Alconbury Parish Council

www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Parish Clerk: Alison Brown
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7 August 2025

Chief Fire Officer
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
Hinchingbrooke Cottage
Brampton Road
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 2NA

Dear Chief Fire Officer,

Proposed Brampton Cross Development
- Potential EV Battery Business Presence

We are writing to raise a matter regarding the proposed Brampton Cross development, located at the A1/A14 junctions and currently being progressed by Endurance Estates.

There is a strong belief that one of the future occupiers of this commercial site may be an electric vehicle (EV) battery innovator. Whilst we do not currently have knowledge of the specific company involved, the type of business being considered raises important questions relating to fire safety and emergency preparedness.

Given the known risks associated with lithium-ion battery technologies - including fire intensity, re-ignition potential, and toxic emissions - we would appreciate your response to the following:

1. Has Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) been informed or consulted about the potential for this type of business to be located at Brampton Cross? If so, could you share any concerns you may have with us;

2. Have there been any communications with Endurance Estates regarding the types of commercial occupants anticipated for this development, particularly those involving battery technologies or similar high-risk operations? If so, could you please share any details;

3. Does CFRS consider that its current Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2024–2029 contains sufficient resource, capability, and planning to effectively

respond to an incident involving an EV battery facility at this location? If not, could you please share any initial concerns you have.

In addition to the operational risks associated with this type of business, we are concerned about the existing road infrastructure surrounding the Brampton Hut junction. This area already experiences significant traffic volumes and congestion due to the convergence of the A1, A14 and local access roads. To our knowledge, Endurance Estates have not included any provision for improved road access to the site in their current development proposal. In light of this, is CFRS concerned about the impact that the current road layout and traffic conditions may have on emergency response times to a potential incident on site?

As your CRMP acknowledges, the increasing presence of emerging technologies, including lithium-ion systems, poses evolving risks to the community. We believe it is essential that potential developments of this nature are considered at the earliest possible stage to ensure that risk assessments, response planning, and inter-agency coordination are adequately addressed.

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping the communities of Cambridgeshire safe. We look forward to your thoughts on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Alison Brown

For and on behalf of
Alconbury Parish Council

cc: Ben Obese-Jecty, MP for Huntingdon
Paul Bristow, Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
Ian Gardener, District Councillor, Huntingdonshire District Council
Head of Highways, Cambridgeshire County Council
Spatial Planning – East Region, National Highways
Jake Nugent, Endurance Estates
Chris Morris, Chair of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority