78 PORTSMOUTH ROAD COBHAM SURREY KT11 1HY

# CEDAR SHOUSE

REPOSITIONED OFFICE
WITH EXCEPTIONAL
DEVELOPMENT & ALTERNATIVE USE
POTENTIAL





# **INVESTMENT SUMMARY**

Cedar House is currently owner occupied by Hexagon who will be vacating the building. Hexagon Corporate Services Limited will take a short-term leaseback on the whole building from completion of the sale.

- Freehold office building located within the affluent village of Cobham in the Borough of Elmbridge, Surrey.
- Situated within close proximity to Cobham High Street with a wealth of local and national retailers, including a Waitrose supermarket.
- Prominent 1.48-acre site with significant alternative use potential subject to obtaining the necessary consents.
- Cedar House is a highly specified office building totalling 31,113 sq ft which was subject to a £6 million refurbishment in 2019 (£193 per sq ft) to provide future-proofed office accommodation.
- 96 on-site car parking spaces providing an attractive ratio of 1:307 sq ft on the office accommodation.
- Draft allocated for residential within the emerging Elmbridge Local Plan, as well as the opportunity to take advantage of the recently amended Permitted Development rights subject to meeting the necessary requirements.

# PROPOSAL

Offers are invited for the freehold interest, subject to contract and exclusive of VAT.



# THE LOCATION



# COBHAM

#### AN AFFLUENT LOCATION

Cobham is a large, affluent Surrey village located 21 miles south west of Central London and 11 miles north east of Guildford. The village offers extensive connectivity to Greater London, Heathrow and Gatwick airports, in addition to the national motorway and railway networks.

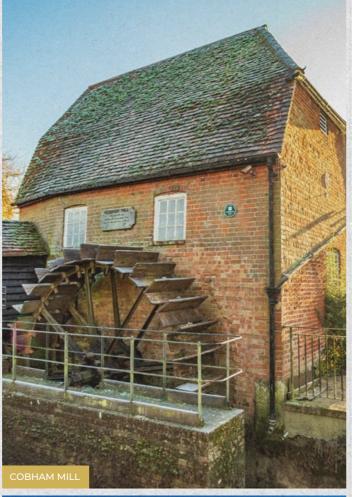
The property is a 5-minute drive from Cobham & Stoke D'Abernon railway station, providing regular direct rail services to London Waterloo, with a fastest journey time of 38 minutes.

Cedar House fronts Portsmouth Road which provides immediate access to the A3 (via the A245), a major trunk road that connects Cobham to the south, towards Guildford and Portsmouth, and north towards London. Both the A3 and M25 (Junction 10) can be reached in under 5 minutes.

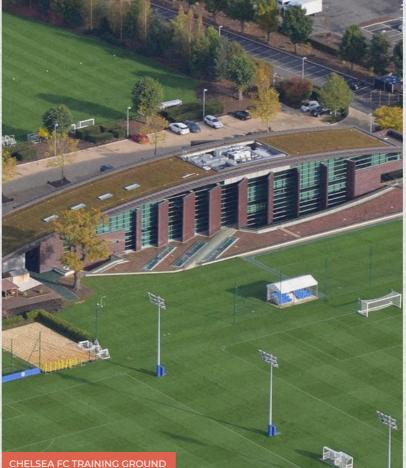
Cobham also benefits from being in close proximity to Esher, Woking and Walton-on-Thames which offer further amenity. Hampton Court Palace and Bushy Park, one of London's eight Royal Parks, can be reached in under 15 minutes.



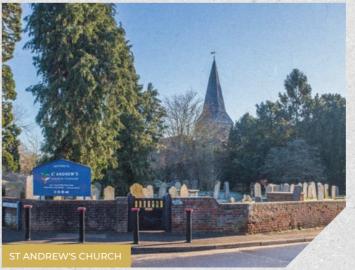












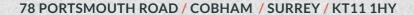




#### STEEPED IN HISTORY

Cobham is a village that is rich in history. It has an abundance of ancient buildings and key heritage sites with its origins tracing back to the Iron Age.

- Cobham Mill was built in 1822 and was used in grinding corn until the early 20th century and has now been restored to full working order.
- St Andrew's Church is a Grade I listed building, which dates back to the 12th century. The church preserves a Norman tower and for some 850 years, it continues to be an active church.
- Painshill is an 18th century landscape garden created by Charles Hamilton, inspired by his landscape paintings and travels across Europe. The park welcomes about 250,000 visitors each year to walk the work of art and submerge themselves into its history.



