

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

14 July 2020

Questions from Anne Henshaw - CPRE

Agenda Item 15 – Stone Circle Company Business Plans

To Cllr Pauline Church Cabinet Member for Finance, Procurement and Commercial Investment

Question 1

Agenda item 15 includes seeking agreement by members that Alistair Cunningham should be appointed an Independent Director of the three Stone Circle Companies.

In the light of the well publicised fact that the two CEO positions were to be reduced to one, thus saving some £225,000 tax payer money, can it be confirmed that there will be no salary paid by Wiltshire Council to the post of Independent Director.

Response

Wiltshire Council does not pay independent Directors of the Stone Circle companies. The companies remunerate the Directors where appropriate.

Question 2.

Wiltshire Council is unable to demonstrate a 5yr housing land supply. We have been informed that Wiltshire's 5 year housing land supply is currently calculated against a county figure. This became the case earlier this year when the Wiltshire Core Strategy became 5 years old.

“Local planning authorities should identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' supply of specific deliverable sites against their housing requirement set out in adopted strategic policies, or against their local housing need where the strategic policies are more than five years old.”

NPPF para 73

Given the highly negative effects this situation is having on communities in the county, when will an up to date timetable of the progression of the Review of the Plan be made public?

Your website currently shows the following timetable dates

Start of Reg 19 Pre-submission consultation Q4 2019

Submission to Secretary of State Q3 2020

Response

The dates quoted above relate to an earlier Local Development Scheme. The Local Development Scheme was updated in March 2020 and can be viewed via this link: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-lds>.

At the time it was recognised that an early review may be necessary in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic. A further up date to the timetable will be published on the Council's website later this month, which will push back the start of the consultation planned for the summer this year to the end of the year.