

Dear Ms Sully

We are in receipt of Geoff Bullock's email on behalf of the applicant that was sent to you on 11 October. We thought it would be helpful to the Examining Authority to clarify the Local Authorities' position in relation to the Statement of Common Ground.

The Authorities are in agreement with the applicant's assessment of the position.

The Authorities have had a good working relationship with the applicant throughout the pre-application process and continue to do so. This has included working to agreed timescales and sharing our relative positions in respect of key issues and application documents in order to address as many outstanding issues as possible in advance of any hearings, in order to better assist the Examining Authority.

The Authorities had been working to submission of a draft of the Statement of Common Ground on 1 November, following the Applicant having had sight of the Authorities draft Local Impact Report.

As a result of sharing the Authorities draft Local Impact Report, some outstanding issues have been identified and officers from both Authorities are working with the applicant in order to address these matters in order to better assist the Examining Authority.

The Authorities are therefore in agreement with the applicant's assessment that it would be more beneficial to the Examining Authority to receive the draft Statement of Common Ground once this work has been completed as planned.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Michael Reynolds

**Michael Reynolds**

Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure)

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