# CONNECTIVITY







# **SITUATION**

Cedar House is situated on the southern part of Portsmouth Road offering easy access to the A3 in less than 3 minutes' drive time, as well as Cobham High Street just a 5-minute walk away.

The surrounding area offers a vast array of local amenities including Waitrose & Partners, GAIL's Bakery, The Ivy, Mint Velvet and Sweaty Betty. A selection of independent shops, restaurants and historic architecture provides an ideal balance between a bustling village and a peaceful countryside backdrop.



Crawley

# THE PROPERTY

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# **DESCRIPTION**

Cedar House is a prominent office building fronting Portsmouth Road, providing 31,113 sq ft over ground and three upper floors.

Originally constructed in 1997, the property has a concrete frame with external brick cladding and is rich in amenities such as conference rooms and event space. The ground level entrance opens to an attractive full height atrium, forming the centrepiece of the building, along with a spacious reception. The ground floor also benefits from a fully fitted auditorium along with kitchen and dining areas.

# **SPECIFICATION**



Highly specified, future-proofed office accommodation



Flexible floor plates



Floor to ceiling height of 3.3 metres



Fully fitted auditorium comprising a large LED display screen



2 passenger lifts



96 on-site car
parking spaces
(ratio of
1:307 sq ft
on the office
accommodation)



EV charging provision



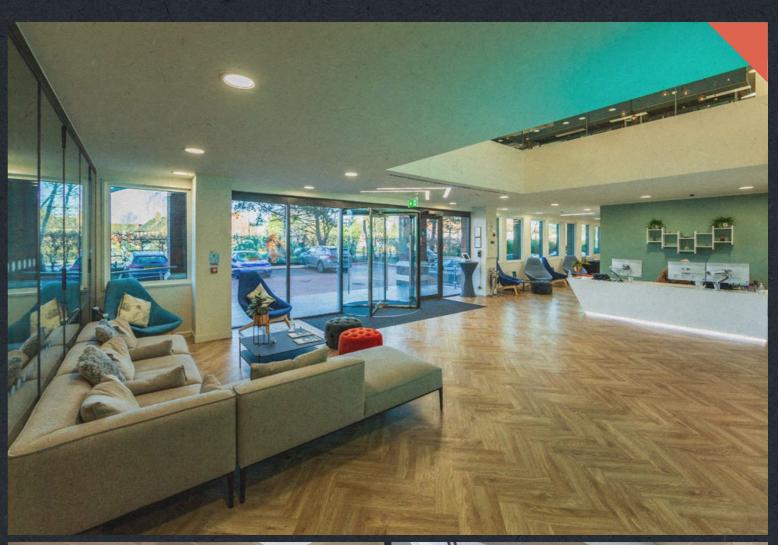
Cycle racks



Shower and changing facilities



Locker facilities











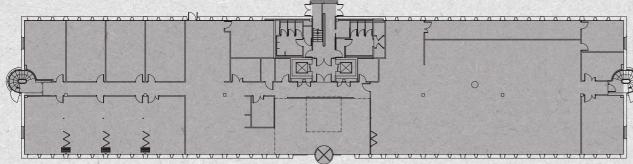


# **ACCOMMODATION**

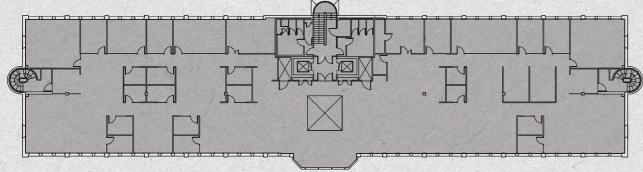
The property has been measured by PRE Chartered Surveyors in accordance with the RICS Code of Measuring Practice 6th Edition (January 2018). The survey, which can be assigned to the purchaser, provides the following floor areas:

