

Appendices

Appendix 1: Intranet post to staff advertising internal consultation (TBC)

Science Capability in Animal Health (SCAH) Programme

Town and Country planning programme

In the March 2020 Budget, funding for the transformation of APHA's Weybridge facility and the construction of a new Science Hub on the site was secured. This started a long-term programme to future-proof the UK's science capability in animal health (the Science Capability in Animal Health (SCAH) programme). This 15 year programme will redevelop and transform the Weybridge site and deliver a new state-of-the-art science hub, alongside science, digital, estates and sustainability transformation.

Facilities at Weybridge are approaching 60 years old and need investment to keep pace with innovation. Without significant investment, the site will progressively decline, leaving UK at risk when we face a major disease outbreak, particularly as APHA's Weybridge site is the UK's primary capability for managing the continuously evolving threats posed by the spread of high-risk

The SCAH programme supports APHA's mission to safeguard animal health for the benefit of people, the environment, and the economy by:

- Securing and enhancing the UK's capability to respond to zoonotic diseases
- Underpinning UK trade capability
- Protecting public health

Since the funding announcement, significant work has been carried out to establish a detailed scheme for the redevelopment at Weybridge, and enabling works (i.e., demolitions to clear the site) have begun. For recent developments, take a look at the [SCAH News Hub](#).

Timeline of key SCAH programme milestones

- 2022: Proof of value work begins
- 2024: Planning application granted
- 2027: Science hub construction begins
- 2032: Building complete, and final works undertaken
- 2034: Science hub operational
- 2036: Programme complete

Further information

- APHA Science Blog | [Securing the UK's animal health scientific capability](#)
- National Audit Office Report | [Improving the UK's science capability for managing animal diseases](#)
- Defra Leaders' Blog | [The Science Capability in Animal Health \(SCAH\) Programme investing in our science capability](#)

Related content

- [Projects](#)

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Appendix 2: Newsletter circulated to staff

Public planning consultation for redevelopment at APHA, Weybridge - all you need to know

The Science Capability in Animal Health (SCAH) programme is delivering redevelopment of APHA's site in New Haw, near Weybridge. The redevelopment includes the construction of a new centralised Science Hub. In preparation for submitting the Master Outline Planning Application (MOPA) for this redevelopment we will be engaging with the local community, sharing our vision for the new science campus and providing an opportunity for people to talk to senior staff leading the programme and feedback any concerns or suggestions.

The programme is progressing well, and the submission of the Masterplan is an exciting milestone in our plans to redevelop the Weybridge site to deliver world-class scientific facilities to match our world-class expertise.

This local public planning consultation will take place online over three weeks from Monday 5 June 2023 until Friday 23 June 2023. We will also be holding a series of drop-in events on 8, 15 and 22 June at the New Haw Community Centre on Woodham Lane, for residents to view the outline plans and speak to staff to find out more.

If you live near the site, you may receive a letter inviting you to take part in the consultation.

We are also holding a drop-in session for those based at APHA Weybridge on Thursday 1 June. It will be in the Atrium from 2.30-3.30pm and you will be able find out more about the consultation and senior leaders will be available to answer questions.

Guidance for staff

The planning consultation and upcoming Master Outline Planning Application (MOPA) may heighten interest in the redevelopment plans for APHA Weybridge, any potential impact on neighbours and the science that is undertaken here. Although the redevelopment mainly affects staff working at Weybridge, APHA is a UK-wide organisation so there is a potential anyone working for APHA might be contacted.

- You may be asked questions from members of the public or media. Please direct enquiries to the SCAH Programme at localengagement@defra.gov.uk so we can track comments and reply
- Should you receive an enquiry from the media please direct to the [Defra press office](#)
- Please do not engage with people asking questions or commenting on social media. Please refer to APHA's [guidance on using social media](#).
- You are reminded to [always wear your security pass while on the premises and remove it before leaving](#).
- Please make sure you are familiar with security guidance on [what to do in the event of protest activity](#)
- For information on personal security please read [The Blue Book: A Guide to Personal Security | ProtectUK](#)

- If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to your line manager or email localengagement@defra.gov.uk

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Appendix 3: Leaflet circulated to residents



A new Master Outline Plan for the Animal and Plant Health Agency site:

**Woodham Lane, New Haw, near
Weybridge**



Introduction

We are preparing a new Master Outline Plan for the world-leading Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) site on Woodham Lane, New Haw, near Weybridge, to allow us to consolidate existing facilities into a new state-of-the-art science centre.

