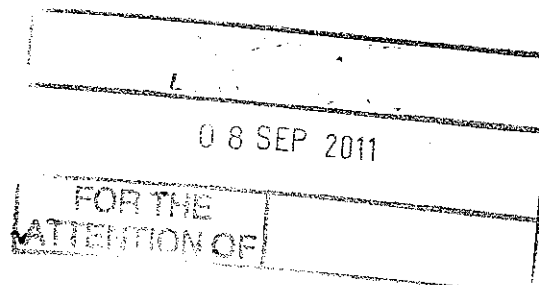


By email

FAO John Macholc
Head of Planning Services
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2RA



Our ref NPCU/CONS/T2350/69155
Your ref 3/2011/0537/P

Date 8 September 2011

Dear Mr Malcholc

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (CONSULTATION)(ENGLAND) DIRECTION
2009 PROPOSED ERECTION OF NEW INVESTMENT CASTING FOUNDRY AT
REAR OF PARKING AND SERVICING AREA, CALDER VALE PARK,
SIMONSTONE LANE APPLICATION 3/2011/0537/P**

I refer to your letter of 22 August referring to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government ("The Secretary of State") under the Consultation Direction, the above application made by Fort Vale Engineering.

As you will know, the Secretary of State's general approach is not to interfere with the jurisdiction of local planning authorities unless it is necessary to do so. Parliament has entrusted them with responsibility for day-to-day planning control decisions relating to their areas. Local planning authorities are normally best placed to make decisions relating to their areas and it is right that, in general, they should be free to carry out their duties responsibly, with the minimum of interference.

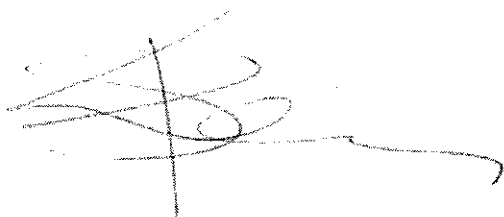
There will be occasions however when the Secretary of State may consider it necessary to call in a planning application and determine whether or not permission should be granted, instead of leaving it to the local planning authority. The policy is to be very selective about calling in applications. Call-in will, in general, only take place if planning issues of more than local importance are involved and if those issues need to be decided by the Secretary of State rather than at local level. Each case is, however, considered on its own facts.

The Secretary of State has carefully considered all the matters raised about this application. The issue before the Secretary of State for decision is not whether the application should be granted planning permission, but whether or not he should call it in for his own determination. The Secretary of State considers that the main matters relevant to his consideration in this case are his policies set out in Planning Policy Guidance 2 (PPG2): Green Belts, Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1): Delivering Sustainable Development and Planning Policy Statement 4 (PPS4): Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth.

Having carefully considered the relevant planning issues raised by this proposal together with the representations received, and having regard to his policy on call in, the Secretary of State has concluded on balance that intervention would not be justified as there is not significant conflict with national planning policies on the above matters, or any other sufficient reason, to warrant calling in the application for his own determination. The decision as to whether to grant planning permission will therefore remain with Ribble Valley Borough Council.

In considering whether to exercise his discretion to call in this application, the Secretary of State has not considered the matter of whether this application is EIA Development for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999. The local planning authority responsible for determining this application remains the relevant authority responsible for considering whether these regulations apply to this proposed development and, if so, for ensuring that the requirements of the Regulations are complied with.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sara Lewis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sara Lewis
Senior Planning Manager