



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR LONDON

David McCollum  
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Your ref: 04/1800/F  
Our ref: LRP 13/E5330/0/51

Tel: 0207 217 3140  
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Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2005

Dear Mr McCollum

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 77  
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (INQUIRIES PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) RULES 2000  
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER  
1995**

**SITE – Part of River Thames at Gallions Reach, London SE28. Land between River Thames and A2016 Eastern Way, Thamesmead SE28. (The Site extends to land adjoining A406, A13, A1020 Royal Docks Road and Armada Way, London E 6 and IG11; also part of the River Thames at Gallions Reach, London E6 in LB Newham)**

1. I am directed by the first Secretary of State to refer to the applications made by Transport for London to the London Borough of Greenwich (reference number 04/1800/F) and London Borough of Newham (reference number P/04/1470) for part full and part outline planning permission for the following development of the above land:-

Thames Gateway Bridge Linking The A13/A406 in Beckton To The A2016 Eastern Way, Thamesmead And Associated Works And Buildings.

2. The Secretary of State's policy on call-in is set out in Richard Caborn's statement of 16<sup>th</sup> June 1999 in reply to a Parliamentary Question tabled by Mr Bill Michie MP. His policy is to be very selective about calling in planning applications. He will, in general, only take this step if planning issues of more than local importance are involved. Having regard to this policy, the Secretary of State is of the opinion that the applications are ones that he ought to decide himself because he considers that the proposals may conflict with national and regional policies on important matters. The Secretary of State accordingly directs, under his powers in section 77 of the 1990 Act, that the applications shall be referred to him instead of being dealt with by the Councils.

3. To consider all the relevant aspects of the proposed development, the Secretary of State has decided to hold a local inquiry. For the purposes of the 2000 Rules, this letter is the "relevant notice" that an inquiry is to be held and the date of this letter is the "starting date". All the arrangements for holding the inquiry will be made by the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol. They will write to you within the next few days to let you know the name and telephone number of the case officer who will handle the matter. Meanwhile the

Original applications, together with any plans and other documents accompanying them which have not already been supplied to this Office (including any related certificates and correspondence), should now be sent to the following address:-

The Planning Inspectorate  
3/17 Eagle Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS1 6PN

Material should be marked for the attention of Mrs Hazel Conibere - her telephone number is 0117 372 8918 (fax 0117 372 8181).

4. On the information so far available, the following are matters about which the Secretary of State particularly wishes to be informed for the purposes of his consideration of the applications:

- a) The extent to which the proposal conforms to the adopted development plan, including the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London, having regard to section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and other material considerations, including, in relation to London Borough of Greenwich, the extent to which the application may be premature, having regard to progress towards adoption of the emerging Greenwich Unitary Development Plan.
- b) The extent to which the proposal accords with national planning policy on transport set out in PPG13 - *Transport*, particularly with regard to:
  - i) the impact of the proposal on traffic generation and overall travel patterns having regard to the desirability of achieving development that minimises the need to travel, particularly by private car;
  - ii) maximising use by non car modes of travel, particularly public transport, cycling and walking;
  - iii) the impact of the development on traffic congestion in the local area.
- c) The effects of noise and pollution, including air quality, (PPS23 - *Planning and Pollution Control* and PPG24 - *Planning and Noise*) on the surrounding areas arising from:
  - i) construction of the bridge;
  - ii) the traffic generated by the proposal when it is operational.
- d) The extent to which the proposed development is likely to have an impact on the local flora and fauna and any conservation sites, having regard to the Government's policies in PPG9 - *Nature Conservation* on conserving the diversity of wildlife and their habitats.
- e) The extent to which the proposal would, if granted planning permission, secure a high quality of design, having regard to the general advice in Annex A to PPG1 - *General Policy and Principles*,

draft PPS1 and current advice on good design practice in *By Design - Urban design in the planning system: towards better practice*;

- f) Any implications of the proposal for regeneration of the Thames Gateway and other deprived areas particularly with regard to employment and other economic impacts.
- g) Whether any permission should be subject to conditions and, if so, the form they should take.
- h) Any other relevant material planning considerations.

This is to be taken as the Secretary of State's statement under rule 6 (12) of the 2000 Rules.

5. In accordance with rule 6 (1) and (2), both the local planning authorities shall ensure that two copies of a statement of case are received by the Secretary of State and one copy has been received by any statutory party as defined in rule 2 within six weeks of the starting date (unless the Planning Inspectorate notifies you otherwise). Your attention is drawn to rule 6 (11). The Secretary of State will comply with rule 6 (4).

6. The statement of case should contain the full particulars of the case which you propose to put forward at the inquiry and a list of any documents to which you intend to refer or put in as evidence. If you are proposing to give evidence, or call another person to give evidence, at the inquiry by reading a written statement (i.e. proof of evidence), your attention is drawn to rule 13.

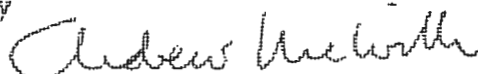
7. Your attention is also drawn to the provisions in rule 14 of the 2000 Rules that the local planning authority and the applicant shall together prepare an agreed statement of common ground and ensure that a copy is received by the Secretary of State and by any statutory party not less than 4 weeks before the inquiry opens.

8. In pursuance of Article 14 of the 1995 Order, the Secretary of State hereby directs the Council not to grant planning permission for any development which is the same kind as that which is the subject of the applications referred to above, on any land which forms part of, or includes, the site to which the applications relate until the Secretary of State has issued his decision on those applications.

9. Although a copy of this letter has been sent to the applicant's agents, your attention is drawn to Article 18 of the 1995 Order. This requires the Council to serve on the applicant notice of the terms of, and the reasons for, the section 77 direction.

10. I am sending a similar letter to London Borough of Newham.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Melville  
Government Office for London