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Date: 17 August 2016

Mr Andrew Waterhouse
Spatial Planning Group Manager
Derby City Council
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Dear Mr Waterhouse

Examination of Derby Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy

I have considered all that I have read, heard and seen during the Examination of the Local Plan Part 1, including the responses to the various consultations that have taken place since the conclusion of the hearings in May 2016. In that context, I am satisfied that the Council can proceed with formal consultation on the Main Modifications (MMs) based on Issue 6 of the Schedule. The front page of the Schedule should be amended in accordance with that attached but otherwise it should remain as proposed by the Council.

In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's latest Procedural Practice in the Examination of Local Plans, June 2016 (4th Edition v.1) the Council should ensure that it is clear in the published material that the consultation is only about proposed MMs and not other aspects of the plan. The MMs are put forward without prejudice to my final conclusions on the plan and I will take account of all representations made on them.

Any modifications additional to the MMs are a matter for the Council. If you should intend to consult on any of these then they should be contained in a separate Schedule. It should be made clear that they are not before me for consideration.

The Council had produced a supplement to the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) relating to its initial set of modifications. However, in my concluding remarks at the hearings I asked the Council to consider whether the proposed MMs would require further revisions to the SA, possibly as an updated or amended supplement. The conclusions of that should be subject to consultation at the same time as the MMs.

As you will know, the Proposals/Policies Map (PM) is not a development plan document and an Inspector cannot recommend MMs to it. However, consultation on any further changes proposed to the PM should take place at the same time as on the MMs. The only changes to the PM that have been proposed as a result of the Examination relate to the Friar Gate Goods Yard site and are included in Document EX043. I should be grateful if the Council would confirm that this is the case.

The scope and length of the consultation on the proposed MMs should reflect that at Regulation 19 stage (at least 6 weeks). The general expectation is that issues raised in the consultation on the proposed MMs will be dealt with through the written representations process and that further hearing sessions will only be scheduled exceptionally.

In the light of this, I should be grateful if as soon as possible the Council could set out a timetable for the additional SA work and the subsequent consultation on that and the proposed MMs, the PM changes and any additional modifications that you may be seeking. I should like to see copies of all the consultation material before it is published.

If you should have further queries on any of this please come back to me via the Programme Officer.

Yours sincerely

M J Moore

Inspector