

From: [Jay Skinner](#)
To: [Lewis McWilliam](#)
Subject: RE: Hermiston Data Centre Application, (25/03978/PAN) (Case Ref: SA08878) - Land 300 Metres North Of 50 Research Avenue North Riccarton Currie
Date: 05 November 2025 17:17:35

Hi Lewis,

Many thanks for the agreed wording used for the purpose of the recent media enquiry which I will relay to Cllr Griffiths.

Kind regards,

Jay

From: Lewis McWilliam
Sent: 05 November 2025 16:13
To: Jay Skinner
Subject: RE: Hermiston Data Centre Application, (25/03978/PAN) (Case Ref: SA08878) - Land 300 Metres North Of 50 Research Avenue North Riccarton Currie

Afternoon Jay,

We confirmed recently in a media response (attached for reference) that it is our intention to re-screen the proposal. Therefore, I would suggest similar wording to this is used for consistency :

‘With regard to screening decision 25/02924/SCR, it is our intention to rescreen the proposals to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment statement is required. It wouldn’t therefore be appropriate to comment further on specifics at this stage.’

Thanks,

Lewis

Lewis McWilliam | Senior Planning Officer| Central and West Area| Sustainable Development| Place Directorate | The City of Edinburgh Council | Waverley Court, Business Centre G2, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG| lewis.mcwilliam@edinburgh.gov.uk | www.edinburgh.gov.uk

From: Jay Skinner <Jay.Skinner@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 November 2025 16:01

To: Lewis McWilliam <Lewis.McWilliam@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Hermiston Data Centre Application, (25/03978/PAN) (Case Ref: SA08878) - Land 300 Metres North Of 50 Research Avenue North Riccarton Currie

Afternoon Lewis,

Hope you are well.

Can I please check if there is a standard Officer response available for use in responding to queries similar in nature to those raised per the attached letter sent by Scott Arthur MP to Cllr Griffiths. Per the below, Cllr Griffiths has requested support in drafting a response to the correspondence.

Specifically, the correspondence from the MP relates to the Screening Opinion (25/02924/SCR) outcome issued for the proposed Data Centre and associated recommendation.

As ever happy to discuss further if best.

Kind regards,

Jay

From: Joan Griffiths <Joan.Griffiths@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 November 2025 12:09

To: Jay Skinner <Jay.Skinner@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Hermiston Data Centre Application, (25/03978/PAN) (Case Ref: SA08878)

Jay

Can you provide a response for Dr Scott Arthur MP's letter.

Thanks

Joan

From: Dr Scott Arthur MP <scott.arthur.mp@parliament.uk>

Sent: 04 November 2025 11:06

To: Joan Griffiths <Joan.Griffiths@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: Hermiston Data Centre Application, (25/03978/PAN) (Case Ref: SA08878)

Dear Joan

I note City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC's) recent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) appraisal screening opinion of this proposed development, judging that it did not require an EIA. Constituents have contacted me confused about how CEC came to this conclusion. Please could you address my questions regarding the screening and opinion in the attached letter?

I look forward to your reply.

Your sincerely
Scott

Dr Scott Arthur
Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West

60 second sign up for my monthly e-newsletter: <https://tinyurl.com/EdSWNewsletter>
Follow my community Facebook page for local news: <https://www.facebook.com/DrScottArthur>
I support Edinburgh Women's Aid: <https://www.edinwomensaid.co.uk/fundraising/>

From: Lewis McWilliam <Lewis.McWilliam@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 October 2025 09:31
To: scott.arthur.mp@parliament.uk
Cc: planning.applicationsandappeals@edinburgh.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Hermiston Data Centre Application - Environmental Assessment (Case Ref: SA08878)
Good morning Hannah,

The reasoning for the EIA screening decision can be viewed on the planning portal ([CEC Planning Portal](#)) by searching reference '25/02924/SCR' and reviewing the 'EIA Screening Opinion'.

The Proposal of Application Notice reference 25/03978/PAN advises the council of the developer's community engagement process for a potential future planning application.

Environmental considerations (including ecological) would be considered by the planning authority as part of any forthcoming planning application submitted.

Kind regards,

Lewis

Lewis McWilliam | Senior Planning Officer| Central and West Area| Sustainable Development| Place Directorate | The City of Edinburgh Council | Waverley Court, Business Centre G2, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG| lewis.mcwilliam@edinburgh.gov.uk | www.edinburgh.gov.uk

From: Dr Scott Arthur MP <scott.arthur.mp@parliament.uk>
Sent: 23 October 2025 10:21
To: Planning Applications and Appeals
<planning.applicationsandappeals@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: Hermiston Data Centre Application - Environmental Assessment (Case Ref: SA08878)

Good morning,

Constituents have raised a query regarding the Data Centre planning application for the site at Wester Hermiston (25/03978/PAN). I understand that the council will not be conducting an environmental assessment of the application.

Are you able to clarify why this assessment would not be carried out? Is the assessment of the ecological impact conducted by a different authority or do applications of this kind not require any environmental assessment?

Any information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Best wishes,



Constituency Engagement Officer

on behalf of

Dr Scott Arthur

Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West

Follow Scott's community Facebook page for local news: <https://www.facebook.com/DrScottArthur>

Scott supports Edinburgh Women's Aid: <https://www.edinwomensaid.co.uk/fundraising/>

Tel No: —