

To:

**Tracey Aldworth  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Milton Keynes Council**

**Blakelands Residents Association**

**Review Stakeholders**

Marc Dorfman



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**12-3-2021**

**RE: Progress on the Timetable for the Review - Warehouse, 1 Yeomans Drive, Blakelands**

Dear Ms Aldworth, Blakelands Residents Association (BRA) and Review stakeholders,

The “Complimentary Review” of the “daylight, sunlight, shadowing and some aspects of external lighting” will not be completed in draft until sometime between 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. This has been requested by the BRA and some councillors, because the Chief Planner at the time of the original decision in May 2017, indicated that such a review could be carried out by the LPA. The “Complimentary Review” aims to check the findings of the applicant’s formal “Light and Shadowing” report and corroborate or not the 2 officer reports view that the application met industry standard guidelines on “daylight, sunlight and shadowing” with regard to the 17 Bessemer Court properties immediately to the north. It has been emphasised by some stakeholders that this goes to issue of whether the DCC was misled to any significant degree by MK officers in their reports and in the Committee’s decision making, since at the time, officers and the Chief Planner agreed with the applicant that industry standard guidelines were met.

In addition, BRA have some concerns about the procedure for the approval of the condition relating to “external lighting”.

MK Local Planning Authority (LPA) and BRA have also brought to my attention:

- The result of the Information Commissioner Appeal EA/0220/0138 (Appendix 1 and attached)
- The delay to Informal Appeal Hearing 19/022771/FULMA, Planning Inspectorate: APP/Y0435/W/3252373 (Variation of condition 1 (Approved Plans), 12 HGV Operating Hours and 19 External Lighting, attached to planning permission 18/02341/FUL (Appendix 1)
- Local elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and the beginning of purdah on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021

For the above reasons, my Review report will not be circulated until the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Yours sincerely

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Appendix 1.

## FW: EA/2020/0138; Linda Wardlaw vs Information Commissioner and Milton Keynes Council

Inbox

Planning PAS/Milton Keynes 2



**Blakelands Residents**

Fri, Feb 19, 10:03  
AM

to me

Good morning Mr Dorfman,

We are emailing you because the Information Rights Tribunal has unanimously allowed Linda's appeal against the Information Commissioner and Milton Keynes Council. The decision of the Tribunal has been attached.

You previously stated that you had reviewed the Information Commissioner's decisions and found some of the issues raised had been adequately covered. Judge Thomas disagrees with this and has made abundantly clear that the Council's practices are unacceptable and the answers provided during the appeal were unsatisfactory. The judgement is very damning of the Council as information over the warehouse has had to be "prised" out of its hands.

Judge Thomas raises serious concerns over the deletion of emails and the inconsistent application of the retention policy. He also states that the witness statements from the Director for Insight and Communication and the Head of IT were inconsistent and they both raised more questions than they answered.

We hope this will be covered in your final report and would request it is attached as an appendix.

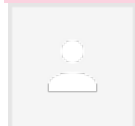
Kind regards,

Blakelands Residents Association

## Warehouse Appeal - Another notification Failure

Inbox

Planning PAS/Milton Keynes 2



## Blakelands Residents

Fri, Feb 12,  
10:01 AM

to me

Good morning Mr Dorfman,

We raised with you some time ago about repeated failures by Milton Keynes Council to notify us residents about planning applications and appeals. This has occurred for a variety of reasons, especially over the first appeal where the Council claim to have sent out over 150 letters that no one received. Royal Mail were blamed in this instance by the case officer and chief planner.

Once again, the same problem has happened again in the current appeal. It has had to be postponed due to a failure of Milton Keynes Council to notify residents about the appeal.

A media statement has been released by the Planning Inspectorate:

"Due to the Local Planning Authority having failed to give Interested Parties the requisite four weeks to submit comments, the appeal regarding Blakelands 1, Milton Keynes has been postponed.

"The Planning Inspectorate is now liaising with the Local Planning Authority to confirm a new timetable which will be confirmed and communicated as soon as possible.

"It's important that people who have an interest in a development have the opportunity to participate in the planning process."

We trust this latest failure will be covered in your final report.

Kind regards,

Blakelands Residents Association