



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

Mrs Sharon Hodgson MP  
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Concord  
Washington  
Tyne and Wear  
NE37 2SQ

**Please ask for:** Michelle Peart  
**Tel:** 0303 44 48042  
**Email:** Michelle.peart@communities.gsi.gov.uk  
**Your ref:** JF  
**Our ref:** PCU/RTI/J4525/3198330

**Date:** 29 August 2018

Dear Mrs Hodgson

### **Application 17/02085/MW4 – Land at Hillthorn Farm, Washington**

Thank you for your letter of 21 August 2018 asking the Secretary of State to call in the above planning application.

Today, the Secretary of State exercised his powers under Article 31 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 to direct Sunderland City Council not to grant permission on this application, without specific authorisation.

The direction does not prevent the council from considering the application at committee, forming a view as to the merits or, if it is so minded, refusing permission. If the council is minded to approve the application, the matters you have raised, along with all other relevant information, will be considered by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the application should be called in.

Please note that, as you have made representations about a planning application which is before the Secretary of State, it may be necessary to make your letter available to a third party should that party make a request for information on representations made to the Secretary of State on the application. Any personal or identifying information will be removed before release.

I will let you know the outcome in due course.

Yours sincerely  
*Michelle Peart*

Michelle Peart  
Planning Officer

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