



The Planning Inspectorate

Examination of the Tunbridge Wells Local Plan

Inspector: Matthew Birkinshaw BA(Hons) Msc MRTPI

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Dear Mr Hone,

1. At the hearing sessions last week, we agreed that people should be given time to review and submit representations on the latest evidence provided by the Council. Most notably, this relates to the transport and education evidence submitted in support of the Stage 3 hearing sessions.
2. New information is also available in the updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and the Council confirms that a revised Infrastructure Delivery Plan ('IDP') is nearing completion as well. It is likely that this work will need to be supported by updated viability evidence, especially where development is expected to provide (and/or make contributions towards) new infrastructure. The Council also committed to explaining how the approach to development at Paddock Wood is consistent with national planning policy on flooding and flood risk.
3. In the interests of fairness, it will be necessary to consult on all the new evidence before the examination and the additional evidence in preparation. To minimise further delays it would make sense to consult on all the documents at the same time once they are available. A hearing should also be arranged to discuss the new material and I have asked the Programme Officer to explore potential dates with you.
4. I trust that the above is sufficiently clear and would be grateful if the Council could keep me up to date on progress and timescales for the consultation. In the meantime, should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me through the Programme Officer.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Birkinshaw

Inspector