

Ray Lee  
Development Management  
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

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Date: 30 January 2023

Dear Ray,

**Re: Installation of a "private-wire" electricity cable between the Energy Centre, Tewin Road and Colt Technology Services Group Limited (Option 1). | 20 Black Fan Road Welwyn Garden City AL7 1QA**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS**

Thank you for consulting this office on the above application.

In this instance, due to the limited ground disturbance and lack of previously recorded archaeology on the Historic Environment Record we consider that large parts of this development are unlikely to have a significant impact on heritage assets of archaeological interest.

However, in some places it is possible that there will be an impact on the historic environment. For example, the historic environment record (HER) notes that at Hens Wood part of the proposed route may cross the remains of a low bank topped with ancient coppice which runs along the historic boundary between the parishes of Hatfield and Tewin and may represent an ancient boundary (HER17711).

We therefore believe that the proposed development is such that it should be regarded as likely to have an impact on heritage assets of archaeological interest and we recommend that the following provisions be made, should you be minded to grant consent:

1. A rapid Heritage and Impact Assessment of this proposal on the historic environment.
2. In any areas of impact on the historic environment, the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks related to the development, including foundation trenches, service trenches, ground reduction, hard landscaping, access, and any other

ground impact; This should include a contingency for preservation or further investigation of any remains encountered;

3. the analysis of the results of the archaeological work with provision for the subsequent production of a report and an archive, and the publication of the results;
4. such other provisions as may be necessary to protect the archaeological interests of the site;

We believe that these recommendations are both reasonable and necessary to provide properly for the likely archaeological implications of this development proposal. We further believe that these recommendations closely follow the policies included within Policy 16 (para. 205, etc.) of the National Planning Policy Framework, and relevant guidance contained in the National Planning Practice Guidance, and in the Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment (Historic England, 2015).

In this case three appropriately worded conditions on any planning consent would be sufficient to provide for the level of investigation that this proposal warrants. We suggest the following wording:

**A** *No demolition/development shall take place/commence until an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of archaeological significance and research questions; and:*

1. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
2. *The programme for post investigation assessment*
3. *Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
4. *Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
5. *Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
6. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation.*

**B** *The demolition/development shall take place/commence in accordance with the programme of archaeological works set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A)*

**C** *The development shall not be occupied/used until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis and publication where appropriate.*

If planning consent is granted, we will be able to provide detailed advice concerning the requirements for the investigations, and to provide information on professionally accredited archaeological contractors who may be able to carry out the necessary work.

I hope that you will be able to accommodate the above recommendations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Instone  
Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS  
Environmental Sustainability

*Hertfordshire LEADS provides Landscape, Ecology, Archaeology, Design and Sustainability support to planning departments in Hertfordshire.*