village where clear sight lines exist.

With parts of the site at risk of flooding from surface water and groundwater flooding we will also ensure that any residential and commercial development will be situated outside of these areas.



Wildlife links

The site's existing landscape includes a range of habitats, with Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI) including hedgerows, woodland and calcareous grassland. These are home to several species including badgers, bats, dormouse, and reptiles. The site is also home to Flowerdown SINC, a designated Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.



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How would you ensure that Sir John Moore Barracks enhances biodiversity and the landscape?

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Next steps

The below timeline is subject to change but represents our intention for the delivery of new homes to coincide with the closure of the barracks.



We want your feedback

The DIO is committed to a comprehensive and transparent four-stage consultation programme:

This first stage of our new consultation is focused on gathering feedback on our vision and development principles, as well as welcoming further ideas and feedback on the site and how it best fits in with and supports the surrounding context.

We will also be holding a number of dedicated workshops to which stakeholders and residents will be invited to attend.

Throughout our engagement we will be consulting with key local stakeholders such as Littleton and Harestock Parish Council and other surrounding Parishes, as well as WCC ward councillors, in addition to local groups such as Winchester Action on Climate Crisis and Winchester Community Sport Alliance.



Have your say

In the meantime, please take the time to complete a feedback form and let us know your thoughts on how the masterplan for the site should be developed.

You can also tell us your views online by making comments on our interactive map or by completing our online survey by visiting **www.sirjohnmoorewinchester.co.uk** or scanning the QR code below.



Contact us

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(no stamp or postcode required)