



Walsall Council

Robert Ranger
Case Manager
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure
Temple Quay House, 2 The Square
Bristol BS1 6PN

Your Ref: TR050005
Email: planningpolicy@walsall.gov.uk
Telephone: 01922 658020
Date: August 2018
Please Ask For: Neville Ball

Dear Sir,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 55
Application by Four Ashes Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the West Midlands Interchange
Adequacy of consultation request

Thank you for your letter dated 3 August 2018 concerning the above.

I am responding on behalf of Walsall Council. The only contact made by the applicant with the council to date has been by email. However, I can confirm that this would appear to be adequate for the purpose of Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008. Sections 47 and 48 of the Act would not appear to be directly relevant to neighbouring local authorities.

I can confirm that Walsall has not responded to this consultation to date. However, I note that there will be an opportunity to comment on the merits of the application at a later stage.

As an aside, there would appear to be a significant error in the illustrative masterplan (<http://www.westmidlandsinterchange.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/December-2016-Illustrative-Masterplan.pdf> and reproduced elsewhere in the documentation). The floor areas of the individual buildings appear to be shown in square metres but appear to be missing a '0'. The buildings shown as 1010 should in fact be 10,100 etc. Although the total size of the proposed development is stated elsewhere in the documentation (700,000m²), this error could give a misleading impression of the scale of the buildings, especially since the supporting documentation claims that a major justification for the development is a current shortfall in class B8 buildings of over 100,000ft² (9,200m²).

I hope this is helpful and we look forward to provide input at later stages of the application process.

Yours faithfully



Mike Smith
Planning Policy Manager