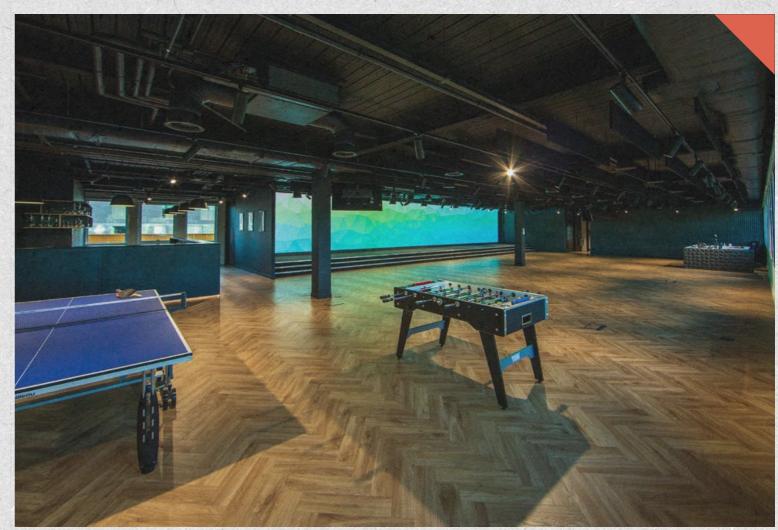
| Floor  | Use             | NIA (sq m) | NIA (sq ft) | GIA (sq m) | GIA (sq ft) |
|--------|-----------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Third  | Storage / Comms | 82         | 884         | 642        | 6,905       |
| Second | Office          | 931        | 10,019      | 1,041      | 11,210      |
| First  | Office          | 931        | 10,016      | 1,042      | 11,215      |
| Ground | Office          | 880        | 9,472       | 1,045      | 11,249      |
|        | Reception       | 67         | 722         |            |             |
| TOTAL  |                 | 2,891      | 31,113      | 3,770      | 40,579      |





