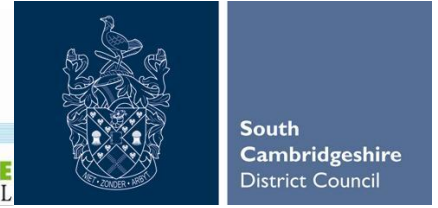


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30 June 2015

Dear Miss Graham and Mr Wood

Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan: Joint Housing Trajectory and Gypsy and Travellers Needs Assessment

Thank you for your letter dated 20 May 2015 (RD/GEN/170) setting out your preliminary conclusions in relation to the Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. The Councils have responded to your letter today. There are two further matters that the Councils wish to raise with you at this stage, having regard to the intended suspension of the Local Plan examinations.

Joint Housing Trajectory

The Councils note that your letter does not identify any serious concerns with the proposed joint trajectory, in the context of having heard the housing supply and delivery hearing. A particular imperative for South Cambridgeshire District Council is to resolve the current issue with its five-year supply as soon as possible. This is causing significant concern across the district and the delay to the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan affects development management decisions. If you have already

reached a view on the soundness in principle of the joint trajectory approach, the Councils suggest that one way in which clarity could be achieved is by issuing a single issue report dealing with the principle of the joint trajectory. If necessary and appropriate, the Councils are willing to carry out early consultation on the relevant modifications for this significant issue to enable this key issue to be resolved as soon as possible. The joint trajectory is also directly relevant to housing land supply.

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment

The Councils would welcome your view on another issue as part of wishing to minimise overall delay to the Local Plan examinations. We are aware that some other authorities in the housing market area wish to undertake a review of the Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment 2011 in the near future. We also are mindful of Local Plan objections to the Assessment. In view of the proposed suspension of the Local Plan examinations, the Councils' intention is to carry out a new Assessment, taking account of current guidance, which could be prepared in parallel with the work identified in the Inspectors' letter. It is expected that this would follow a separate timetable from that work, with the new Assessment completed and that any modifications arising from it submitted as soon as practicable in 2016. As such, the examination process is not expected to be disrupted.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Sara Saunders
Planning Policy Manager
Cambridge City Council



Caroline Hunt
Planning Policy Manager
South Cambridgeshire District Council