This leaflet outlines why this work is so important, how it will be delivered and the steps we are taking to minimise impact on our neighbours.

What does the Animal and Plant Health Agency do?

APHA works to protect animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the economy and the environment.

We employ over 3,500 staff, including world-leading scientific experts, and we play a key role in nurturing the next generation of UK scientists and specialist engineers. This includes over 1,000 people based at the New Haw site.

The science carried out by APHA is world-renowned, and we collaborate with national and international partners from government, academia and industry on a wide range of research projects.

Why do we need a new masterplan?

APHA has been at New Haw for over 100 years and many of the buildings on our main site need significant investment and upgrading to allow us to continue to deliver world-leading science in the future.

Our new masterplan will be delivered through a major government investment project – the Science Capability in Animal Health (SCAH) Programme. This 12–15-year project will create a state-of-the-art science centre to safeguard and improve the UK's capability to deliver research and respond to emerging disease threats to animals, people and the environment.

The masterplan will be within the boundary of the existing site, replacing a large number of buildings with a modern, aesthetically pleasing science centre. We will initially seek planning approval for the principle of the masterplan and will then submit separate detailed proposals for individual elements. We will consult you and you will have a chance to comment at all stages.



Whilst some work will take place before this, we hope to begin most of our main building work in 2027 to complete the main buildings by 2032 so we want your views to help us plan the change.

What this offers the local community

- The site is a large local employer, and this investment will ensure that it continues to thrive. It will create employment opportunities for local people and benefit the local economy
- We are committed to supporting local community groups. A large area of Defra owned land is already being used by the Holme Farm Community Workshop and Gardens. (Since becoming a charity in 2022 Holme Farm has been working to become a hub for local people that will include workshops, gardens, and wildlife).
- The plans include work to improve flood management along the River Bourne. The improved landscape will increase habitat across the site and surrounding areas attracting wildlife and increasing biodiversity.
- The programme will embed sustainability in building design and construction activities
- We are committed to working closely with the local community throughout the development, keeping you informed and listening to your views

How to find out more

We will be holding a three-week online consultation which opens on 5 June and closes on 23 June. There will be a series of 'drop-in' events at the New Haw Community Centre on Woodham Lane where you can view the vision for the redeveloped science campus and talk to senior staff leading the programme. These will take place on the following dates and times:

- Thursday 8 June from 4:00 – 7:00pm
- Thursday 15 June from 5:00 – 8:00pm
- Thursday 22 June from 4:00 – 7:00pm

Information about how you can share your views or attend these events is available at <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/scah-programme/have-your-say>

If you would like to know more but cannot attend an event you can contact us at: localengagement@defra.gov.uk or write to Local Engagement – SCAH Programme, Building 33, APHA-Weybridge, Woodham Lane, KT15 3NB



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Appendix 4: Information boards displayed at exhibition

1

APHA, New Haw

The Future of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) site, New Haw

Welcome to our planning public consultation about a new outline masterplan for APHA's New Haw site.



APHA: Who are we?

APHA is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs. We provide critical services to protect animal, bee and plant health.

Our work contributes £12 billion pounds annually to the UK economy by facilitating international trade in animals, animal products and plants.

Our plans for APHA at New Haw

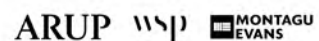
We need to upgrade the facilities on the site so we can continue to deliver our critical services.

We have developed the Science Capability in Animal Health (SCAH) masterplan which provides a framework to deliver modern science facilities, and a Science Centre, on the New Haw site.

Public Planning Consultation

The aim of this public planning consultation is to share the outline plans for redevelopment. We welcome your feedback on our masterplan proposals and all comments will be considered before our planning application is submitted to Runnymede Borough Council.

This is the start of the planning and design process. Future detailed applications will be submitted for individual buildings and there will be further opportunities for you to engage and comment on those proposals.



The History of Science at the APHA



1865 EARLY DAYS
The government establishes a veterinary diagnostic service to deal with major animal disease epidemics.



1905 STOCKMAN
Stewart Stockman is appointed as Chief Veterinary Officer to lead the research on animal disease control.



1917 ESTABLISHED
The Addlestone Institute is established as a centre for research on animal diseases.



1937 CVL ESTABLISHED
The site, now known as the Central Veterinary Laboratory, is extended with more science departments and laboratories.



