

**Deputy Chief Executive
Bill Hunt**

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our ref: BH/GSH
your ref:

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Dear Ms Cavalli

Stoneleigh Park University Technology College

I am writing to confirm Warwick District Council's support for the creation of a University Technology College (UTC) at Stoneleigh Park.

We have worked closely with the Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE) for a number of years, and latterly with LaSalle Investment Management, to assist them with their aspirations to enhance Stoneleigh Park's recognised national profile and to develop the site, already the primary national location for rural and agricultural organisations, further. Achievement of these outcomes is of district-wide, sub-regional and national importance. We believe that the location of a UTC on the site would support the achievement of these outcomes and that Stoneleigh Park is the optimal national location for a UTC which focuses on land based and related technologies.

This Council's Sustainable Community Strategy, through which we will achieve our Vision to make our district a great place to live, work and visit, has four strategic priority themes; housing, health and well-being, safer communities and jobs, skills and the economy. These are underpinned by 5 cross-cutting themes which impact on each priority area; narrowing the gaps, embedding sustainability including environmental impacts, rurality, families at risk and engaging and strengthening communities. The sustainable development of Stoneleigh Park generally and the location of a specialist UTC on the site specifically will be of significant benefit to our ability to achieve and maintain progress on these strategic objectives and improve the quality of life for residents in the district and wider sub-region.

We believe that investment in science and technology will enable practical applications to be developed to address the challenges of food supply, sustaining a viable rural economy and enabling our farming industry to produce more with less. Fundamental to this is the requirement for a major new investment in the provision of training and



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skills to a new generation of workers, which the creation of a UTC at Stoneleigh Park will ensure.

As the district council covering the proposed site, with a statutory role as the relevant planning authority, we welcome the opportunity to both support and become actively involved in the Stoneleigh Park UTC. Specifically, we would be pleased to:

- Provide advice, guidance and specialist knowledge to enable the UTC to be taken through the planning process and developed on the site;
- Use our local knowledge and extensive experience and contacts to guide and facilitate the community, business and political engagement necessary in both the development stage and during the future running of a UTC on the site;
- Assist staff and, if necessary students, with advice and practical support in achieving appropriate housing solutions within the district;
- Provide advice, guidance and specialist expertise on a range of technical issues as diverse as business rates liabilities, waste collection and building control issues
- Facilitate learning experience through work experience and knowledge transfer;
- Guide the Stoneleigh Park UTC on the development of any specialist facilities necessary to ensure its reflects current and future industry practices and needs;
- Be an active member of the Steering Group

There is no doubt in our minds that the provision of a UTC specialising in land based and associated technologies to produce future generations of highly skilled vocationally qualified people, is fundamental to addressing the need to change the existing economic climate for the better. We believe that Stoneleigh Park is the ideal location for such a facility and we are therefore extremely pleased to be able to support this exciting and innovative initiative.

Yours sincerely,



Bill Hunt
Deputy Chief Executive