

Skelmersdale College, Lancashire

Sanderson Associates were appointed by Curtins Consulting on behalf of Newcastle, Skelmersdale and Ormskirk College to assess the traffic implications of the proposed relocation of Skelmersdale College.

The proposed £42 million College which is part funded by the Learning and Skills Council (the LSC) will provide modern state of the art accommodation for students of the College. The existing College is located to the south of the Town Centre. The application site is situated on a parcel of land to the rear of an existing foodstore served from Ingram within the centre of Skelmersdale some 600m north of the existing College.



The development contributes significantly to the regeneration of Skelmersdale and forms part of an overall masterplan to redevelop the Town Centre which includes a new high street, more shops, supermarket, a new leisure centre, community facilities, improvements to the Tawd Valley and housing.



The proposed development allows the College to relocate into a purpose built building and will accommodate in the region of 2700 pupils. The College will provide working environments such as hairdressing salons and a bistro which will be open to the public.

Sanderson Associates have provided a wide range of services to the Client on this project including:

- Scoping Study to agree the full scope of the Transport Assessment
- Transport Assessment to support the planning application
- Junction capacity analysis
- Accident and accessibility analysis
- Internal layout appraisal
- Travel Plan Framework

The scope of our studies were agreed with Officers of Lancashire County Council before work commenced on the Transport Assessment. Our involvement focused on the suitability of the local highway network to accommodate the likely traffic movements resulting from the proposed College and specifically the impact at the nearby foodstore access and Ingram/Northway roundabout.

A Travel Plan Framework was also produced which proposes measures in order to further encourage and promote the use of public transport and alternatives to the private car which will help to reduce traffic generation and car parking demand. Our studies confirmed that there were no highway reasons why the development should not proceed and the scheme was granted planning permission early in 2009 and the College is due to open in 2011.