

Penkridge Parish Council

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8th August 2019

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Mr Singleton

Ref TR050005

Application by Four Ashes Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the West Midlands Interchange

Dead Line 8th – 2st August 2019 – End of Examination 27th August 2019

The Penkridge Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to summarise their final comments for the end of this examination.

It has become apparent during the examination the following facts have emerged that have put into question the sustainability and suitability of a SRFI at this location at Four Ashes:-

1. The Government Policy - The suggestion that the Rail Hub and connection to the West Coast Main rail line may be delayed or not be built at all then if some, or all the Warehousing units or 'sheds' as described elsewhere, were to become **only road based** then this is surely not permissible in the National Guideline advice and Rules.
2. Green Belt and Location - The developers have not shown that the harm outweighs the needs. Evidence has been shown that where development has been allowed, with the support of the local Authorities, the location was near a major airport and there was a direct link to the adjoining motorway. The development here does not have ANY support from the local planning authorities. It has never been promoted as a possible industrial or employment site, It is shown to be purely speculative in an area where other 'sheds' stand empty and unoccupied.
3. Highways and Pollution – It has not been shown that the existing highway network can sustain the amount of traffic to be created, especially when there are issues on the M6, again shown elsewhere as a major concern and consideration and therefore this should be taken into account in the final analysis. The air pollution is a major concern to all the local surrounding communities and has not been addressed. The sound pollution is a major concern to the immediate surrounding communities.
4. The Visual, Social and Ecological Impact – this is a most unwelcome intrusion into the Countryside and would affect all communities and visitors to the area.

It is the Penkridge Parish Councils opinion that any Proposals for a SRFI - or any 'sheds' of any size or description should **NOT BE GIVEN CONSENT**.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Mrs Petula M C Hughes
Chairman