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Borough Council

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Our Ref: 200188

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1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Your contact is: Jonathan Markwell, Planning

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Planning Inspectorate Reference:** APP/E0345/W/21/3276463

**Planning Application number:** 200188

**Planning Application type:** Full Planning Approval

**Appellant:** Berkeley Homes

**Site Address:** 55 Vastern Road, Reading, RG1 8BU

**For:** Demolition of existing structures and erection of a series of buildings ranging in height from 1 to 11 storeys, including residential dwellings (C3 use class) and retail floorspace (A3 use class), together with a new north-south pedestrian link, connecting Christchurch Bridge to Vastern Road.

With reference to the above appeal, I am writing to inform you that the Inquiry will be held online as a virtual event. Opening at **10:00am** on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021, and scheduled for 15 days. The duration is not fixed and will depend on how the evidence emerges.

The Inquiry will be held as a virtual event run by an Inspector in the normal way, but with the parties invited to join via Microsoft Teams or telephone.

Andrea Mageean BA (Hons) BPl PhD, MRTPI has been appointed by the Secretary of State to determine this appeal; and this Inspector will preside at the hearing.

Documents relating to the appeal can be viewed on the Council website (200188). Anyone wishing to attend the Inquiry must make that interest known to the Planning Inspectorate Case Officer and the LPA as soon as possible prior to the Inquiry, either by email or telephone after reading the Attendance Information set out below.

### Inquiry Arrangement Information

Before deciding whether to take an active part in the Inquiry, you need to think carefully about the points you wish to make. All written submissions from application and appeal stage will be taken into account by the Inspector and re-stating the same points won't add any additional weight to them.

If you feel that taking part in the Hearing is right for you in whatever capacity, you can participate in a number of ways:

To take part using video, participants will need to have access to Microsoft Teams (via an app or web browser). This link gives further information: <https://support.office.com/en->

gb/teams. Alternatively you can take part by telephone. Calls would be to an 020 number which will incur charges: <https://www.gov.uk/call-charges>

If you just wish to observe the event, you should make that clear in your response to the Case Officer/LPA.

If you wish to take an active part in the proceedings, please make clear in your response the particular topic areas you are interested in.

If you want to take an active part but feel unable to for any reason, and/or the points you want to make are not covered in the evidence of others, consider whether someone else could raise them on your behalf

Registered participants in whatever capacity will receive individual joining instructions, providing details of any requirements, guidance and support, whether joining by Teams or telephone.

If you wish to participate in the Inquiry virtually please contact the Local Planning Authority (email: [Planning.Administration@reading.gov.uk](mailto:Planning.Administration@reading.gov.uk) or telephone: 0118 937 2381) for details of how to do so.

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/E0345/W/21/3276463

Case Officer: Alison Dyson; Tel:03034445304;

Email: [alison.dyson@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:alison.dyson@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

The decision will be published online: <https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-inspectorate>

Documents relating to the appeal can be viewed on the Council website:  
<https://www.reading.gov.uk/planning/55-vastern-road/>

The original application and documents can be found on the Council website using the reference 200188 : <https://www.reading.gov.uk/planning/search-planning-applications/>

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Markwell,  
Planning Officer