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## To All Members of Slough Borough Council Planning Committee

09 May 2012

**Dear Councillor** 

Re: Planning application by TGM Group LTD for a temporary coach park at Poyle Place, Colnbrook



On behalf of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), I am writing to you in respect of this planning application, and respectfully seek your urgent attention in this matter.

I am sure you will be aware of the background to this application, which seeks to provide temporary coach parking facilities to form part of the infrastructure necessary for the delivery of Games transport. TGM Group Ltd, a division of Arriva PLC, has been contracted by LOCOG to provide a large fleet of vehicles and team of staff to fulfil this requirement. At an early stage in the contracting process, the operator identified the need for a substantial temporary parking site in the area, and Poyle Place was selected as meeting the criteria identified.

TGM Group's application is before the Planning Committee this Thursday, 10 May, and I understand that there is a recommendation to attach a number of conditions to any grant of this application. Whilst the majority of these are considered reasonable and achievable by TGM Group (and indeed LOCOG), there are particularly onerous conditions cited which seek to compel the company to return the land post- the temporary use to a condition substantially different to its current state. In addition to the inherent unfairness of this, our advice is that this is in conflict with planning law.

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LOCOG has worked closely with TGM throughout this process, and we have been impressed by the company's thorough approach to this application, on which they have consulted key stakeholders consistently. The proposed additional planning conditions, if sanctioned, would make this project financially and practically untenable, resulting in no workable plan to park the fleet of coaches. At this late stage, such a development would seriously jeopardise the successful delivery of this significant part of LOCOG's Games Family and spectator transport.



I am aware that Slough BC openly supports the 2012 Games; this is welcomed and much appreciated. It would be extremely regrettable if unsustainable and unachievable conditions were attached to any grant of this application. I would urge you to fully take this into account when giving your consideration to the application, and I very much hope that a reasonable approach will prevail such that the application can be granted with conditions which TGM Group properly can meet.

With thanks for your attention in this matter

Yours sincerely

Alex Carter

**Head of Transport Operations** 

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