



The Planning Inspectorate

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David Monks
Chief Executive
Huntingdonshire District Council
Pathfinder House
St. Mary's Street
Huntingdon
PE29 3TN

Your Ref: CS2008/Reg28

Our Ref: PINS/H0520/429/5

Date: 08 July 2009

Dear David

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT CORE STRATEGY 2008 DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

1. As you know, I was appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out an independent examination of the above development plan document, which was submitted to the Secretary of State in July 2008, pursuant to section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. I held a pre-examination meeting on 16 December 2008, and conducted the examination by way of written exchange and by a series of hearings. The hearing sessions were held at The Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon between 17 March and 2 April 2009.

3. The purpose of the examination is set out in section 20(5) of the 2004 Act. By the time I started making an assessment of soundness, Planning Policy Statement 12 had been revised in June 2008 (and re-titled Local Spatial Planning) and I have assessed the submitted document against the legal requirements and soundness as set out in paragraphs 4.50-4.52 of the new PPS12.

4. With this letter is a copy of my report on the submitted Core Strategy. This contains my recommendations and the reasons for them as required by section 20(7) of the 2004 Act.

5. After considering all the representations made during the 6 week period following submission as well as all the matters and issues, I have written the accompanying report, which contains my recommendations and the reasons for them. My overall conclusion is that, with the amendments recommended in my report, the Huntingdon Core Strategy satisfies the legal requirements and is sound.

6. Gloria Alexander acted as my Programme Officer. Because of the demolition work on the Pathfinder House site she had to work in less than ideal conditions and I am grateful for her valuable assistance in ensuring that the examination process, and particularly the hearing sessions, ran smoothly. All the core documents which constituted the evidence base for the plan are available in the examination library together with representations made and statements prepared during the examination

7. I wish to express my thanks to the Council's officers and advisors and all those attending the hearing sessions for the helpful, positive and professional manner they adopted throughout the examination. I hope that my conclusions and recommendations will help to facilitate the regeneration of the Huntingdonshire district in an effective manner which is beneficial to both the towns, and those sustainable rural areas.

Yours sincerely

Eric T Searle

INSPECTOR