2014 APHA FORMED
AHVLA expands to include parts of Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) and Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate (PHSI) to become APHA.



2011 LABORATORY MERGER
The Veterinary Laboratories Agency merges with Animal Health to become the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA).



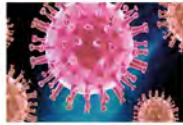
1990 LEADING THE FIELD
Diagnosing the first case of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) in the 1980s, we lead its eradication from cattle, with the link to variant Creutzfeldt Jakob disease in people being established in 1996.



1980 FOOD SAFETY
CVL's remit expands beyond 'the farm gate' to tackle disease in the food chain to protect food security.



2017 100 YEARS
APHA celebrates 100 years of scientific achievements.



2020 COVID-19
APHA confirms the first case of COVID-19 in a pet cat alongside supporting the human diagnostic efforts in the UK.



2022 BIRD FLU
APHA plays a vital role in detecting and controlling bird flu outbreaks in the UK.



2023 ROYAL VISITS
HM King visits the New Haw site to thank APHA staff for their work on protecting animal and human health.

APHA'S SITE OVER 100 YEARS

1932



1960



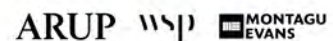
1980



2005



THE FUTURE



APHA's Vision for the Future



The APHA site at New Haw has grown organically over many years. This means national critical science is being carried out in facilities of different ages and quality across the campus.

The Masterplan aims to consolidate science operations on the site to enable APHA to work more efficiently and effectively. This will include the refurbishment of some existing buildings, the demolition of old stock, and construction of new world class science facilities. This will be supported by a landscape and biodiversity framework to restore clarity and order to the site. New building work will be to high sustainable and environmental standards to support the UK in its drive to Net Zero Carbon in 2050.

1932



ORIGINAL

- Clarity of Masterplan framework
- "Human scale" brick buildings
- Clear relationship between buildings and landscape

2023



CURRENT

- Lack of clarity of Masterplan framework
- Poor quality outdoor space
- Lack of green space to support biodiversity and wellbeing

2035....



IMPROVED

- Restoring clarity of the Masterplan framework
- Reusing structure where possible, reinforcing existing infrastructure and building new where needed
- Increasing biodiversity across the site

What will the proposal achieve?

1 CREATE A MODERN SCIENCE CAMPUS



Establish a design framework that protects critical services and enables high quality research.

2 ENHANCE LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY



Integrate sustainable solutions for a thriving, biodiverse, and resilient site.

3 CREATE A CAMPUS OF SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

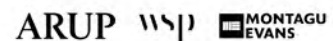


Reorganise the site to deliver world class science fit for the future.

4 LOCAL LEGACY



Secure world class science on the APHA New Haw site.



Our Masterplan Explained

The redevelopment will include a range of specialist science facilities, energy and infrastructure support buildings, and office and green space.

Most of the development will be on the Main site with support facilities on the satellite sites, Coombelands and Grange.

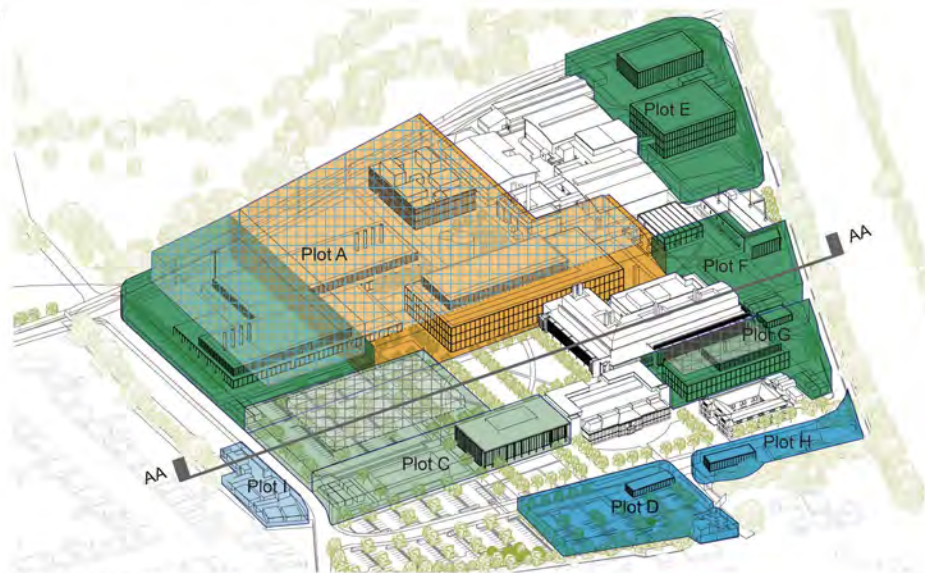
We have developed maximum plot areas and heights (shown in orange, green and blue) within which the new buildings can be located. The buildings will not extend to the full plot size.

