

Comments for Planning Application 19/05000/HYB

Application Summary

Application Number: 19/05000/HYB

Address: DSTL Fort Halstead Crow Drive Halstead Sevenoaks KENT TN14 7BU

Proposal: Hybrid application comprising, in outline: development of business space (use classes B1a/b/c) of up to 27,773 sqm GEA; works within the X enclave relating to energetic testing operations, including fencing, access, car parking; development of up to 635 residential dwellings; development of a mixed use village centre (use classes A1/A3/A4/A5/B1a/D1/D2); land safeguarded for a primary school; change of use of Fort Area and bunkers to Historic Interpretation Centre (use class D1) with workshop space and; associated landscaping, works and infrastructure. In detail: demolition of existing buildings; change of use and works including extension and associated alterations to buildings Q13 and Q14 including landscaping and public realm, and primary and secondary accesses to the site.

Case Officer: Claire Shearing

Customer Details

Name: Mr Nick Taylor

Address: 1 Chapel Place London

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Interested Parties

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Dear Sir/Madam

Planning application: 19/05000/HYB

We are writing to confirm support from our client, QinetiQ, to the recently submitted revisions to the planning application for the redevelopment of the Fort Halstead site (ref: 19/05000/HYB).

As you know, it is QinetiQ's intention to remain at the Fort Halstead site for the long term which is entirely consistent with your Council's wider economic policy objectives, in particular Policy EMP3 which seeks to retain QinetiQ on the site.

QinetiQ has been working closely with CBRE, planning consultants for Merseyside Pension Fund, over many months to ensure that this planning application appropriately reflects the requirements for QinetiQ to consolidate its operations into the area known as the X enclave. In due course, QinetiQ will be bringing forward planning applications reflecting the detail of these requirements such as security, roadways and car parking and other supporting site infrastructure.

QinetiQ has also been working closely with CBRE, acting in this instance as investment advisors for Merseyside Pension Fund, to conclude the commercial arrangements which will provide QinetiQ with long term security of tenure at Fort Halstead beyond the point when DSTL exit the site and enable QinetiQ to make further significant investments in enhancing the leading edge, high technology capabilities at Fort Halstead. We are hopeful that these arrangements will be concluded within the timescales associated with the determination of the aforementioned planning application so that QinetiQ can progress in the very near future with its plans for investment in the X enclave.

We will contact Sevenoaks District Council to arrange separately a pre-application presentation of QinetiQ's proposals and to set out its ambitions for the X enclave.

Yours faithfully

Nick Taylor
Partner