

South Gloucestershire Local Development Framework Core Strategy DPD Examination

Inspector: Paul Crysell BSc MSc MRTPI

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Dear Representor

Exploratory Meeting – South Gloucestershire Core Strategy DPD

The Inspector has undertaken a preliminary assessment of the Core Strategy, supporting documentation and representations and he has a number of concerns relating to the soundness of the document. Therefore, in order to inform the way forward for the Examination, the Inspector has called an Exploratory Meeting (EM).

This will start at 14.00hrs on Wednesday 29 June 2011 and be held at: the Council Offices, Nibley Court, Westerleigh Business Park, 3 Turner Drive, Yate, BS37 5YU.

A draft agenda for the meeting is attached. The Inspector will set out his concerns in more detail once he has had regard to the responses received to the most recent round of consultation on Further Proposed Changes and 'Plan For Growth' Budget Announcement carried out by the Council. He will also invite the Council to provide a reply prior to the EM.

At the meeting the Inspector will not take any formal evidence in respect of the Core Strategy itself, nor consider in detail its policies, as these would be matters for discussion at hearing sessions if the Examination were to proceed. This means that there will be no consideration or discussion at the meeting of the merits of the various housing and employment sites, either those allocated or of any alternative sites.

Please either telephone or email me by **17th June** to let me know if you will be attending the EM so that I can ensure adequate seating is provided.

Part of the aim of the EM is to avoid the wasted time, effort and expense of all parties in continuing with the Examination if it is likely that the Core Strategy would subsequently be found unsound. More details about the purpose of an EM and the possible outcomes from such a meeting are explained in section 9 on page 32 of the Planning Inspectorate's publication "*Examining Development Plan Documents: Procedure Guidance*" of August 2009. This can be found at:

http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/pins/dpd_procedure_guide.pdf

/cntd.....

No further representations are required since views on the soundness of the plan have already been submitted in response to the previous public consultation.

The Inspector is continuing to read the papers and any other concerns he identifies, or replies from the Council on his concerns, will be published on the Core Strategy web site: [South Gloucestershire Core Strategy - South Gloucestershire Council](#) .

The Exploratory Meeting is open to the public to attend and observe and at the Inspector's discretion to speak, however, the Inspector will primarily be looking to the Council's representatives to address him on the matters of concern. It may be that some particular decisions of principle will have to wait until after the EM so that the Council can fully consider them. A note of the meeting will be published soon afterwards on the Core Strategy web site. I will contact you again when it is known if and when the Examination will proceed.

The venue for the meeting at Nibley Court in Yate is accessible to the disabled. A map showing its location is viewable via the web link below:

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?lvl=15&where1=BS375YU,%20UK&FORM=MMREDR>

If you have any queries at this stage please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Kath Thorne
Programme Officer

Enc: Copy of Draft Agenda