



Planning Manager
Development Management
Gravesham Borough Council
Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 1AU

**Heritage
GT EPE**
Invicta House
County Hall
MAIDSTONE
ME14 1XX

Ask for: Jacob Warrender
Email: Jacob.Warrender@kent.gov.uk

13 May 2026

Re: 20260131

Location: Site of Former Police Station, 133 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1DB

Proposal: Erection of 67 Retirement Living Apartments for older people (comprising 67no. 1 bedrooms) including communal facilities, access, car parking and landscaping.

Thank you for your letter consulting us on the above planning application.

The site of the proposed development has previously been subject to archaeological conditions (condition no. 7 of Planning application ref. 202220432) on demolition and other groundworks and this has revealed surviving structural remains dating relating to the WW2 era Civil Defence Control Centre (PCA 2024). The watching brief was able to demonstrate that while archaeological evidence of the Civil Defence Control Centre basement and foundation elements had been heavily truncated by later development, a significant proportion had survived. By carefully plotting the surviving remains with a GPS and overlaying them on to an existing plan of the Civil Defence Control Centre, the watching brief was able to confirm that parts of the basement did survive on site, as well as identify walls not marked on the basement plans.

The proposed development may impact upon areas of the site that the previous archaeological watching brief did not monitor, and further remains of the structures and deposits seen during the monitoring of the demolition works may be present.

For this reason I would recommend that a continuation of archaeological fieldwork in the form of an archaeological watching brief is carried out during this development and recommend the following condition. Areas of the site monitored and recorded during the previous watching brief would not require any further archaeological works

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local

Planning Authority so that groundworks are observed and items of interest and finds are recorded, reported on and the new information made publicly accessible. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

I would be pleased to discuss the above further.

Yours sincerely

Jacob Warrender
Senior Archaeological Officer