

The Rt. Hon. Mrs Theresa Villiers MP
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Marc Dorfman
Assistant Director of Planning & Regeneration
Haringey Council
639 High Road
London N17 8BD

Reference (please quote in your reply) TV/CC/CN2936

2 November 2011

Dear Mr Dorfman

Thank you for taking time to meet me on Friday to discuss my concerns about the proposed waste processing plant at Pinkham Way.

Cllr Kate Salinger and I welcomed the decision taken during the Summer to carry out a further consultation on the Haringey Local Development Framework Core Strategy. Since this document could have an important bearing on the future of the Pinkham Way site, we believe it is very important for our constituents to have a further opportunity to make their voice heard.

You will be aware of our opposition to the plans for a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant at Pinkham Way put forward by the North London Waste Authority (NLWA). Many of our constituents are also campaigning strongly against the proposal.

We wish to make the following points about the proposal in the Haringey Core Strategy to redesignate the Pinkham Way site from Employment Use to Local Significant Industrial Use. We oppose this change. Our reasons for doing so include the following:

- The Pinkham Way site has not been used for employment or industrial purposes for 47 years when the former sewage works closed. This land is now classed by Haringey as a Grade 1 Site of Important Nature Conservation (SINC). We understand that this site is now a habitat for bats and many other flora and fauna.
- Haringey Council has given no guarantees that nature conservation will be safeguarded in the event of a change to industrial purposes. We have been advised by our constituents that designating a Grade 1 SINC site for industrial use could contravene National Planning PPS 9.
- The change of designation could lead to the construction of an inappropriate industrial plant and the loss of a valuable natural habitat. The loss of open green space seems to undermine the goals set out in the London Plan (eg Policy 7.18) which supports the creation of Local

Open Spaces. The change of use also seems inconsistent with the approach taken in the London Plan Policy 7.19 "Biodiversity & Access to Nature". Has Haringey consulted with the London Wildlife Sites Board?

- Pinkham Way is an important part of a green corridor for wildlife which extends from Muswell Hill to the North Circular Road. We are concerned that no protection is given in the proposed change of designation, particularly as Haringey's own Sustainability Appraisal stresses the threat to biodiversity of the site if it should become industrial land.
- As you will be aware, the area around Pinkham Way and the adjoining stretch of North Circular is an air quality management area because of the level of traffic and air pollution. You will appreciate that poor air quality has a known health impact leading to increased morbidity and mortality. Green spaces such as Pinkham Way can reduce the full impact of air pollution. Constituents contacting us about this issue believe that removing this green open space by designating it for industrial use would contravene London Plan Policy 7.14 "Improving Air Quality".
- We are concerned that Haringey is now attempting to change the designated use of Pinkham Way following discussions with the North London Waste Authority, instead of deciding its own land use policy.
- We believe that it is fundamentally important that you consult fully with our constituents and accord their concerns as much weight as those in Haringey. Arguably, their voice should count even more strongly since many of them are right next to the site and would be the main victims of its local environmental impact. Many of our constituents will still be unaware of the present consultation. We therefore object to the Core Strategy on the grounds that sufficient and effective consultation has still not taken place.

We would be grateful if our comments could be included in the consultation process.

Yours sincerely



The Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP



 Cllr Kate Salinger