

## Planning and Strategic Housing

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WEST OXFORDSHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Malcolm Rivett BA (Hons) MSc MRTPI

Your Ref :  
Our Ref :  
Date : 3 August 2017

Dear Mr Rivett

### West Oxfordshire Local Plan Examination

I write in response to your recent letter of 25 July 2017 and would like to take the opportunity to thank you for conducting the recent hearing sessions in such an efficient and timely manner which I'm sure was greatly appreciated by all parties.

Attached to this letter as requested is a summary schedule of the possible further modifications to the Local Plan that were discussed during the Stage 2 and 3 hearing sessions. Work on drafting these changes is already well underway and we should be in a position to submit a full schedule no later than mid-September 2017.

As you are aware, the Council is also proposing to undertake further work to assist the examination with much of this also already underway.

For the avoidance of doubt, this additional work includes the following:

- Additional landscape/heritage appraisal of the non-strategic housing site allocations in Woodstock and within the Cotswolds AONB.
- The preparation of reports that give further consideration to the suitability of the AONB and Woodstock site allocations in light of the additional landscape/heritage assessments as well as the need for housing in the AONB. This is likely to take the form of topic papers.
- Additional Sustainability Appraisal (SA) work as indicated in examination papers EXAM 008 and EXAM 017.
- A note on detailed proposals for 'staging' the housing requirement figure.

In terms of timescales, we will endeavour to submit these documents to the examination as soon as is reasonably possible to assist you in determining the most appropriate way forward.

The note on the staged housing requirement is effectively a standalone document and we would hope to submit this no later than the end of August 2017.

The other workstreams are essentially dictated by the timing of the additional landscape and heritage assessment. Subject to the availability of suitable consultants we would hope to have the assessment completed by the end of September 2017 which would allow it and the other related work to be submitted to the examination sometime around mid-October 2017 (although this would be affected by any potential slippage in the consultants timetable).

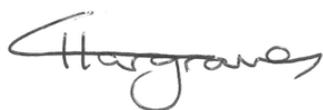
To briefly summarise we are therefore aiming to:

- Submit the note on the staged housing requirement by the end of August 2017.
- Submit the schedule of proposed modifications arising from Stages 2 and 3 by mid-September 2017.
- Submit the additional landscape/heritage appraisal, topic papers and additional SA work around mid-October 2017 together with the Council's view on the implications of this additional work.

I understand that once you have received all of this information you will be in a position to determine the most appropriate way forward for the examination.

I trust this provides you with all of the information you need at this point but if you require anything else or further clarification regarding any of the above please let me know as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hargraves". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'H'.

Chris Hargraves  
Planning Policy Manager