

**Woking Borough Council Core Strategy Examination****Inspector Note**

The Inspector continues to review the submitted Core Strategy (CS) and evidence.

In addition to the Matters and Issues identified in the draft attachment, the Inspector has specific concerns as to how the Council proposes to address matters relating to waste management. This is particularly pertinent given that the CS is clearly intended to be a spatial plan and appears to defer to the Surrey Waste Plan on this issue; the latter appears to be a plan that does not cover the timeframe of the CS and would presumably be based upon an old evidence base? How does the CS, as a spatial plan, intend to address matters of waste management, including issues relating to the waste hierarchy? The Inspector would therefore be grateful for your early consideration and response as to how the submitted CS addresses, as far as relevant, issues of waste in line with national planning policy. There may be scope for the submission of a succinct topic statement clarifying the factual position on this subject; this could include a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) with the waste planning authority.

Furthermore, the Inspector has noted the submitted evidence in relation to open space and recreation. He would be grateful for further information as to how the CS and its supporting evidence reflects the specific advice of PPG17 and its Companion Guide, particularly in terms of the degree to which the evidence reflects the circumstances found currently throughout the Borough and how this informs a cogent strategy until 2027.

In relation to heritage matters, the evidence base appears not to be particularly extensive. The Inspector is interested in how the CS follows the advice of PPS5 upon this subject and would be grateful for clarification upon this matter; this could also take the form of a short topic statement and a SOCG with English Heritage.

Finally and for reasons related to effectiveness, the Inspector is most interested in how the CS addresses matters of monitoring and delivery, particularly with issues of infrastructure in mind. The Inspector will wish to examine how the Policies of the CS link to the key objectives and the overall vision; furthermore, he will wish to be clear on how the delivery of the CS will be managed, particularly in securing necessary and timely infrastructure and in maintaining precise and relevant monitoring indicators. Whilst this can be discussed briefly at the forthcoming Pre Hearing Meeting, the Council may wish to put some thought into this

matter, possibly with a view to suggesting modifications to the CS as a result. There may be scope for clarifying how each policy could assist in delivering which particular objectives, for example Policy CS2 would seem to be capable of contributing to many of the stated objectives whilst CS9 would have a more limited contribution. This could be presented in a variety of clear ways which could include a simple table. Such a table could include the infrastructure implications related to each policy/objective and provide clarity on the necessary indicators (linked to the AMR) used to monitor effectively its delivery. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan appears to provide a useful commentary as to the infrastructure needs of the Borough, yet there would appear to be scope to hone its content with a clearer focus on what is required where, when it will be provided (potentially in broad timeframes when specific details are unknown), who will provide it and how it may be funded.

As a separate matter, the CS could usefully include a list of saved (and superseded) development plan policies which would be operational as and when the CS was adopted.

I trust the above is clear and I would be grateful if you could clarify how and when the Council wishes to respond to these matters. If you have any queries then please contact me.