

# Siân Berry

Green Party MP candidate  
for Brighton Pavilion

 @SianBerry

 SianBerryGreen

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To: all members of the Planning Committee  
and Interim Head of Planning,  
Brighton and Hove City Council

2 June 2024

By email

Dear Councillors,

## **Objection to BH2023/03236 Emblem House, Home Farm Business Park**

I am writing in both a personal capacity as a local resident, and as a parliamentary candidate for Brighton Pavilion.

I know that there have been many objections to the above application, and I wish to add my voice ahead of the planning meeting next week.

I realise that this application has attracted significant public interest because of the nature of the company operating on this land: L3 Harris Release and Integrated Solutions Ltd (previously known as EDO MBM). This is a business that is currently potentially complicit in the violation of human rights, resulting in misery and death in global conflicts, and it cannot continue to be welcome in our city.

I believe that there are multiple planning reasons why the committee should refuse this application. These range from an oversight on the part of L3 Harris in allowing their current temporary planning application to lapse, through to the fact that the site backs on to Wild Park: a large nature reserve of great value to our city.

However, while I recognise that the planning system is not a usual forum in which to consider human rights issues, it is on this basis I am principally objecting. As councillors on the Planning Committee, you must scrutinise this application carefully in line with your constitutional responsibilities, planning law, and your own consciences in relation to the harm that would follow a positive decision.

There are very credible grounds to conclude that the bomb racks and bomb release mechanisms L3 Harris manufactures for F-16 and F-35 aircraft have been in use by the Israeli Air Force in its

assault on Gaza. Caroline Lucas, our former MP, has raised this issue in Parliament and received no response that indicates this is not the case.

There is a clear legal basis, as set out in the letter you have received from Professor Anna Stavrianakis at the University of Sussex, that the ultimate impacts of the continued use of this land for military weapon system manufacturing may be taken into account if you, as a decision maker, consider them relevant.

I also believe that recent statements by prosecutors at the International Court of Justice mean that the prevention of further deaths in Gaza among the vulnerable civilian population is a duty on all of us, so we must all take action, wherever we are able, to stop the assault and prevent it continuing in future.

Acting to refuse this application would be in line with this duty. Morally and ethically, there should never be any weapons made in Brighton for illegal military actions, and you can make a difference in your decision this week.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siân Berry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small arrow pointing to the 'i' in "Siân".

**Siân Berry**  
**Green Party MP candidate for Brighton Pavilion**

