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Woking Borough Council,
Civic Offices
Gloucester Square
Woking, Surrey
GU21 6YL

Network Rail Updated Consultation Response: PLAN/2019/1176

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to provide you with an update for planning application PLAN/2019/1176.

Following the submission of Network Rail's (NR) previous consultation dated 15/01/2020, NR met with members of Woking Borough Council on the 13/02/2020 to discuss the application and its potential impact on Woking Station in more detail.

The proposed development will increase the usage of Woking Station during event/match days. To ensure the safe operation of Woking Station and associated railway infrastructure, if Woking Borough Council is minded to approve the application, NR requests that a Condition is attached to the consent which requires the applicant to submit a 'Event Management Plan' for approval by the Local Planning Authority and NR. The Event Management Plan must detail how the applicant will engage with NR to ensure that NR are made aware of upcoming events as well as details of the applicant's crowd management procedures.

Based on discussions with Woking Borough Council and following further assessment of the application, I can confirm NR has no objection to the proposed development subject to the inclusion of the above condition.

It is evident that Woking is currently experiencing significant growth in residential and commercial focused developments. To mitigate the impacts of these developments and to ensure the safe operation of Woking Station, NR and Woking Borough Council will need to continue their strong working relationship in order to progress the delivery of infrastructure improvement projects such as Woking Area Capacity Enhancement (WACE).

NR would welcome further discussions with Woking Borough Council to establish how CIL can be utilised to fund interim improvements to Woking Station prior to the delivery of WACE.

Whilst in this instance NR is not seeking contributions from the development in respect of improvements to Woking Station, NR's position in relation to planning application PLAN/2019/1176 should not prejudice any future consultation response with regard to other planning applications in the local area.

Kind Regards,

Nicholas Donoghue

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