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From: Rebecca Micallef
Sent: 19 November 2019 12:48
To: Mike Parkes
Subject: Motorway Service Area on the A1

Hi Mike,

Despite the concerns raised in the Economic Evaluation report prepared by Kirby Hill RAMS, the Economic Development stance on this application remains unchanged.

Growing business and creating high-value jobs in the district is indeed the focus of our Economic Growth Strategy (EGS) 2017-2035. This identifies a number of strategic themes and recognises the importance of four key sectors which are the current focus of our economic growth resources. However, this does not mean that we would object to other investment or jobs being created in non-priority areas.

Whilst Kirby Hill RAMS question some of the figures that Applegreen are claiming (e.g. number of jobs, economic impact) and from the evidence provided, some of these do appear to be rather high, it is evident that the proposal will create a significant number of jobs and see investment in the district from an overseas company. Whilst we accept that the majority of jobs will not be high-value, they will add to the choice of employment opportunities available to residents.

Therefore, although the proposal is not directly supported by the EGS, we have no real grounds to object to this application and do not believe that it would jeopardise future growth opportunities in the area.

I hope this helps.

Kind regards,
Rebecca

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(Usual working days: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday am)