The exact layout and location of the buildings are not yet decided. The Masterplan images are illustrative schemes of possible options.



Overview of Site and Application Boundary

- 5m Flue height zone from top of max plot height
- Up to 5m
- Up to 8m
- Up to 13m
- Up to 15m
- Up to 25m
- Up to 34m Chimney Stack and Flue height zone



Main Site Diagram showing Illustrative Scheme and Maximum Parameter Volumes



Main Site - Max Parameter Section AA

--- Development Boundary



Landscape and Biodiversity Proposals

The proposals aim to protect the valuable ecological features on the site, and to promote new habitats which will be maintained to secure their sustainable growth for the future.



ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEME

GRANGE SITE

Landscape and Biodiversity Framework

- Development boundary
- 1 Existing trees/woodland to be retained and enhanced
- 2 Proposed wet woodland planting
- 3 Riverbank habitat creation (wetlands, reedbeds ditches and marshy grassland)
- 4 Enhanced existing hedgerow
- 5 River Bourne with bank profile improvements
- 6 Existing grassland to be retained and enhanced
- 7 Flood compensation area with grassland habitat
- 8 Improved access to Public Rights of Way
- 9 Biodiverse pasture on fields with modified slopes
- 10 Tree planting for screening
- 11 Landscape enclosure
- 12 Green roofs and living walls to buildings
- 13 Permeable car parking
- 14 Feature landscape
- 15 Green area



Increasing planting diversity to help existing and new habitats adapt to climate change



Retaining mature trees wherever possible and enhancing hedgerows



Enhancing wildlife corridors linking new green spaces within the site and connecting to surrounding landscape



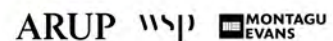
Improving outdoor facilities for staff and visitors



Implementing flood defence and wetland features to mitigate flood risk and improve water quality



Trees, planting, and permeable surfacing will provide shelter, urban cooling, and absorption of storm water run-off



Defra's Social Contribution



SUPPORTING SOCIETY

Defra promotes Green Social Prescribing (GSP) and this offers benefits to local wellbeing. Defra has made surplus land available to Holme Farm Community Workshop and Gardens.



LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY

A landscape and biodiversity framework will deliver a series of environmental improvements, helping Defra to establish an exemplar of land management in the UK.



NATIONAL ECONOMY

APHA contributes £12 billion annually to our economy through trading in animals and plants and their products including fresh produce.



NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING

Significant Government investment will safeguard the UK's critical science facility protecting us and animals from the continued threat of new and existing animal diseases.



ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEME



DESIGN AND SUSTAINABILITY

The programme will embed high standards of sustainability and consolidate buildings, providing improved landscape.



LOCAL COMMUNITY

We are committed to working closely with the local community throughout the redevelopment.



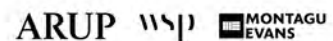
FLOOD PREVENTION

The plans for investment will include work to improve flood prevention around the River Bourne, which will benefit the local area.



LARGE LOCAL EMPLOYER

APHA is a large local employer, employing over 1,000 people, and this investment will ensure that it continues to create opportunities for local people.



Protecting the Environment

The Environmental Impact Assessment will aim to avoid or reduce a negative impact on the environment and promote benefits of the Masterplan as part of the planning application. Below are a selection of key topics:



The open space adjacent to the River Bourne is an **attractive environment** that we will enhance by creating a **'wet woodland'**. Habitat along the riverbank will also be improved.



Best practice measures will be adopted to **minimise construction noise** for neighbours. Mitigation measures will also be adopted where necessary.



