**The Bridgewater Canal Company Limited**
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Ref Swing Bridge Potato Wharf

16th October 2013

Stephen Woodward
Senior Design and Planning Manager
Lend Lease
1st Floor, Cornwall House,
31 Lionel Street,
Birmingham.
B3 1AP

Dear Stephen

**Bridgewater Canal Potato Wharf Manchester**

Further to our recent discussions concerning the proposed swing bridge over the canal arm as part of the planning conditions for the Potato Wharf development site. I can confirm that the company is concerned that the inclusion of a swing bridge over the canal arm would be detrimental to the use of the canal and add a safety risk to those operating the bridge.

1 Boat owners would not wish to operate the swing bridge every time they either access or egress the mooring.

2 Potential for the swing bridge to be left in an open position creating access difficulties for pedestrians.

3 The operation of a moving structure by inexperienced members of the public will increase the risk of injury to users and has a potential for misuse and vandalism.

4 The canal and canal arms within Castlefield are cleared by boat of floating debris. A swing bridge across the arm will make the cleaning of the water space more difficult as our contractors have limited time to clean out canal arms especially if they have to move the bridge to access and then reset the bridge following use.

5 Installation of a swing bridge across the arm will sterilise the water space.

To achieve a positive outcome we would suggest that pedestrian movement around the development site should be maintained by a direct pedestrian link on the west side of the canal arm to Potato Wharf (between Jacksons pedestrian Bridge and Potato Wharf). This solution will ensure that the canal arm can be used for mooring and remove the potential for harm to operators of a swing bridge

I trust your negotiations with the planning authority will be successful, please do not hesitate in contacting me if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Mike

Mike Webb
Bridgewater Canal Manager