FULL COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 15 July 2020

Written question from Mrs May of Totland to Councillor Abraham, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing.

I would like to know what further access or support will be offered to maximise public engagement over the remaining days of the consultation for UKOG's application given its uniqueness and complexity

Response

The local planning authority (LPA) has met its statutory responsibilities for publicising this application. The application information has been made available in line with the temporary regulations in place at the time of advertising. Whilst it is recognised that this application will be of particular interest to many, the LPA is not in a position to do any more that this statutory minimum. The LPA receives many applications that people consider to be controversial, so to provide further access or support in relation to this specific application would raise issues over when such support should be given for other applications. It could also raise a question over the impartiality of the LPA. If an individual wishes to access the application information and comment, the onus is on them to do so. The application information as submitted is available online, with it being available for the public to comment on should they wish. Comments can be submitted online or by post, with a closing date of 24 July.