



Planning MCC [REDACTED]

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**Application 126431/FO/2020**

1 message

**Matt Townley** [REDACTED]

15 July 2020 at 13:03

To: [REDACTED]

FAO Jennifer Atkinson

Planning - Case Officer

Strategic Development Directorate

Manchester City Council

P O Box 532

Manchester

M60 2LA

July 2020

Dear Jennifer

**Re: Application number 126431/FO/2020 - Erection of a multi-use arena**

I am writing on behalf of Dakota Manchester to support the proposal for a new arena. Dakota Manchester is a 137 bed city centre hotel located just over one mile from the proposed site.

A second arena in Manchester has the potential to attract tens of thousands more people to the city. Conservative estimates are that an extra 750 000 tickets will be sold. This will lead to more people visiting the city, eating in city centre restaurants, drinking in city centre bars, and staying in city centre hotels such as the Dakota Manchester. When Manchester City play at home we already see a significant increase in the number of people staying at Dakota.

The development is in accordance with plans as outlined in the city's core strategy to regenerate East Manchester. And it will likely attract further investment west-to-east across the city towards Eastlands, so it is vital that there are improvements to connecting infrastructure in order to facilitate this growth.

On a final and broader point, the proposal is in-keeping with the city's international ambitions. Manchester must have the world's best venues in order to attract the world's best acts and host the

world's best events. Such a cultural offer both encourages people to choose Manchester as a place to visit, but also a place to live, work, study, and invest. Which is why this proposal is both good for Dakota Manchester and for the entire economy of Manchester.

Your faithfully

Matt

*Matt Townley*

General Manager • Dakota Manchester • Dakota Hotels • [www.dakotahotels.co.uk](http://www.dakotahotels.co.uk)

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