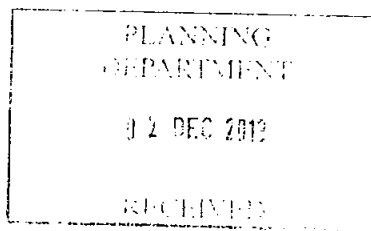


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Mr R Aston,
The Planning Officer
Welwyn Hatfield District Council,
Council Office
The Campus
Welwyn Garden City
AL8 0PB

29th November 2013

Dear Mr Aston

Council Office Extensions

Thank you for your letter of 25th November. Had I not made arrangements to be in D [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] following a recent bereavement, I would have welcomed the opportunity to say a few words on this proposal.

In the absence of so doing, I can only reiterate my previous comments to the effect that I find the architectural expression to this infill, coarse and lacking any sensitivity that one would expect to see for such a significant infill to a major and important early Garden City Building.

For example it exhibits a pronounced vertical emphasis in a group of buildings that essentially have a horizontal expression. It's glazing is poorly proportioned, out of scale, and is contained within a meaningless band that ignores the existing parapet lines and pushes aggressively forward of the pitched roofs to the upper storey.

A great opportunity is being missed to create a sensitive and exquisitely detailed modern glazed infill spanning between or even forward of the ends of the existing wings and which exhibits a horizontal expression adopting minimalist glazing bar technology and which it also shows a conscious awareness of the existing parapets and roof profiles to provide a worthy addition to the architecture of Welwyn Garden City.

Yours sincerely

