



## Planning • Historic Buildings • Archaeology

Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry

### Home Office Projects

#### Client

Home Office

#### Location

Nationwide

#### Services Provided

Planning

Archaeology

Historic Buildings

#### Date of Completion

on going



CgMs has worked directly for the Home Office since 1997. We have particularly been involved in property matters concerning immigration and nationality matters and more recently for the Ministry of Justice and the Probation Service.

CgMs continues to advise on Immigration Removal Centres, which are similar to prisons, and where failed asylum applicants are often held prior to their removal from the country. We have provided advice on numerous existing and new Removal Centres nationwide.

CgMs advised on some 20-30 proposed Immigration Accommodation Centres nationwide before the Accommodation Centre policy was changed by the Government.

We have also been involved in advice, applications and appeals for related Reception, Induction, Reporting and Hearing Centres. Because of the nature of the users these have nearly always proved controversial, involving sensitive and comprehensive consultation with local residents, Councillors and other stakeholders.

We are currently working with the Ministry of Justice to convert HMP Moreton Hall, Leicestershire from a prison to an Immigration Removal Centre. Although in the same Use Class, such a change has a significant impact on the local community socially. CgMs are involved in the coordination of public consultation and the various specialist studies to support the physical changes required.

For the Probation Service we have been involved in securing permission for a number of hostels and new offices across the country. Again because of the nature of the occupants, these proposals are nearly always controversial. Part of our remit has been to establish that planning permission is not in fact required, via Certificates of Lawful Use.

We have also advised the Home Office on the strategic planning policy issues surrounding all the above premises and we have been involved in for example, changes to the Use Classes order to allow more flexibility in the use of secure residential accommodation.

Please contact **Erica Mortimer** or **Chris Hicks** for further information.

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