

Dear Rebecca,

Thanks for your email and continued interest in this scheme.

We have recently submitted to the council several updated technical reports. We have updated the community on these through a newsletter and updates to royalmailpatcham.co.uk.

Residents can contact us by emailing royalmailpatcham@secnewgate.co.uk or by writing to 'FREEPOST Royal Mail Patcham' should they have any questions or comments. We have received several enquiries which have received a full reply. The updated documents were uploaded to the council's planning portal today and are now publicly available.

The normal process for planning applications is that the developer undertakes some pre-application consultation and following the application there is a statutory consultation process managed by the local authority.

As you note, a pre-application consultation was undertaken by Royal Mail last year. This consultation exceeded the requirements for a development of this size. There is indeed a public consultation for the current stage (post-application) of the planning application: the council's statutory consultation remains open, with the planning portal receiving comments. In addition, interested parties can make use of the contact details provided to ask questions, which will be answered by the development team.

The number of people who attended Royal Mail's pre-application consultation last year is about what we would expect for a development of this size. As your email notes, this and the council's statutory consultation have both given residents an opportunity to voice their opinions. Since the consultation period, we have made beneficial changes including:

- Moving the vehicle access point to the Vale Avenue/A27 approach road and making this a right-turn exit only for HGVs. This means HGVs will enter and leave directly from the strategic road network (A27/A23), ensuring that larger vehicles do not use the local roads to the east and south of the site.
- Lining all the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) with an impermeable membrane to prevent infiltration.
- The introduction of a wall around the sub-stations and adjustments to the alignment of the palisade and acoustic fence to provide increase screening of the site.

You asked whether everything has been decided - this is not the case. We expect the application to be determined by Brighton & Hove Planning Committee later this year.

I hope these responses are useful.

Kind regards,

Vincent

www.royalmailpatcham.co.uk