Buildings located near the main site will be **stepped back to limit impact**, and **new planting and habitat will provide screening**.



There will be measures to **absorb run-off and underground flood storage tanks**. Water permeating the ground will be considered when designing new or deeper basements.



A discrete area near the Halls Site has high archaeological potential due to the presence of a Roman cemetery. Appropriate measures will be in place so that **any archaeological findings are suitably managed**.



There is one chimney stack on the site and one more will be added. **Emissions from both will be controlled through permits** to meet rigorous air quality standards.



When developing our designs, we have been mindful of the homes located nearby. **Options for Public Rights of Way are being considered**.



A construction route will be upgraded where it crosses public footpaths and screened where it is near homes. A traffic plan will **limit construction vehicle access and impact on local traffic**.

Have Your Say!

Next Steps

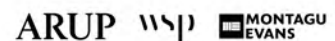
Thank you for looking at our plans. We welcome your feedback on our Masterplan Outline Planning Application (MOPA). Your feedback will be submitted with Runnymede Borough Council after the summer to allow us to take it into account when finalising our plans. We will publish our response to comments on the consultation website and when we submit our outline planning application.

You will also be able to send your comments directly to Runnymede Borough Council during the planning period via their online planning portal.

Contact Us:

- ✉ localengagement@defra.gov.uk
- 🗨 Local Engagement – SCAH Programme
- Building 33
- APHA Weybridge
- Woodham Lane
- KT15 3NB

Thank you and please add comments in the suggestion box



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Appendix 5: Letter of Support from Ben Spencer MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

APHA Local Engagement Team
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our reference: BS27415

23 June 2023

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Re: APHA Master Outline Plan consultation response

I write in response to the APHA Master Outline Plan consultation seeking local views on the planned redevelopment of the APHA site in New Haw.

Following Government commitments to large scale investment in the Animal and Plant Health Agency, headquartered in New Haw, I welcome the progress made and the publication of plans to deliver these improvements. I am also grateful for the local engagement that has accompanied this consultation, which has included meetings with local representatives as well as three community events and direct mailouts to local residents.

The APHA plays a vital role in UK trade, science and health. Its work underpins all trade in plant and animal products, while its research capacity ensures effective monitoring of and response to zoonotic disease – diseases that can pass from animal to humans. Their work has included responding to outbreaks of avian flu, BSE and Bovine TB, as well as investigating reports of covid spreading from humans to animals during the pandemic. This vital work needs state of the art facilities, and I am delighted this investment is now being made.

It has been my pleasure to recently visit the site on two occasions. While the work of the APHA is impressive, the site itself is clearly in need of investment and improvements. This is a great opportunity to ensure our science capabilities are not only maintained, but expanded, so we are prepared to meet future challenges that may arise. It will also improve conditions for staff currently working on the site and open the potential to invite representatives from the international scientific community to learn and collaborate with leading UK scientists.

Any development should also benefit the local community. In addition to world renowned science, the New Haw site also supports the local economy, community, and environment. As a large local employer, work to invest in and expand facilities will improve conditions and safeguard thousands of highly skilled jobs for years to come. I am pleased the consultation also highlights a desire to offer greater training opportunities through apprenticeships and working with local schools and colleges.

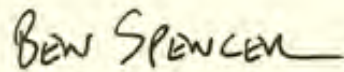
I also welcome the social and environmental benefits referenced in the outline plan. The agreement for Defra land to be used for the Holme Farm Community Workshop and gardens has enabled real progress on this ambitious project. This has the potential to not only benefit local residents but also support school and health teams, while addressing the very real issues of loneliness and isolation. I am delighted Defra continue to support the project and I look forward to this continuing throughout this project and beyond.

The development plans also aim to deliver local environmental benefits, including improved flood management and increased biodiversity.

Overall the aims of this project are impressive and could deliver real benefits for both the country and community. It will, however, be important that the same level of ambition and consideration is applied to the delivery and development of the scheme should it receive planning permission. Local roads already suffer from congestion, especially at peak times, many residents live in close proximity to the site and any large-scale development will always cause some level of disruption.

Mitigating this, and ensuring clear communication and consideration of residents' needs, will be vital throughout this process. I am encouraged by the commitment to full engagement shown so far, and look forward to receiving regular updates from Defra as these plans proceed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Dr Ben Spencer MP
Runnymede and Weybridge