## 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 **Delivered by e-mail**



Mrs Elizabeth Hill
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors
Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Your Ref: TR050004

Dear Mrs Hill

## **Planning Act 2008**

Application by Ashfield Land Management Limited and Gazeley GLP Northampton s.a.r.l ("the Applicant") for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Rail Central Strategic Rail Freight Interchange ("Rail Central")

Re: Your letter of 9 October 2019

Thank you for your letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in response to our revised programme, communications strategy and our comments on the queries set out in your letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> September.

We respectfully disagree that a further extension would be disproportionate or inappropriate given the robust approach we proposed to follow as set out in our letters dated 16<sup>th</sup> August and 20<sup>th</sup> September. We have, however, reluctantly reached a decision to withdraw the application for development consent. Please accept this letter as our confirmation that the application is therefore withdrawn.

We will continue to engage with the Transport Working Group to ensure that an appropriate mitigation package for the Rail Central project can be brought forward, which is proportionate and operates effectively. In the meantime, it is our intention to promptly re-register the application for development consent with PINS and, once the highways mitigation package is finalised, undertake the consultation process, and submit a revised application to PINS at the earliest opportunity.

The applicant would again like to place on record our thanks for the patience and cooperation all parties have shown in this matter, particularly Highways England and Northamptonshire County Council for their ongoing cooperation. We would be grateful for your written acknowledgement that the application has been formally withdrawn.

Yours faithfully



Alex Verbeek
Managing Director – UK
Gazeley



Andrew Fisher
Managing Director
Ashfield Land