



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

[REDACTED]

12<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Our Ref: C/ARAG/FB/LE

*Please quote the reference on any correspondence*

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

As you and the ARAG know, I have long championed a UTC for my Constituency – virtually since becoming a Member of Parliament for this area – and more recently I have equally enthusiastically championed the suggestion, ably promoted by ARAG, both to Cheshire East Council and National Government of the UTC for Cheshire being based at Alsager.

Following receipt of your letter I have had a meeting with Lord Baker who is coordinating the Government's UTC work across the country and with whom I have a very positive working relationship, since he knows how keen I am to bring the benefit of a UTC to our area. Whilst I had spoken some time ago to him about the positive attributes of the Alsager base, he has now informed me that the application which he anticipates receiving from Cheshire East Council is for a Crewe base. Please be aware that it is for localities to propose UTC sites to National Government which cannot 'impose' them – whatever their merits.

I have also spoken within the past few days by telephone with Caroline Simpson, Director of Economic Growth and Prosperity at Cheshire East Council. I asked Caroline to clarify with me whether Cheshire East have any intention of considering Alsager as a UTC base, so that I could in turn convey to you their position unequivocally. Caroline informed me that Cheshire East Council is not intending to consider the former MMU site at Alsager as a potential UTC base and indeed that they are actively pursuing a Crewe UTC site.

I am sorry to have to give you this news which is as much of a disappointment to me as it will be to you knowing how ideally suited the former MMU site

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would be and appreciating how much work you as a group have put into exploring this as a real option.

I am continuing to actively support the retention of the sports facilities at the former MMU site on an ongoing basis.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fiona".

**Fiona Bruce MP**  
**Member of Parliament for the Congleton Constituency**  
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