



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jonathan Markwell
Principal Planning Officer
Directorate for Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services
Reading Borough Council
Civic Offices,
Bridge Street,
Reading,
RG1 2LU

Please ask for: Gerry Carpenter
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Your ref: 200122
Our ref: PCU/RTI/E0345/3261652

Date: 25 November 2020

Dear Mr Markwell

Proposed demolition of 29 garages and development of 46 new dwelling units, including the provision of affordable homes, provided in a mixture of houses and apartments (1 bed / 2 bed / 3 bed / 4 bed) in blocks of between 2.5 to 4 storeys, and the provision of bicycle parking spaces, car parking spaces and public realm works on Wensley Road, Reading.

(Application ref:200122)

I refer to the above application which has been the subject of third party requests to call in for determination by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The Secretary of State has carefully considered this case against call-in policy, as set out in the Written Ministerial Statement by Nick Boles on 26 October 2012. The policy makes it clear that the power to call in a case will only be used very selectively.

The Government is committed to give more power to councils and communities to make their own decisions on planning issues, and believes planning decisions should be made at the local level wherever possible.

In deciding whether to call in this application, the Secretary of State has considered his policy on calling in planning applications. This policy gives examples of the types of issues which may lead him to conclude, in his opinion that the application should be called in. The Secretary of State has decided not to call in this application. He is content that it should be determined by the local planning authority.

Yours sincerely

Gerry Carpenter

Gerry Carpenter
Senior Planning Manager

This decision was made by officials on behalf of the Secretary of State under delegated powers.