



VisitEngland™

VisitEngland
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London
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13 September 2021

Hayley Beer-Gamage
Experience Oxfordshire
Langford Locks
Kidlington
Oxfordshire
OX5 1HZ

Dear Hayley

Re: Bicester Motion Development

Tourism is an industry usually worth £127 billion annually to the UK economy, employing 3.1 million people right across the country, many in coastal towns and rural communities, and supporting 200,000 small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Our forecasts bring the impact of Covid-19 on the industry and economy from the loss of tourism into sharp focus. Inbound tourism in 2021 - 7.4 million visits, a further 33% decline on 2020 and 18% of the 2019 level; and £5.3 billion to be spent by inbound tourists, a decline of 14% on 2020 and 19% of the 2019 level.

We also forecast a recovery to £51.4bn in domestic tourism spending in Britain in 2021; this is up 51% compared to 2020 but still only 56% of the level of spending seen in 2019.

A major investment in a development such as this would be a vote of confidence for the UK tourism sector. A world-class development can put a destination on the global map. We therefore support both development and planned growth that could aid an industry that accounts for 10% of all jobs.

Given the potential national significance of this planned regeneration and the potential it could bring to the local economy; we hope this will be given due consideration in any planning decision.

Kind regards

A.J. Stokes

Andrew Stokes
England Director