



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Caroline Lucas MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Brandon Lewis MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Tel: 0303 444 3430
E-Mail: brandon.lewis@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

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Dear Caroline

Application by Defence Infrastructure Organisation for a the development of a mixed use settlement at Lodge Hill, Chattenden, Rochester, Kent - Application MC/11/2516

Thank you for your letter of 18 September to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP regarding the above application. I am replying as Minister for Housing and Planning.

A small proportion of applications that an authority proposes to allow, have to be referred to the Secretary of State under the Town and Country Planning (Consultation) (England) Direction 2009, to see whether or not he wishes to call them in for his own decision. The Secretary of State only calls in applications normally where issues of more than local importance arise.

This planning application was formerly referred to the Secretary of State by Medway District Council on the 9 September 2014. The Secretary of State will decide whether or not he wishes to call-in this application for his own determination. I will ensure that your comments are taken fully into account as part of the decision-making process.

I will inform you of the decision in due course.


BRANDON LEWIS MP