**APPENDIX 6** 



20<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Reference: Retreat Farm

To whom it may concern

Having been involved with the production and sale of Jersey Royal potatoes for over 40 years and having been MD of the Jersey Royal Company from its inception until 2014, I have been asked to express an opinion on whether the glasshouse unit at Retreat Farm is suitable/viable for the growing of Jersey Royals.

I am familiar with Retreat Farm and therefore aware that much of the floor area is concrete and that several areas contain other fixed infrastructure.

The production of glasshouse Royals is marginal at the best of times, given that the seasonal nature of retail market values only allows for the production of one crop per year. In this instance, incurring the additional cost of concrete removal and other fixed infrastructure, in order to reinstate soil, would be so costly as to render the growing of Jersey Royals financially unviable.

I have also been asked to comment on the growing of Jersey Royals in 'grow bags' or 'raised beds' on the concrete floor; from a viability point of view this can best be described as preposterous. The fact that I have never encountered this as a method of production probably speaks for itself. No grower would even contemplate doing this because they know it would be unviable from the outset.

I trust the information above will be of some use

Yours sincerely

**Tom Binet**