

5 April 2022
L220405 – OTP Plot 5 Letter



Andy Bateson
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Cherwell District Council

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Dear Mr Bateson

**PLANNING APPLICATION FOR PHASE 5 OF EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
OXFORD TECHNOLOGY PARK, LANGFORD LANE, KIDLINGTON
APPLICATION BY OXFORD TECHNOLOGY PARK LIMITED
APPLICATION REFERENCE 21/03913/F**

We refer to our recent discussions in relation to the above application following your colleague, Ray Dean's, confirmation that the application proposal is acceptable and that Officers' view is that the application should be supported and planning permission granted.

The application was submitted on the 3rd November 2021 and the developer, Oxford Technology Park Limited, is now under pressure to deliver the development to enable the letting of the floorspace to [REDACTED] so that it can commence operations of its electrical car battery manufacturing operations.

The use of the floorspace being the exact type of 'high value employment' that the development plan is seeking to secure at the site and securing the delivery of the facility for [REDACTED] would provide a significant sustainable economic opportunity for Kidlington and the wider District.

Unfortunately, the delivery of the floorspace and by extension the confirmation of planning permission is critical to [REDACTED] confirming the letting with Oxford Technology Park Limited. We understand and appreciate the challenges and difficulties that the Local Planning Authority is facing with transacting planning applications at present, but we are unable to wait until the next committee on 19th May 2022 for the determination of the application. To wait until that period would risk the ability to complete the letting with [REDACTED] with the occupier confirming it would need to pursue other options outside of Cherwell.

We have further added complications in that securing contractor is becoming increasingly difficult. To risk delays to the issuing of the decision is delaying the ability to secure contractors and ultimately complete the development in a time-period to secure [REDACTED]. Likewise, the cost of construction is exponentially increasing day by day.

The development of Oxford Technology Park has been hugely supported locally and by the Council through numerous planning decisions over the last decade. We understand that Officers' preference is to determine the application under delegated powers, but that this would need authorisation from Planning Committee.

With the above in mind, we kindly request that Officers request from Planning Committee on 7th April delegated authority to issue the decision notice granting planning permission for Application Reference 21/03913/F.

We hope this is helpful in terms of explaining our position and request for assistance to deliver what I believe we all agree is an exciting opportunity for the Technology Park and wider District.





If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Matthew Sobic.

Yours sincerely



Savills (UK) Limited
Planning