

Ms S Cooper
Leader of The Council
South Oxfordshire District Council
135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Milton
Abingdon
OX14 4SB

OPEN LETTER

19th September 2019

Dear Ms Cooper

RE: SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

I am writing as owners of Didcot 'A' Coal Facility (CWC Group and Graftongate) a strategic redevelopment in Didcot, part of which lies in the South Oxfordshire District Council authority area.

We are currently remediating, plateauing and servicing the site following five years of planning negotiations with yourselves, Vale of White Horse and Oxfordshire County Council.

Our joint vision with you and the other cited colleagues has been to design and implement a first rate redevelopment to:

- Provide a sustainable 'Best in Class' mixed use community
- Enhance the bio diversity of the area
- Remediate a redundant eyesore
- Enable (and part fund) much needed public infrastructure to pass through the site, which will in turn alleviate congestion in Didcot

The last bullet point is the one upon which I would like to concentrate.

The proposed Science Bridge (and its link road) is to land on our site and we have agreed to:

- a) Transfer the land to Oxfordshire County Council
- b) Make a very significant financial contribution
- c) Construct the link road at our expense. On completion the road will be transferred to the relevant Highway Authority. This is on the understanding that HIF funding remains in place and that the wider road scheme will be implemented by Oxfordshire County Council.

We have a very significant inward investor transaction which depends on the public infrastructure being committed to by the public authorities.

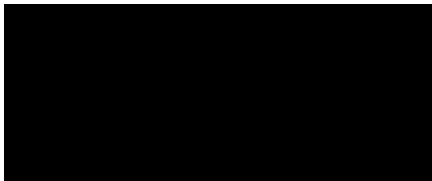
The user is a high-profile American technology company which will support and enhance businesses and residents in the local area. It is not a distribution company rather scientific.

The scale of their investment will be significantly over £100M but the actual number remains confidential.

Should the South Oxfordshire District Council Committee decide to revoke their commitment to the Local Plan, which then results in a withdrawal of HIF then our development at Didcot A will simply not proceed. This will be to the severe detriment of the whole community in terms of investment, public realm, infrastructure and ease of travel. Accordingly, I believe that it is essential that the South Oxfordshire District Council planning committee remain committed to the Local Plan.

I urge you to share this open letter with members of the Planning Committee and I would be very happy to present in an open forum.

Yours sincerely



DIRECTOR