

Fawley Waterside Ltd Fawley Southampton Hampshire SO45 1TW

19 October 2017

Dear Sirs,

## Fawley Waterside Public Exhibitions: Response from the New Forest Access Forum

A number of members of the New Forest Access Forum attended the recent public exhibitions on the redevelopment of the Fawley Power Station site. The purpose of this letter is to convey the Forum's initial thoughts and comments on the proposals for the site set out at the exhibitions.

The New Forest Access Forum is the statutory Local Access Forum for the New Forest National Park and South West Hampshire (New Forest District Council area) as required under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The appointing authorities are the <a href="New Forest National Park Authority">New Forest National Park Authority</a> and <a href="Hampshire County Council">Hampshire County Council</a>. The Forum is an independent body and is not bound by the policies of its appointing authorities. It represents a wealth of experience in aspects of countryside recreation and rights of way, with a balance of membership between those who use paths (walkers, horse riders, cyclists and disabled users), those who provide that access (farmers, land managers etc) and other interests such as conservation and education.

The Forum broadly welcomes the proposal to develop this site for residential and business purposes but is particularly concerned that this development should provide an adequate, coherent and accessible network of recreational walking and cycling access routes, both within the site and linking to the wider area (for example an off-road walking/cycling route between Fawley and Calshot; circular recreational routes within the area that are signed and surfaced to an appropriate standard for all users, including those with disabilities and/or mobility problems).

The Forum represents a fund of local knowledge and understanding of access issues within the New Forest National Park and the surrounding area. We would like to work with Fawley Waterside, New Forest District Council and our appointing authorities to ensure the best possible outcomes for recreational access associated with this site, and request that the Forum be included in all future consultation relating to this development.

Yours faithfully,

## **Ruth Croker**

Ruth Croker Chairman

The New Forest Access Forum is the Local Access Forum for the New Forest National Park and Southwest Hampshire, and is a requirement under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.