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Planning Case Officer
Strategic Development Directorate
Manchester City Council
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11th May 2020

Reference: PLANNING APPLICATION NO 126431/FO/2020
Erection of a multi-use arena The Etihad Campus Manchester.

Dear Jennifer,

I write to support the above application for a new arena on the Etihad Campus. I am a director of Northern Group who own and develop property and are based in Ancoats Urban Village. As such, I am familiar with the site and have studied the plans.

I support this application for a number of reasons.

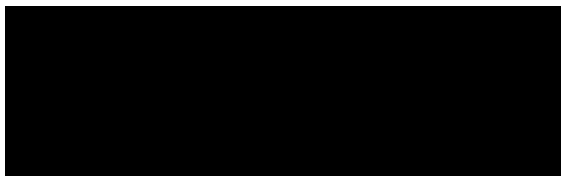
First, because it fits in with long-term redevelopment plans for East Manchester as identified in Manchester's Core Strategy. This area has been transformed particularly since the Commonwealth Games and subsequent development of the Etihad Campus. The arena will support its continued renaissance and will attract further investment in residential, leisure and office development.

Second, this investment in East Manchester will have a direct impact on the eastern edge of the city centre where Northern Group are involved in a number of projects. This area is thriving in part due to the interrelationship between the Etihad Campus, the City Centre, and a process of activation and renewal which will be further stimulated by the arena.

Third, it is clear the arena will create both social and economic value. £1bn GVA over the next 20 years; a commitment to local training and employment opportunities; and a commitment to build one of the most sustainable arenas in the world, are just some examples in the application.

Finally, it is also important to note that at the time of writing, the UK is on the verge of an economic downturn the likes of which none of us have seen before. Whilst there is evidence this downturn may be V-shaped, such are the unknowns, that projects with certainty of funding must be supported to create and secure employment and build confidence at a time when it is needed most.

Yours sincerely,



Nathan Ezair
Director



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