

Appendix 1 – KCC Heritage Conservation comments on the locations of the phases of the highways improvement works.

*Page 14 - Phase 1*

The Phase 1 area has a theoretically high potential for Pleistocene (fluvial terrace) deposits and associated Palaeolithic artefacts and faunal remains. Such remains could be of high significance. A Late Bronze Age funerary urn was found in 1918 during the digging of military practice trenches between Chattenden Barracks and Islingham Farm. Islingham (now Islingham Farm) acted as an estate centre in the medieval period and a late eleventh century chapel is recorded within the manor there. Extensive First World War military practice trenches are shown on historic aerial photographs north and south of Woodfield Way.

*Page 17 - Phase 2*

The Phase 2 section between Upchart Roundabout and Chattenden Lane is of particular significance for its military heritage as it passes through the former Chattenden Barracks site. The barracks provided accommodation for the soldiers guarding the nearby magazine. There remains the potential for the discovery of archaeological remains associated with the military use of the site, including the buried remains of the now demolished late nineteenth century barracks; the military railway line that connected Chattenden and Upnor; and an Armament Depot. In addition, there is some potential for presently unmapped gravel terrace deposits (Anglian or pre-Anglian) and late Bronze Age/early Iron Age activity previously recorded within former barracks site. Nearby, extensive Roman and Anglo-Saxon evidence has been discovered, at Four Elms and within Chattenden village, demonstrating the general archaeological potential of the area.

In the section east of Chattenden Lane, Mesolithic remains have been found at the Abbey Homes development. In addition, a second World War radar station existed at Deangate and wartime aerial photographs show it was accompanied by possible gun emplacements, storage areas, military support buildings and access roads.

*Page 23 - Phase 3*

The Phase 3 area is located at the point where the existing road network intersects with the Second World War GHQ stopline, which was a key part of the anti-invasion strategy developed in the immediate aftermath of the Dunkirk evacuation. It was made up of an anti-tank ditch with pillboxes. The stopline was assessed as part of the Historic England Hoo Landscape Project and is considered to be a highly significant heritage landscape. Some pillboxes have been designated as Listed Buildings, including examples nearby along Bells Lane. Anti-tank pillboxes have also been recorded adjacent to Dux Court Road and Peninsula Way (an ROC Post is also adjacent to the latter).

*Page 24 - Phase 4*

Crop and soil marks have been identified in fields alongside Roper's Lane and have been interpreted as perhaps representing a Romano-British enclosed settlement. The site also

has potential to contain Pleistocene deposits and associated Palaeolithic remains (artefacts and/or faunal).

*Page 26 - Phase 5*

Multi-period archaeological remains have been recorded at the Four Elms Roundabout. This includes Mesolithic or Neolithic pits, Late Bronze Age activity, a Romano-British enclosure, including a stone-built structure (interpreted as a corn-drier or malting oven), an Anglo-Saxon settlement with substantial post-built hall and other sunken featured buildings. The site also has a high potential for Pleistocene (fluvial terrace) deposits and associated Palaeolithic artefacts and faunal remains.

*Page 27 - Phase 6*

KCC comments for Phase 5 also apply here. In addition, there is a possible ring-ditch on the south side of Wulfere Way (plus Beaker / Bronze Age activity to the north). Further evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlement has been found adjacent to Wulfere Way and Romano-British activity has recently been identified close to Sans Pareil Roundabout. The site also has high potential for Pleistocene (fluvial terrace) deposits and associated Palaeolithic artefacts and faunal remains.