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Our Ref

21st December 2021

Dear Mark,

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

I write in respect of the consultation response provided by Gumley Parish Council in respect of the above planning application. I would be grateful if you could forward a copy of this response to the clerk of Gumley Parish Council.

I have also attached (for reference) a copy of a letter sent to the Gartree residents by MoJ advising that the planning application for the new houseblock at Gartree was to be submitted shortly.

For ease of reference this response follows the same structure as the consultation response.

Development Plan Policies

The planning application would be determined in accordance with the Development Plan which for this site is the Harborough Local Plan 2011-2031(adopted April 2019) and the Lubenham Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016 – 2031 (adopted March 2017). The purpose of the Development Plan is to provide a forecast for growth and a framework of policies to assess development proposals. The development has been assessed against the relevant development plan policies, details of this assessment are included within the Planning Statement submitted with the planning application.

The consultation response references some Harborough Local Plan Policy GD3. The application site's compatibility with Policy GD3 is assessed in the Planning Statement submitted with the planning application. The Planning Statement also considered the relevant policies of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) including paragraph 96 which directly relates to new prison development.

Roads and Traffic

Highways matters have been discussed with Leicestershire County Council (LCC). The formal consultation response from LCC confirms that the Council is content with the findings of the Transport Assessment¹ and (including its analysis and conclusions) and the outline Travel Plan.

¹ (subject to planning conditions referenced within the consultation response).

1. Impact on tourism to Foxton Locks

In respect of the suggested potential impact on tourism at Foxton Locks, it is not clear from the Parish Council's response how the proposals would impact on this tourist facility. The highways impact of the proposals has been assessed by LCC who have confirmed that they are content that the proposals will not have a significant impact on the wider highway network.

2. Size of the Development

The size of the prison, its need and location have been carefully considered by the MoJ. This is addressed in Section 7 of the Planning Statement.

3. Highway Issues

See Roads and Traffic section at page 1 of this letter.

4. Ecological Issues including Light Pollution

The ecological surveys and reports submitted with the planning application have been assessed by the County Ecologist. The ecology consultation response states that the County Ecologist is content with the mitigation proposals proposed as part of the new development.

The impact of light pollution is assessed as part of the Lighting Report and plans and the Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) submitted with the planning application. The impact is not anticipated to be significant.

5. Utilities including power and drainage

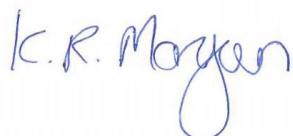
A Utilities Assessment has been submitted with the planning application which states that there is sufficient electricity and gas capacity in the current network to accommodate the proposed new prison. Foul and Surface Water Drainage Strategy Reports have also been submitted as part of the planning application. Discussions with Anglian Water are ongoing but it is likely that there will be some additional capacity provided at the Lubenham treatment plant. In addition, a foul water pumping station will be provided at the new prison site.

6. Health Facilities

The new prison would be largely self-sufficient with in-house medical facilities. However, there will (on occasion) be a requirement for prisoners to attend A&E. The MoJ is in discussions with all local blue light services (including medical providers) these discussions will continue into the detailed design stage.

I trust the above is helpful, however, should you have any questions or require any further information 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, looping 'M' at the end.

Katharine Morgan MRTPI
Associate, Development and Planning