

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**The Planning Inspectorate**  
Customer Support Team  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Dear Sir / Madam

**Sevington Inland Border Facility, Mersham, Sevington, Ashford, TN25 6GE**

**Submission of Crown Development Application**

This letter has been prepared by Jones Lang LaSalle ('JLL'), on behalf of Department for Transport ('DfT'), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs ('Defra') and His Majesty's Revenues and Customs ('HMRC') (collectively 'the Applicant') in support of an application for Crown Development in respect of Sevington Inland Border Facility ('IBF'), Mersham, Sevington, Ashford, TN25 6GE ('the Site').

This application for Crown Development has been submitted pursuant to section 293D of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

The proposals seek to secure full planning permission for the existing IBF and Border Control Post ('BCP') on the Site. These facilities were originally delivered under temporary consent, provided for under Article 4(1)(a) of The Town and Country Planning (Border Facilities and Infrastructure) (EU Exit) (England) Special Development Order 2020. This legislation allowed for the rapid deployment of critical border control measures following the UK's exit from the European Union ('EU'). The temporary consent is due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

This inland border facility is, however, required on an ongoing basis. Securing the continuation of the existing operations on the Site is of high strategic importance and would serve the critical purpose of border security in the national interest. Securing the operation of the Site would additionally retain the extensive positive local socio-economic benefits that have been realised through the development.

Accordingly, full planning permission is sought for the following description of development:

*'Retention of the existing buildings, Goods Vehicle parking spaces, entry lanes, refrigerated semi-trailers, staff car parking spaces, access, site infrastructure, utilities, hardstanding, landscaping and ancillary facilities and associated works; and ongoing use of the site for an Inland Border Facility and Border Control Post, operating 24 hours per day, seven days per week.'*



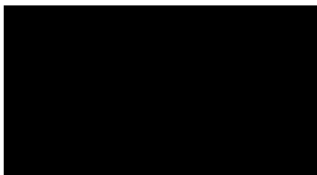
The Applicant has voluntarily entered into an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') in order to robustly assess whether the development is likely to have significant effects on the environment, and an Environmental Statement ('ES') with technical appendices supports this planning application.

The planning application is supported by the suite of drawings and documentation listed in the accompanying Schedule of Deliverables.

In line with the Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), the planning application fee has been calculated as £65,594.00, which will be paid to the Planning Inspectorate.

We look forward to receiving confirmation of the validation of the planning application. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



James Sheppard  
Senior Director