



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

14 March 2022

Rynd Smith  
Lead Member of The Examining Authority  
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By email to: [LondonResort@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:LondonResort@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

GJ31674/SB

Dear Mr Smith,

I write further to my letter to Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, which I copied to you by letter on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022. I am grateful to you for publishing that letter and the consideration you gave to it.

In advance of the Preliminary Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022, I wanted to take the opportunity to take my comments further. Since my letter to you of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022, I have not been contacted by any representative from London Resort to update or engage on the issues raised in that letter. It is disappointing that given those concerns and the Examining Authorities own observations about the perceived lack of progress, no representative of London Resort has made contact with me.

It is increasingly clear that I am not alone in experiencing a lack of engagement from London Resort. Throughout this process, London Resort have been poor to engage with local people, communities and businesses. I can only conclude that London Resort have such complacency over the project, they no longer wish to work with local people to make the project viable and instead wish to foist the project on the people of Dartford, with no consideration for the impact it will have on the town.

Whilst I accept the designation of the site as an SSSI has presented London Resort with additional challenges, they have long been aware of the need to mitigate the impact of London Resort traffic. Their proposal to park cars north of the river at Tilbury and use a ferry service to transport people south of the river was innovative and well-received by some. Therefore, it is frankly staggering that they failed to continue to engage with the Port of Tilbury over this essential part of the project. This further underlines the contempt London Resort seem to have for local people.



I appreciate the Preliminary Meeting will be to decide upon a timetable for the examination of the proposals, rather than to make a decision about the future of the project itself but it is clear to me this project is no longer in the interests of people in Dartford and it should not be built. Whilst I hope that London Resort will withdraw this application rather than allow the uncertainty of this site to continue, it is vital that should the application not be withdrawn, the Examining Authority proceed with the Examination Timetable as set out in Annex D.

Yours sincerely,

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**Gareth Johnson** 