

Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan Examination

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By email via the Programme Officer

Dear Mr Cunningham

Examination of the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan (HSAP)

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2018 outlining the problems you have had with your consultation on the Schedule of Proposed Changes. It is unfortunate that I was not made aware of this sooner, particularly if the Council knew of the error at the close of the consultation and considering your proposed timetable for starting additional consultation.

Nevertheless, as part of the examination I will be considering whether or not the HSAP has been prepared in accordance with your Statement of Community Involvement. As it stands, based on the information provided it would seem unlikely that I could conclude that it has. It appears to me therefore that the most appropriate course of action would be to carry out the additional consultation exercise you have suggested.

I also do not wish to unnecessarily delay the examination. However, it would clearly be inappropriate for me to publish my guidance note or set out any matters, issues and questions without having seen all of the representations that have been made on the version of the plan that you wish me to consider. Adequate notice to potential attendees also needs to be provided, as does the opportunity to submit hearing statements. If I were to continue to work to the existing anticipated timetable, I would need to receive confirmation of attendance and hearing statements before the additional consultation ended. This is not an acceptable approach.

While the inevitable delay to the examination is unfortunate, there seems to be no alternative considering the errors that have been made. I will therefore await confirmation of the Council's intentions before providing further advice on likely

timescales for hearings, matters and questions in due course. If you have any queries on the above, please contact me via the Programme Officer.

Yours sincerely

Steven Lee

INSPECTOR