



Leader's Office  
Castle House  
Barracks Road  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire  
ST5 1BL

17<sup>th</sup> February 2022

ST/SH

FAO Mr C. Hipkiss  
Build4Learning Ltd  
Weeford House Farm  
Churchill  
Weeford WS14 0PW

Dear Mr Hipkiss

**Sky Building, Newcastle-under-Lyme**

I writing as Leader of the Council as I believe that you are now the new owner of the Sky Building in Newcastle-under-Lyme town centre. This is good news for the people of my Borough as we are very keen for the development to be finished and occupied.

You will be aware that the Council sold the land of the former Jubilee Baths for the development in May 2015 and work commenced but ground to a halt in 2018 and has been the subject of legal issues around ownership and investment for the following 4 years.

Residents in Newcastle are extremely disappointed that this prominent site has been left to the elements for such a long time as it has caused our communities across the borough a great deal of concern in terms of the safety of the abandoned site and the future of the development.

The untidiness of the site for many years has become a blight on our town and there have been several instances of debris coming off the building, security breaches and a general lack of site security and site untidiness. This has been unacceptable and something we not able to address ourselves as the legal issues were worked through and criticism has been levelled at ourselves for something that is out of our control.

As the new owners, I would like to see urgent action to address the communities concerns around the safety of the site, site security and tidiness and a confirmation of when you will be starting work on site to recommence activities to complete the works.

We would welcome your prompt reply so we can share your plans and timescales with our residents and businesses in the Borough.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Simon Tagg, Leader  
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