

Dear Helen, Leanne et al,

Further to recent correspondence, some of which is set out below, **I write on behalf of the Appellant, Leverhulme Estates Ltd, to formally confirm that we wish to withdraw the Leverhulme SANG appeal, ref. APP/W4325/W/22/3313726.**

This is due to the significant change in circumstances that occurred when a Statement of Common Ground between Natural England and WBC was published during the first week of examination hearings into the Wirral Local Plan and following receipt of WBC's Ecology Proof of Evidence in April. Further background to this is set out in my email below dated 28th April 2023.

Helen / Leanne – Please can you acknowledge receipt of this withdrawal request and inform the Inspector?

We appreciate this will have an effect on the inquiry programme and my colleague, Oliver, will shortly send an email to the key individuals with our suggestions for how some of the topics, notably SANG and ecology, can be adjusted.

Our ecology witness, Joseph (cc'd), is in dialogue with Alan from MEAS (also cc'd) and we will take the lead in preparing a fresh ecology Statement of Common Ground for everyone's benefit, including the Inspector's, confirming matters of agreement between WBC, MEAS and Leverhulme, such as the ecology reason for refusal for each residential appeal no longer being pursued, and any outstanding topics requiring roundtable discussion during the inquiry. We aim to have this finalised and submitted during the first week of the inquiry.

Many thanks.

Simon Handy BA (Hons) MPlan MRTPI

Director – Head of Oxford Planning
Development & Planning

10 May 2023