

Mr Mark Patterson  
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**Our Ref**

7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Mark,

**Land to the South of HMP Gartree – Outline Planning Application for a New Cat B Prison Gartree 2.  
Reference: 21/01600/OUT  
East Farndon Parish Council - Consultation Response**

I write in respect of the consultation response provided by East Farndon Parish Council in respect of the above planning application. I would be grateful if you could forward a copy of this response to the parish council clerk (Ms. Caroline Burton). For ease of reference this response follows the same structure as the East Farndon Parish Council response.

### **Landscape**

The MoJ has considered the potential landscape and visual impact of the proposals very carefully. MoJ took advice from specialists in this field and commissioned a Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), a technical document which considers the landscape visual impact from key viewpoints. The viewpoints were agreed by Harborough District Council (HDC) and following this, the specialist consultant took photographs and modelled them to show the landscape visual impact over a number of years. The LVIA shows that the proposals will make use of existing trees and hedgerows to screen the site as well as planting a wide tree belt to the south and east of the proposed prison (shown on the Landscape Masterplan - plan ref: 661277-0000-PEV-GTX0011-XX-DR-L-0301Rev P05). This woodland belt will provide an effective landscape buffer as well as a natural habitat for wildlife.

### **Traffic**

Traffic movements have been carefully considered and the cumulative impact of the proposed prison combined with other developments has been assessed as part of the submitted Transport Assessment. Traffic Movements have been assessed as part of the Transport Assessment and have also been assessed by Leicestershire County Council (LCC) who are the Local Highways Authority. LCC has confirmed that the increase in traffic associated with the proposed new prison will not have a significant impact on the wider highway network<sup>1</sup>.

Whilst the Parish Council's concerns are fully appreciated, East Farndon is some distance (5 miles) from the application site and is not on the main vehicle route to the proposed prison. It is recognised that stakeholders have concerns in respect of construction traffic also. The construction routes have not yet been finalised but can be controlled by the Local Planning Authority (HDC) who can either require the routes to be provided as part of the planning application or reserve the details via a planning condition. The importance of engagement with stakeholders and neighbours in respect of construction works is fully understood. A draft Construction Traffic Management Plan has been issued for review by LCC. When finalised, this plan will

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<sup>1</sup> Consultation response from LCC Highways dated 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

include contact details for the key contractors on site, ensuring that there is a consistent point of contact throughout the construction period should anyone have any questions or queries about the construction.

The comments in respect of the Farnon Fields development are noted. LCC and HDC will consider this impact (and any other relevant cumulative impact) to consider and coordinate construction routes to minimise disruption to local residents and stakeholders. We would be happy to work with the Council to facilitate this.

The outline planning application is currently being considered by officers at HDC before it is sent to planning committee for decision. If successful, we are keen to work closely with stakeholders, residents and HDC during the submission and determination of a detailed reserved matters planning application for the site.

I trust the above is helpful, however should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. R. Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'M' at the end.

Katharine Morgan MRTPI  
**Associate, Development and Planning**