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Jennifer Atkinson
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Dear Jennifer

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

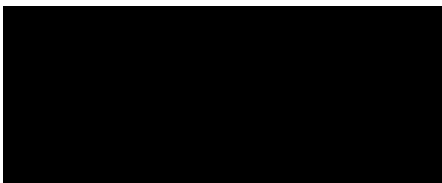
I am writing to support the above application for a multi-use arena.

The Royal Northern College of Music [RNCM] is a leading international conservatoire located in the heart of Manchester, with a reputation for attracting talented students, teachers, conductors and composers from all over the world.

But the next few years are going to be difficult. Education is amongst the hardest hit sectors as a result of coronavirus. And it is likely challenges will continue as students potentially defer entry or decide not to study overseas. It is therefore vital that institutions such as ours are equipped with as many tools as possible to attract domestic and international students. A new world-class arena bringing more world-class events to Manchester will be one such tool.

From a broader economic perspective the RNCM welcomes private investment into the city. We particularly welcome investment that supports long standing regeneration plans that will create thousands of jobs in the short and medium term, and that reinforces Manchester's international identity as a place of music, creativity and expression.

Yours faithfully



Professor Linda Merrick
Principal