



Immigration Enforcement

Immigration Detention
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF
www.gov.uk/home-office

Crown Development Case Team
Planning & Environmental Applications Service
The Planning Inspectorate

29th May 2026

Request for Direction under Section 293H(7) – Protection of Sensitive Information - Haslar Immigration Removal Centre

Dear Crown Development Case Team,

This letter accompanies the submission of the Crown Development planning application for **Haslar Immigration Removal Centre** and sets out the Home Office's formal request for a direction under **section 293H(7) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990** to protect specific sensitive information contained within the application.

In accordance with the relevant statutory guidance and the Planning Inspectorate's advice, the enclosed **National Security Statement** identifies the material requiring protection, provides the justification for the request and sets out the proposed handling arrangements.

The information identified and marked as **Official-Sensitive** meets the criteria under section 293H(7) because:

1. It relates directly to matters of **national security** and the secure management of an immigration detention facility accommodating individuals detained under immigration powers.
2. Disclosure would reveal sensitive operational and security arrangements that could be exploited to compromise the safety of staff, detained individuals, contractors and the wider community.
3. Public disclosure would therefore be **contrary to the national interest**.
4. The information is **material to the Secretary of State's planning decision**, as it provides essential context on security, safeguarding and operational need, but cannot safely be placed into the public domain.

This approach is consistent with the Planning Inspectorate's guidance that sensitive material should only be included where essential and must be protected through a formal direction issued by the Secretary of State.

This application also contains **commercially sensitive** information. Disclosure of this information would prejudice the commercial interests of the Home Office and its delivery partners, could undermine value for money and could potentially compromise future procurements and negotiation positions. While this information is material to the planning application and decision-making process, it is not appropriate for publication on the planning register.

The Home Office therefore requests that this commercially confidential material is also protected under the direction and withheld from public disclosure, with appropriate redacted versions made available where required.

To support the secure handling of sensitive and commercially confidential material:

- Sensitive documents have been packaged as separate and clearly marked.
- Classification markings have been applied in accordance with His Majesty's Government's Security Classifications Policy.
- Redacted versions suitable for publication have been prepared for publication on the Crown Development portal.
- The Home Office will comply with any further handling instructions issued by the Planning Inspectorate or Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The Home Office formally requests that the **Secretary of State issue a direction** confirming that the documents listed in the **National Security Statement** are to be treated as *sensitive information* and therefore **withheld from publication** on the planning register and from wider disclosure, with corresponding **redacted public versions** prepared for publication.

Security Adviser Endorsement

I confirm that the information listed in this letter and the National Security Statement has been reviewed by the Home Office Security Adviser and meets the criteria for protection. This request for direction under section 293H(7) is formally endorsed.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Home Office Security Adviser
Security and Investigations

Please let me know if you require any further information, or if additional procedural steps are needed to facilitate the issuing of the direction.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Responsible Owner, Immigration Removal Centre Expansion Programme
Immigration Detention, Immigration Enforcement
Home Office

T: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]