



The Planning Inspectorate

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Mr Simon Eden, Chief Executive,
Winchester City Council,
City Offices, Colebrook Street,
Winchester, Hants.
SO23 9LJ

Our Ref: PINS/L1765/429/5

Date: 11 February 2013

Dear Mr Eden,

Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 – Joint Core Strategy

As you know I was appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out an independent examination of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 – Joint Core Strategy, which was submitted on 18 June 2012, pursuant to section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the 2004 Act). I held a Pre-Hearing Meeting on 12 September 2012 and conducted the examination by way of written exchanges, site visits and a series of hearings that were held between 30 October and 9 November 2012.

My report contains the recommendation that the submitted DPD has a number of deficiencies in relation to soundness and should not be adopted in this form. However, the Council has requested me to recommend modifications to make the plan sound and capable of adoption, which I have listed in the Appendix. These would satisfy the requirements of Section 20(5) of the 2004 Act and meet the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework. None of the modifications alters the main thrust of the Council's policies or proposals.

In coming to my conclusions on soundness I considered all the representations made in the 6 weeks following publication, in accordance with Reg. 27 of the 2008 Regulations, along with subsequent written submissions, oral contributions made during the hearings and representations on the proposed modifications.

I would like to thank all the officers of the Council for the professional way in which they carried out their roles in the examination, as well as all other participants for their constructive engagement with the process. I also wish to record my particular thanks to Rosemary Morton, the Programme Officer. Her hard work and efficiency in assisting everyone helped to ensure that the examination ran smoothly and in a good spirit throughout.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Payne
Inspector

