



Cllr Andrew Mobbs
Leader of Warwick District Council

Our Ref:

PINS/T3725/429/5

Date:

26 October 2015

Dear Councillor Mobbs,

Examination of the Warwick District Local Plan: request for suspension of the examination

1. Thank you for your letter of 14 October 2015 providing an update and further information in relation to the Council's request for a suspension of the examination. Again I appreciate the Council's willingness to seek to address the issues raised in my letter of 1 June 2015 in a constructive and pragmatic manner and welcome the progress that has been made in this respect, in conjunction with the other Coventry and Warwickshire authorities.
2. I note that Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council felt unable to support the Memorandum of Understanding at the meeting of the Economic Prosperity Board held on 29 September 2015, in advance of work on its SHLAA. However, I appreciate that efforts are being made to resolve this issue and note the commitment of the authorities concerned to ensure that the housing needs of the HMA are met in full.
3. On the basis of the further joint work recently undertaken, the commitments made by your Council in terms of meeting identified housing needs in full and the amended timetable for additional work, I am able to confirm that the examination is suspended until May 2016.
4. In reaching this decision I am conscious of the significant scale of additional housing site allocations that the Council considers would be required (approximately 5,200 dwellings or more over and above those in the submitted Local Plan). I note that the Council intends to identify sufficient additional site allocations and is confident that this can be done, and in a relatively short space of time.
5. I will need to be informed of any significant slippage in the timetable or changes in circumstances and in any case provided with an update of progress at the end of January 2016, by which time it is anticipated that additional sites will have been identified and endorsed by members for consultation and the situation in

Nuneaton and Bedworth will be clearer. I will review the situation following this update.

6. In response to the specific query concerning the housing trajectory and a five year supply of housing sites, I can confirm that potentially a trajectory based on a phased increase in annual housing requirements may be appropriate. This would clearly need to be justified by specific circumstances however.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Ward

INSPECTOR