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Planning Policy Team  
Woking Borough Council  
Woking

Our Ref: PINS/A3655/429/6

Date: 05 January 2012

Dear Sirs,

Woking Borough Council - Core Strategy

I am pleased to have been appointed to examine the Council's Core Strategy and look forward to meeting all interested parties in due course.

As you will be aware the Localism Act 2011 has received Royal Assent. Section 112 makes some key changes to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). Amongst other matters, these affect how I will report upon the Examination. Mindful of the 'Proposed Changes to the Core Strategy Publication Document' and in the event that the Core Strategy needs amending to address issues of legal compliance/soundness, it would be helpful if you could provide an indication of how you may wish me to proceed. As provided for by the Localism Act, in order for me to make modifications to the plan the Council is required to formally notify me whether it wishes to request modifications under section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). In the absence of a request under section 20(7C), my report will be confined to identifying any soundness failures and, if there are, recommending non adoption of the DPD.

Furthermore, S110 of the Localism Act inserts S33A into Part 2 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). It identifies what may be termed 'a duty to cooperate'. The extent to which this duty has been fulfilled will form part of my examination. Therefore, and with due regard to the new S33A, I would be grateful for the submission of evidence which will inform my assessment; this could take the form of a focussed report building upon section 8 of the Consultation Statement. A limited degree of additional information on this subject is available from the Planning Advisory Service website: <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=1795308> .

Finally, I am obliged to assess whether the requirements of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 have been met, particularly Regulation 30. I have noted the content of the Consultation Statement, including Section 4 and the various appendices.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



For clarity, I would be grateful if the Council could provide a further short summary which specifically addresses the requirements of Regulation 30; especially the provision of information confirming that Regulation 30(d) has been met which should be in addition and distinct from that required in relation to Regulation 30(e). Cross references may be made to the Appendices of the Consultation Statement as necessary. Such information should confirm which specific consultation bodies were invited to make representation under Regulation 25; 39 are referenced at paragraph 4.52 although only 38 are listed within Appendix 1 of the Consultation Statement. I also require confirmation, with evidence where practical, that the requirements of Regulation 30(3) have been complied with.

I look forward to hearing from you on the above as soon as possible and certainly before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012.

Yours sincerely

*Andrew Seaman*

Senior Housing and Planning Inspector