

**APPLICATION BY LONDON RESORT COMPANY HOLDINGS FOR A
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE LONDON RESORT**

Reply to Planning Inspectorate letter of the 21st December 2021 Ref: BC080001

We are two medium sized businesses on the Northfleet Estates specialising in printing. We employ 13 people plus a considerable number of part time staff as and when more complex jobs come in.

These theme park proposals have been an ongoing nightmare for our companies.

The print trade is continually automating, with direct printing to the presses from computers, changing of ink from solvents to water based processes and from large roll feeds of paper to sheet feed and a massive increase in printing speeds and delivery time requirements. These changes all require major investment in machinery with new presses varying between £1 and £10millions.

For nine years now we have had nothing but continual announcements from LRCH that we are going to lose our factory and businesses within twelve months. Because there are few, if any, locally available industrial units, our businesses would be extinguished. Also, because so many of their press releases sound like they have actually obtained planning permission, we lose skilled staff that believe they are about to lose their jobs. It has been a terrible time.

Due to the blight, we have been completely unable to work out proper investment plans and it has been crippling both mentally and financially. We were forced to merge our businesses to share equipment as the only way to survive but because this has dragged on for nine years now, even that equipment is being rapidly overhauled by developments in the industry whilst we suffer from less and less competitive machinery.

To stay afloat, we now work our machines around the clock and across weekends. At our stage of life, we thought we had left this kind of situation far behind us and these kinds of working practices have a significant adverse effect on our families and workers. We are indeed the innocent parties within a massively unfair process and with an applicant that has never known what they are doing.

Financially, we are far worse off than we were before LRCH brought this scheme to the market and are unable to claim for blight compensation. We are stressed and can't see where we are going into the future.

The present situation of allowing more and more extensions of time during what we thought was a time limited DCO process cannot possibly be fair to companies like ours. Above all, we need closure on this agonising limbo one way or the other as soon as possible.

We respectfully request the Examining Authority to refuse any further extensions of time and bring this to a hearing in March.

Thank you

L Cantwell Quddos Printing Solutions Ltd, Mambo Direct Ltd