

20260163 St Andrews Gardens

*Port of London Authority*

Thank you for consulting the Port of London Authority (PLA) on the above-mentioned application, for the proposed development at St Andrews Gardens, Royal Pier Road, Gravesend. I have now had the opportunity to review the submitted documents and have the following comments to make.

The PLA in principle support the proposed development, which sets out to enhance accessibility and usability of St Andrews Gardens for all users, whilst enhancing biodiversity and protecting the historic character of the site. This aligns with the PLA's Thames Vision 2050 plan which sets out to ensure that the Tidal Thames and its riverside is accessible to all, with more visitors drawn to the river to enjoy the Thames Estuary. However, as part of the street furniture and public realm proposals, it is considered essential that this includes the provision of appropriate riparian lifesaving infrastructure (such as life buoys) along the riverside. This would be in line with the PLA's 'A Safer Riverside' guidance for developments on and alongside the Tidal Thames, as highlighted within section 6.12 (Adjacency to Riverside) of the Design for Gravesham Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (2024). The provision of this essential infrastructure should be confirmed via an appropriately worded planning condition as part of any forthcoming planning permission.

On other matters, the PLA support the recommendation of the Environment Agency with regard to a requirement for a landscape and ecological management plan, to be confirmed via condition, including for the provision of further details with regard to lighting, to ensure this has no negative effect on river ecology.