

Ms Maria Bowen
Planning Casework Unit
Department for Levelling Up, Housing
And Communities
23 Stephenson Street
Birmingham B2 4BH

Dear Ms Bowen

**Re: Green Belt (London and Home Counties) Act 1938
Application by Buckinghamshire Council for a proposed long lease disposal of
Mansfield Farm and Round Coppice Farm Estate, Iver Heath, Iver for the
construction of a motorway service area**

I write to comment on the letter of 27th February 2024 from Buckinghamshire Council to you re the above disposal.

Residents were advised by DLUHC that they could send in representations in one letter to both this application and in relation to the request for a call in by the Secretary of State regarding the planning permission for the construction of a motorway service area on Green Belt land, and many did so. The Council appears to have not understood this and has considered all the objections to be in relation to the application under the Green Belt Act. Thus the listed objections 7,9,10,11,13,14,15 and 16 and the Council's responding statements to these should not be considered as part of this process as they are intended to be reasons for the Secretary of State to call the planning application in. Objectors do not consider that they were carefully considered or properly addressed during the determination of the planning application by Buckinghamshire Council.

With regard to objection 3 it is not clear how the Council determined that The Slough Observer was the appropriate local newspaper in which to publish the notice. Slough is not in Buckinghamshire and The Slough Observer rarely covers any issues relating to the South Bucks area. The main newspaper that covers this area and the rest of Buckinghamshire is the Bucks Free Press.

With regard to Objection 4, the press notice and the accompanying plan issued by Buckinghamshire Council dated 27th September 2023 did indeed cover another separate development area adjacent to that being considered for the Motorway Service Area, hence the comments made by objectors. The final application submitted to DLUHC in December was for only the area being considered for the Motorway Service Area. However, the time period for comments to be submitted to the Secretary of State had long since closed and therefore it is not reasonable for Buckinghamshire Council to request that objections citing this issue be rejected.

Objections 5, 6, 8 and 12 are very much grounds for objection to the loss of green belt as provided for under The Act as well as being considerations in relation to the planning application. These objections should therefore be taken into account in the Secretary of State's consideration of the Council's application under The Act.

Given the very great impact such a loss of green belt would have on the local communities both in Buckinghamshire and Hillingdon it is right and proper for the objectors to request that a public inquiry is held to consider this matter; the fact that this would delay matters is not a relevant consideration.

I therefore repeat my objection to this application for disposal of green belt land by Buckinghamshire Council under The Green Belt 1938 Act and would urge the Secretary of State to refuse the application.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Wendy Matthews
Buckinghamshire Council
Ward Councillor for Iver
including Iver village, Iver Heath, Richings Park, Thorney and Shredding Green