**Typical Upper Floor Plan** 















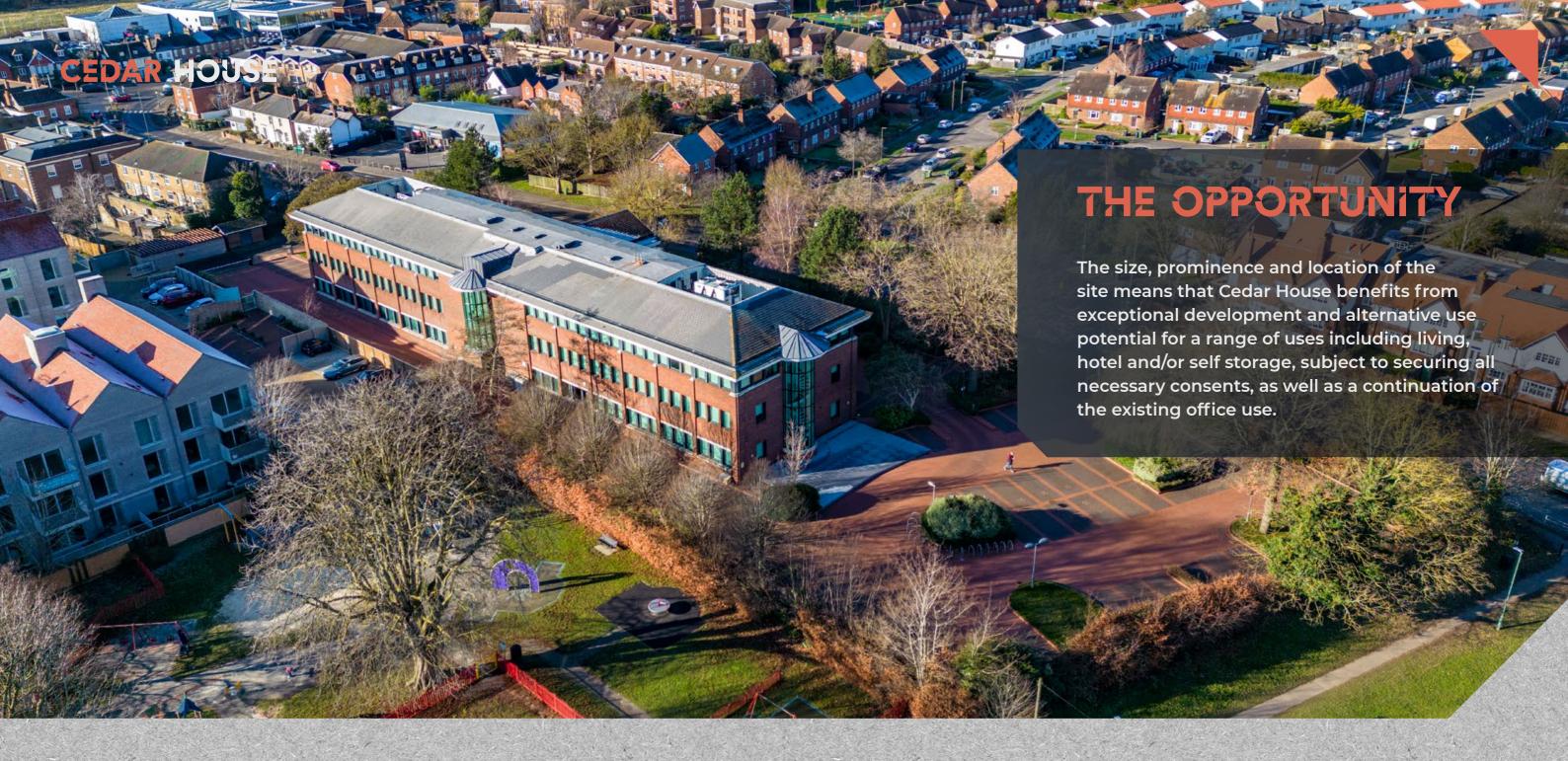
# THE SITE





# THE OPPORTUNITY

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# LIVING







LATER LIVING



**CARE HOME** 

# COMMERCIAL



OFFICE



**SERVICED OFFICE** 

# **ALTERNATIVE**



SELF-STORAGE



HOTEL

# THE OPPORTUNITY: RESIDENTIAL

The property offers an excellent opportunity to acquire a prominent site with strong residential redevelopment potential. The site is located within a prime commuter area, offering fast and frequent rail services into Central London and easily accessible motorway connections.

The immediate surrounding area is characterised by new, high-quality residential development, with Lifestory and Beechcroft having recently completed Later Living schemes to the immediate south west and west of Cedar House respectively.

#### **FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Scene Architects have undertaken a feasibility study on two bases: conversion of the existing building and a demolition and rebuild.

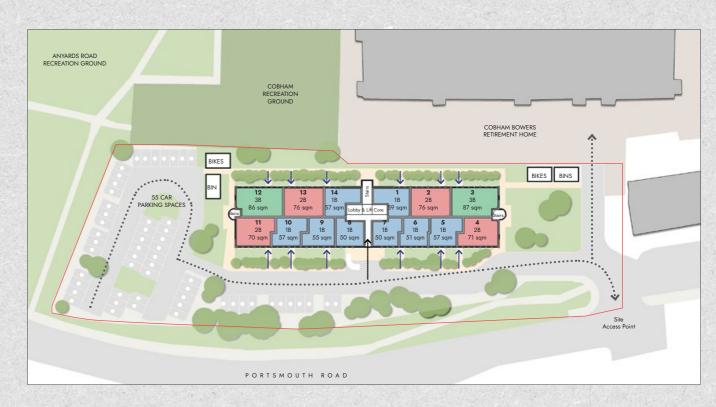
Option 1 outlines a conversion of the existing building, providing 42 units with 55 car parking spaces. This does not take into account any additional storeys under Class AA or extensions to the building.

Option 2 outlines a redevelopment of the site, providing 60 units arranged in 3 blocks with 84 car parking spaces and associated communal facilities.

#### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**



#### Feasibility Study - Option 1



#### **Feasibility Study - Option 2**



The above drawings are prepared for indicative purposes only.

# THE OPPORTUNITY: RESIDENTIAL

#### **PLANNING SUMMARY**

JLL's Planning & Development team have prepared a detailed Planning Feasibility Report which can be found in the data room. The highlights are summarised below:

The site previously sat within Strategic Employment Land ("SEL") as per the Adopted Elmbridge Core Strategy Planning Policy Map (2011). However, within the emerging Local Plan (likely to be adopted in Autumn 2024) significant redevelopment potential has been sought with the site no longer designated within SEL. JLL's report identifies a number of key Policies that would support residential development at the site:

- 1. The site is draft allocated for 30 residential units, with a delivery period of 11-15 years (due to its previous unavailability through the building being subject to a 10 year lease). The Local Plan also highlights that the site does not have any major development constraints to overcome.
- 2. The Core Strategy Policy CS2 states that the Council plans for approximately 3,375 net additional dwellings (225 net dwellings annual average) within the Borough between 2011 and 2026. Elmbridge's Five Year Housing Supply 2023-2028 states a current shortfall in dwellings equating to 3.81 years of housing supply.
- 3. Policy CSI states that the Council will direct new residential development towards previously developed land, within existing built-up areas.

4. The Council will support the development of specialist accommodation for older people in suitable locations, noting that developments should incorporate a high proportion of two-bedroom units.

#### PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT

Subject to meeting the necessary requirements, there is an opportunity to convert the existing building to residential under Class MA following the recent amendments to the Permitted Development Rights. Scene Architects have provided a scheme as seen on the previous page that offers 42 units. This does not account for any Class AA (additional two storeys) or further extensions to the building.

#### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The current Core Strategy Policy CS21 states that on development sites of 15 dwellings or more, a 40% provision of affordable housing is required. However the Draft Local Plan, submitted to the Secretary of State on 10 August 2023, maintains that on brownfield sites or sites with 10 or more units, only a 30% affordable housing contribution will be sought as part of residential development.

#### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY**

Elmbridge started collecting CIL in April 2013. The CIL charge was set in 2013 at £125 per sq m for residential dwellings. The CIL charge is liable to indexation which is calculated using the national All-in Tender Price Index published by the BCIS. With indexation, the current charge for 2024 is £212.61 per sq m for residential dwellings.



# THE OPPORTUNITY: OFFICE

Following a £6 million refurbishment in 2019, Cedar House presents an excellent opportunity for continuation of its existing office use be it for an investor, owner occupier or serviced office provider. Cobham is undersupplied with best-in-class office accommodation with rents at a discount to competing centres, making Cedar House highly attractive to an occupier.

#### THE ATTRACTION OF CEDAR HOUSE







#### **INVESTOR**

No day one capital expenditure requirements

Flexible floor plates offering ultimate flexibility

Limited competition in the locality

Attractive headline rents yet discounted to neighbouring markets

Ability to significantly enhance the asset value

Site underpinned by alternative use potential

#### **OWNER OCCUPIER**

Self-contained headquarters office building

Offers a turnkey solution following recent refurbishment works

Attractive car parking ratio at 1:307 sq ft on the office accommodation

Prominent site with branding potential

Easy access to major motorways, rail connections and London airports

#### **SERVICED OFFICE PROVIDER**

Situated in close proximity to a wide range of amenities

Floor plate configuration lends itself to a range of smaller, self-contained suites

Existing amenity in the building will appeal to occupiers

A dearth of competing serviced offices in the surrounding area

#### **KEY THEMES**







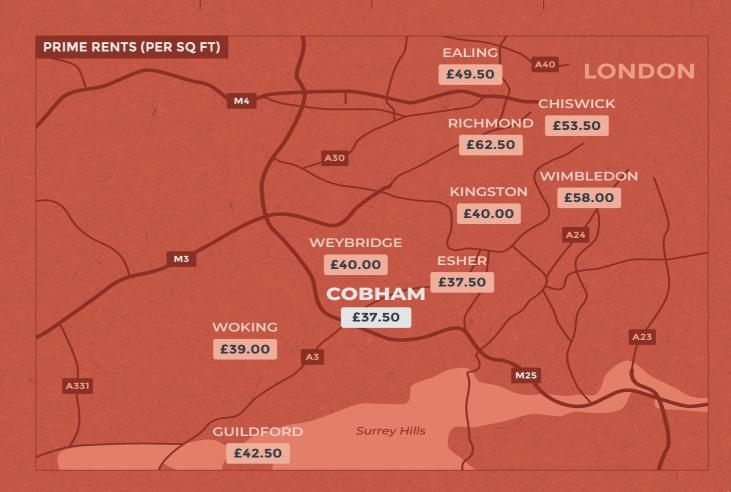


Grade A
accommodation
is increasingly in
demand, notably
in undersupplied
markets such as
Cobham and the
wider South West
M25 quadrant

Headline rental
growth for best-inclass offices such
as Cedar House
which has recently
benefitted from a
£6m refurbishment
to provide
future-proofed
accommodation

Amenity provision
and well-being remains
core to occupier
decision making –
Cedar House offers
extensive breakout,
catering, and event
spaces, as well as being
a 5-minute walk to
Cobham High Street

Strong demand from occupiers for turnkey solutions such as Cedar House where negligible capital expenditure is required



# THE PROPOSAL

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# **FURTHER INFORMATION**

#### **EPC**

The property has an EPC rating of D (86).

#### **Data Room**

Access to the data room is available on request. Parties are encouraged to undertake their own due diligence in advance of submitting a proposal.

#### VAT

The property is elected for VAT.

#### AML

In accordance with Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations, the purchaser will be required to satisfy the vendor on the source of funds used to complete the transaction.

#### **Tenure**

The property is held freehold under title number SY654891.

#### Leaseback

Cedar House is currently owner occupied by Hexagon who will be vacating the building.

Hexagon Corporate Services Limited will take a leaseback up to 2 years on the whole building from completion of the sale at a peppercorn rent, with rolling monthly break options at a mutually agreeable timescale from commencement of the leaseback.

There will be no dilapidations liability on expiry of the leaseback.





# CONTACTS



Noel Lander Capital Markets 07931 371 825 noel.lander@jll.com



Will Botsford
Residential Land & Development
07710 860 294
william.botsford@jll.com



Yasmin Foley
Capital Markets
07709 507 207
yasmin.foley@jll.com



Stuart Austin
Office Agency
07912 299 725
stuart.austin@jll.com



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