



FAO: Planning Department,  
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Ref: 6/2023/0730/FULL  
Date: 04/06/2023

## HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION ADVICE

Dear Sir / Madam,

**RE: *Brookmans Park Teleport, Great North Road, Brookmans Park, AL9 6NE***

The application is for the installation of a platform and service room, with trenched cable linkage between data room and platform and other associated works.

The proposal site is located towards the rear (north east) of the Brookmans Park Teleport complex. The complex dates to the late 1920s and formed part of the BBC 'Regional Scheme'. It opened in March 1930 and was the first station to transmit two programmes simultaneously. The main transmission building is a two storey building in a pared back neo-Classical style with very little architectural detailing or adornment, however, it is of some architectural interest and is certainly of historic interest warranting its identification as a non-designated heritage asset. The four 1920s transmission towers can also be considered non-designated heritage assets for their historic interest and architectural/archaeological interest. It is understood that the main building and four towers are currently being assessed for statutory listing by Historic England. A number of additional buildings and structures have been added to the complex since the 1920s as the complex's use has adapted and technology has advanced.

It is proposed to erect a two-deck metal platform to the north east of the main building, towards the rear of the complex. The platform will have transmission equipment mounted on the lower and upper decks with two pre-fabricated cabins at ground level. The proposed structure will be 5.5 metres tall and the equipment on the upper deck will not exceed 3 metres. It will be 30 metres long and 20 metres deep (the upper deck being slightly smaller). It is a large structure within the settings of the transmission building and the 1920s towers. However, it is not considered to detract from their settings as the current site makes a neutral contribution (as an area of hardstanding) and the proposed structure would not appear incongruous amongst the existing buildings and structures across the complex which has remained in a use similar to its original function.

No harm is considered to result to the significance of the non-designated heritage assets, as per Chapter 16 of the NPPF. Should the transmission building and towers become statutory listed it is unlikely that this assessment would change, but consideration would have to be given to Section 66(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.



Yours sincerely

Maria Kitts BA (Hons) MA PGCert  
Principal Built Heritage Consultant  
Place Services

*Note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter*