

Ian Kemp
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Dave Barber
Planning Policy Manager
Warwick District Council

20 February 2015

Dear Mr. Barber,

Warwick District Local Plan: Examination

I have been undertaking initial preparation and have identified a number of matters where clarification would be beneficial. I must stress that I am still in the early stages of examining the Local Plan and there may well be other matters on which I seek clarification or further information in due course.

I note that the Council's statement on the duty to co-operate (LP22) refers in paragraph 5.2.8 to the agreement reached by the Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Committee for Economic Growth and Prosperity on 21 November 2014. The report set out in LP20 is to the Coventry and Warwickshire and South East Leicestershire Economic Prosperity Board. Can you clarify the relationship between these two bodies and whether the agreement referred to in the duty to co-operate statement is in fact that set out in LP20. If it is not, can you provide a copy of the relevant report. Can you confirm specifically the nature of any agreement in terms of producing a joint Core Strategy given the apparent difference between the final bullet point of paragraph 5.2.8 of LP22 and Paragraph 2.2 of LP20.

Taking the timetable for further work set out in Table 2 of LP20, can you provide an update on progress, specifically on the formal agreement of the various authorities to the process, a joint Green Belt study and SHLAA updates. Can you explain the nature and scope of the joint Green Belt study and the intended outcomes. It would also be useful to have an update of progress on Local Plan preparation across the HMA and an update of any discussions regarding potential unmet housing needs in the Greater Birmingham area.

The Local Plan proposes removing land from the Green Belt in a number of locations. It would be helpful if a list of specific sites and policy references could be provided to supplement the information in Paragraph 2.81 of the Local Plan.

Can you clarify the Council's approach to reviewing the boundaries of the Green Belt in the District. Specifically, what was the basis for the review, what was the geographical scope of the review and why, how was it

carried out and how and why were the sites in question chosen ahead of others. Can you confirm how the process has been reported and set out in the submitted evidence base.

Can you confirm that all of the individual policies and proposals in the submitted Local Plan including the focused changes have been subject to Sustainability Appraisal and clarify how this is set out within the Sustainability Appraisal Report of February 2015 (SA10).

I would be grateful if you could provide a response on these matters as soon as possible and by 27 February 2015 at the latest.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Ward
INSPECTOR