



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

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Please ask for: Gerry Carpenter
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Your ref: 2018/92563

Our ref: PCU/CONS/Z4718/3233198

Date: 9 August 2019

Dear Mr Walker

**The Town and Country Planning (Consultation) (England) Direction 2009;
Planning Practice Guide: Paragraph 72: Handling development proposals
around hazardous installations**

**Outline application for erection of retail units at Centre 27 Business Park,
Bankwood Way, Birstall, Batley WF17 9TB
Planning application number: 2018/92563**

I refer to your letter of 9 July 2019 referring to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government ("The Secretary of State") an application for planning permission for the above development.

The Secretary of State has carefully considered the case against call-in policy, as set out in the Written Ministerial Statement by Nick Boles on 26 October 2012. The policy makes it clear that the power to call in a case will only be used very selectively.

The Government is committed to give more power to councils and communities to make their own decisions on planning issues, and believes planning decisions should be made at the local level wherever possible.

In deciding whether to call in this application, the Secretary of State has considered his policy on calling in planning applications. This policy gives examples of the types of issues which may lead him to conclude, in his opinion that the application should be called in. The Secretary of State has decided not to call in this application. He is content that it should be determined by the local planning authority.

In considering whether to exercise the discretion to call in the application, the Secretary of State has not considered the matter of whether the application is EIA Development for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The local planning authority responsible for determining these applications remains the relevant authority responsible for considering whether these Regulations apply to these proposed developments and, if so, for ensuring that the requirements of the Regulations are complied with.

Yours sincerely

Gerry Carpenter

Gerry Carpenter
Senior Planning Manager