



Department for Work & Pensions

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Date: 15th February 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) is on the leading edge in response to the economic impact of COVID-19, with unprecedented demand on the Benefits System, with those in Society with the greatest need for support accessing DWP services in very significant numbers.

To meet the expected increased demand in your area, we are opening an appointment only Job Centre Plus office at the property described within the planning application accompanying this letter. This is one of a number of additional offices being established across the country and has been logged as a Government Critical Project with the Infrastructure Projects Authority.

We are attempting to open the new offices as quickly as possible to ensure we are ready to help people when they need us. We hope you will assist us in accelerating the Planning Approval process to assist us in achieving this.

I attach for your information, a letter from the Secretary of State BEIS issued in support of construction projects along with guidance from MHCLG to Local Authorities also in support of such projects.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-construction-update-qa>

Please let me know if there is anything further the Department can do to can help leverage or prioritise to assist you in resolving this Planning Permission at the earliest opportunity.

Barry Frost

Capital Projects and Investment Manager
Department for Work & Pensions