Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Screening opinion for Heythrop College Supplementary Planning Document

We are consulting you in accordance with Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 in connection with the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the Heythrop College site in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. Your organisation is being consulted before determining whether or not the SPD is likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required.

Heythrop College will be moving out of their property which fronts on to Kensington Square and the SPD for this site will look at the design, access and land use implications for this site to inform any planning applications that come forward in the future. I enclose a working draft of the issues and options document for the site, which will be refined and made publically available for consultation in the coming days.

The adopted document will supplement the policies of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea Consolidated Local Plan 2015 (consolidated with alternations since the Core Strategy 2010) and the London Plan 2015 (consolidated with alterations since 2011).

Screening Opinion

The purpose of this SPD is to provide site-specific design and planning guidance. Having considered the requirements of the Regulations, the Council’s preliminary view is that the Heythrop College SPD guides development of small areas at a very local level and is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment. Furthermore, the Council's revised policies on Conservation and Design have recently been the subject of a Sustainability Appraisal and have been found sound by a Planning Inspector. This document will supplement these policies. Therefore, it is considered that a SEA is not required in this instance.

Please let me know if you have any queries in connection with the above. If you consider that there is a need for a SEA I would be grateful if you could contact James Masini, directly by 19 November 2015.

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Wade
Head of Forward Planning