

Rushanara Ali MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Homelessness and Democracy 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

Our reference: MC2024/27871

Cllr Jon Orrell Mayor of Weymouth

Cllr David Harris Leader Weymouth Town Council

Cllr Matt Bell Chair of the Environment and Services Committee Weymouth Town Council

Cllr Sue Cocking Chair of Portland Town Council

3 December 2024

Dear Cllr Orrell, Cllr Harris, Cllr Bell and Cllr Cocking,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - SECTION 78 APPEAL MADE BY POWERFUEL PORTLAND LTD IN RESPECT OF PORTLAND PORT, CASTLETOWN, PORTLAND, DT5 1PP APPLICATION REF: WP/20/00692/DCC OUR REFERENCE: APP/D1265/W/23/3327692

Thank you for your letter of 8 November addressed to the Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP, about the above appeal. I am responding as this matter falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

I do appreciate that this is not the outcome you had hoped for, but in reaching the decision I took into account the wide range of relevant issues raised in this matter, based on the detailed findings of the planning inspector who held an inquiry into this case. The decision letter sets out in detail her reasoning and conclusions. It can be found on the Ministry's website at: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-applications-called-in-decisions-and-recovered-appeals.

Once the decision has been issued, neither the Inspector nor the Secretary of State has any further role in the matter. The decision is final unless it is quashed by the High Court. I hope you will appreciate that it would not be appropriate for Ministers or officials to meet to discuss or comment further on the reasons for the decision or the merits of the scheme.

Please note that your correspondence could be released to a third party should a request be made under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any personal data of a constituent or other third party will in such cases be removed in order to comply with the Data Protection Act.'

Thank you again for writing on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

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RUSHANARA ALI MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Homelessness and Democracy