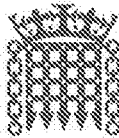


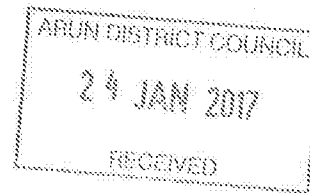
Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Karl Roberts
Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration
Arun District Council
1st Floor
Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
LITTLEHAMPTON
BN17 5LF

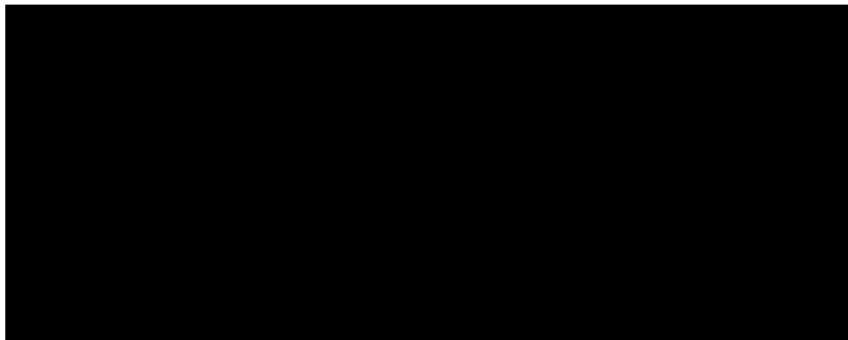


20 January 2017

Thank you for your letter of 24 October in response to my letter of the 13 October regarding the delays in granting planning permission for the application for the managed breach of the Shingle Spit at Pagham Harbour.

I would be grateful for an update in the progress of the application and an idea of how close you are to a resolution to the legal guarantor issues that you let me know of in October.

With best wishes.



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Mr Nick Gibb MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

26 January 2017

Your Ref:

Our Ref: KR/sdb

Please ask for:
Karl Roberts
Strategy Department
Direct Dial: 01903 737760

Dear *Nick*

Shingle Spit At Pagham Harbour

Thank you for your letter of 20 January 2017.

I can confirm that we had a meeting on 19 January 2017 with representatives of the Pagham Flood Defence Trust and Natural England, the purpose of which was to try to agree a way forward with respect to the legal guarantor issues.

This proved to be very helpful and has resulted in a couple of further avenues of enquiry which we are looking into and for which we are seeking further legal advice from our Counsel. We are also separately re-writing the Appropriate Assessment in order to test whether, if the future maintenance of the Harbour opening as a mitigation measure is removed (it is this that requires the legal guarantee), there would still be no objection from a Habitat Regulations point of view. If so, then we could proceed to determine the application without the need for the legal guarantees.

Finally, Officers are still in dialogue with the applicants regarding some further minor changes to the planning conditions.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Karl Roberts
Director of Place